

APPENDIX B

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2023-24

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Council Wide</u> The Committee recommended that all national legislative commitments and statutory services need to be fully funded by central Government and that the Committee fully support Cabinet in lobbying Westminster and Welsh Government to provide adequate funding to ensure a sustainable funding model in the future.	Scrutiny/ Cabinet	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Council Wide</u> The Committee recommended that in order to manage the expectations of the public regarding future service provision, that there be a proactive corporate communications strategy setting out clearly the pressures within services, what can and cannot be achieved/maintained and what is funded by Council tax and what is funded by central UK funds through the Revenue Support Grant.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Council Wide</u> The Committee recommended that consideration be given to how the information in Recommendation 2,	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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		above, be effectively communicated to the public, including consideration of putting the information on the Council website and in a newsletter accompanying Council Tax Demand letters.		circulated 22 August 2023.	
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<p><u>Recruitment</u> The Committee expressed concern regarding the Council-wide issue of recruitment and retention and acknowledged that whilst Directorates were working on this in isolation, felt that it required a corporate approach focussing on the 7 Principles contained in the Corporate Plan.</p> <p>The Committee therefore recommended that an overarching workforce plan is needed to address the reasons for the Council not being commercially competitive and its inability to successfully recruit and retain staff.</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<p><u>Recruitment</u> The Committee recommended that consideration be given to more integrated working between Human Resources and Directorates to avoid Directorates trying to address the</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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		issue of recruitment in isolation/in silos and to holistically strengthen the HR functions and achieve the objectives of the overarching Corporate Plan.			
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<p><u>Recruitment</u> The Committee recommended that the Council work with schools to inform students, before they choose their GCSE and A Level options, regarding the career prospects of working for the Local Authority, across a wide range of professions and specialisms and likewise work with Welsh-medium schools, given the shortage of Welsh speaking staff in the Authority. It was also recommended that the Council establish links with universities in order to secure graduate employees and to drive forward recruitment for the Authority.</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy / Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<p><u>Recruitment</u> The Committee recommended that there should be an agreed National level of salaries and terms and conditions for all positions in local government in order to ensure that the Council has an equal footing in terms of competitiveness with other</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy / Cabinet	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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		local authorities and the private sector.			
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Recruitment</u> The Committee recommended that a review be undertaken regarding the need to advertise in national newspapers for jobs over a certain grade and whether these roles would attract more applicants if alternative and, possibly more local, advertising was pursued.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Recruitment</u> The Committee expressed concern regarding the loss of successful candidates due to the delay in obtaining a Disclosure and Barring Service check and queried the reason for the delay and whether there was anything that could be done to reduce the waiting time to stop candidates finding work elsewhere.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>EFS</u> That the Committee recommended that they write to the Welsh Government expressing their concerns that any further cuts to the education budget would be unacceptable, given the 2%	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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		efficiency saving in 2023-24 and further annual 1% reductions predicted for forthcoming years.			
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>EFS</u> The Committee acknowledged the difficulties of recruitment within catering services and the impact on the provision of breakfast clubs and requested an update on what was being done to ensure that vulnerable children were receiving breakfast before school.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>EFS</u> The Committee requested an update on when the Welsh Government review regarding home to school transport would realistically be published, given that no changes would be considered until the conclusion of the review	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Revenue Budget Outturn 2022-23	<u>Communities</u> The Committee recommended that consideration be given to there being a dedicated resource to support the Communities Directorate in processing and responding to Member Referrals and that consideration be given to ways in which to make the	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Head of Partnership Services	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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		Member's Portal more effective and efficient in keeping Members updated with the status of referrals.			
3 July 2023	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2023-24 and Draft Performance Framework	The Committee recommended that consideration be given to how the roles as set out in the 'I am a ...' section of the draft Performance Framework may be effectively cascaded and communicated to all staff and the public.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 31 July 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
3 July 2023	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2023-24 and Draft Performance Framework	The Committee recommended that future reports regarding performance be developed to include a holistic overview in the form of an executive summary to succinctly summarise performance as measured against the Corporate Plan. The Committee expressed concern regarding Officer time and effort required to present complex data and welcomed concise and proportionate information which could be more sustainable and influential.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 31 July 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31005/COSC3July2023ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
24 July 2023	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 1	The Committee recommended that consideration be given to partnership working with local farmers to source fruit and	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 13 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31970/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf

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	Revenue Forecast	vegetables for school catering potentially at a lower cost.			
24 July 2023	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 1 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested a graph demonstrating the exponential increase in the demand being experienced in children’s social care over a 3-year period.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Head of Partnership Services	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 29 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31970/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf
24 July 2023	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 1 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested copies of the case studies demonstrating the complexity being experienced in adult social care.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 29 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD797&ID=797&RPID=6246293&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
24 July 2023	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 1 Revenue Forecast	Whilst recognising that it was too early in the year to provide a realistic projection of council tax income for this financial year, the Committee requested whether a best case, worst case and predicted case scenario model could be provided to give an indication of the likely income from the collection of council tax.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 6 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31970/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf
24 July 2023	Budget Monitoring	The Committee acknowledged that one of the most significant budget	Scrutiny/ Corporate	ACTIONED – response and	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31970/COSC24July

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	2023-24 – Quarter 1 Revenue Forecast	reduction proposals unlikely to be achieved in full in the Communities Directorate was charging Blue Badge Holders for parking (COM 2), due to the traffic management team currently being engaged in the introduction of the national speed limit in built up areas. The Committee requested that a message be circulated among Members advising of the timescale for the necessary consultation regarding the Blue Badge Scheme.	Director - Communities	information circulated 13 October 2023.	ResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf
24 July 2023	Quarter 4 Performance 2022-23	The Committee requested a breakdown, by Directorate, of: a. the cost of agency staff; and b. the cost differential between an agency worker and an equivalent full-time Member of staff.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 13 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31970/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf
24 July 2023	Quarter 4 Performance 2022-23	The Committee requested with regard to the support provided to start-up business', a breakdown of the number which have benefitted from advice, start-up grants or other support.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31970/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendationsupdated050324.pdf

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24 July 2023	Quarter 4 Performance 2022-23	Concerns were expressed regarding the clawbacks for sickness absence in schools being based on pupil numbers rather than staff numbers and heard that the Schools Budget Forum (SBF) had asked that consideration be given to it being weighted differently. The Committee therefore requested an update when Education and Family Support Officers and Finance Officers had discussed the matter and prior to the next SBF.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 29 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31035/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
24 July 2023	Quarter 4 Performance 2022-23	The Committee requested details of the options being considered to enable the reuse shop at Maesteg Community Recycling Centre to reopen.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 29 August 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31035/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
24 July 2023	Corporate Self-Assessment 2022-23	The Committee requested an update report detailing the outcome of the Council’s partnership with Valleys to Coast and £500,000 contribution towards bringing 35 long term empty properties back into use.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Head of Partnership Services	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 6 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31035/COSC24JulyResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
4 Sept 2023	Strategic Workforce Plan	The Committee recommended that the circular graphics at the top of page 13 of the <i>Delivering together</i> ,	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory	ACTIONED – response and information	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31037/COSC4Sept2

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		<p><i>Our Strategic Workforce Plan 2023-2028</i> (page 175 of the Committee’s public Agenda pack) showing the percentages of staff working in each of the five areas of the authority, also reflect the level of vacancy or completeness of workforce in each Directorate. In relation to the turnover rate of staff the Committee also recommended that the same page also reflect the general turnover rate of staff not just new starters leaving within their 1st year (up to 31 March 2023).</p>	<p>Services, HR & Corporate Policy</p>	<p>circulated 13 October 2023.</p>	<p>3ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf</p>
<p>4 Sept 2023</p>	<p>Strategic Workforce Plan</p>	<p>The Committee expressed concern regarding the corporate oversight responsibility and the possibility of a fragmented process towards monitoring and delivery of the Plan. The Committee therefore recommended that consideration be given to establishing a HR strategic group to include Officers from across the authority and Trade Union representatives to monitor and drive forward the delivery of the plan and that they report to CCMB</p>	<p>Scrutiny/ Chief Executive / Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy</p>	<p>ACTIONED – response and information circulated 13 October 2023.</p>	<p>https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf</p>
<p>4 Sept 2023</p>	<p>Strategic Workforce Plan</p>	<p>The Committee expressed concern regarding the lack of citizen focus within the Plan and recommended</p>	<p>Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and</p>	<p>ACTIONED – response and information</p>	<p>https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf</p>

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		that the Portal analytical tool be developed/progressed as soon as possible in order to evaluate the areas of dissatisfaction and themes arising from Member referrals and customer queries regarding repeat matters, in order to inform the Workforce Plan. Once completed, the Committee recommended that they receive a Members Briefing regarding the analytical capabilities of the Portal.	Change / Head of Partnership Services	circulated 13 October 2023.	3ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
4 Sept 2023	Strategic Workforce Plan	The Committee requested information on how the workforce structure in Bridgend compares to other Welsh local authorities and whether its levels of management are typical of other local authorities in Wales.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 13 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
4 Sept 2023	Strategic Workforce Plan	The Committee requested whether the Venture Graduate Scheme overseen by the Cardiff Capital Region could be accessed by students by other higher education establishments, especially Bridgend College.	Scrutiny/ Leader of the Council	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 September 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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4 Sept 23	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan Targets	The Committee requested that the narratives in the Rationale for Targets be revisited to ensure consistency, to better reflect the reasons why a target has substantially increased or decreased and to include brief information regarding the circumstances surrounding the change.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 September 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
4 Sept 23	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan Targets	The Committee requested that consideration be given to a gradual move away from static Key Performance Indicators in favour of Objective and Key Results which drive ambitious, realistic, and proportionate targets.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 22 September 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf
4 Sept 23	ICT Resilience	The Committee requested copies of the Service specific and overall ICT Business Continuity Plans, for information purposes.	Scrutiny/ Head of Partnership Services	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 13 October 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/document/s/s31037/COSC4Sept23ResponsestoRecommendations.pdf

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23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee recommended that they write a letter, to the Welsh Ministers for Climate Change and Education and Welsh Language expressing their concern regarding the delay in publishing the outcome of the review into Home to School Transport and requesting that it be expedited, which would enable the Council to consider difficult but necessary options regarding the challenging Education and Schools budget positions.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee recommended that a communication be shared publicly, clearly demonstrating the complex issues contributing to the cost pressures in the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate and showing, for example, the cost of services per head.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing / Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested a written update regarding the aim and purpose of the 5-Point Action Plan to target in-year spend and details of the progress made against it.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested detail regarding the costs associated with pursuing payment of outstanding Council Tax and the triggers and costs of Court action due to persistent non-payment.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested the best case, worst case, and predicted case scenario modelling of further efficiency savings to Schools Delegated Budgets to provide Members with an indication of the number of schools likely to fall into a deficit position and requiring development of recovery plans.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support / Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
23 Oct 23	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested, in relation to school meals and catering services: a) An indication of figures and possible outcomes of the ongoing formal review of prices of school meals; and b) That the review considers, as far as the Welsh Government Guidelines regarding waste management allow, a review of portion sizes to ensure food sufficiency for older pupils and less wastage for younger pupils.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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23 Oct 23	Performance Monitoring Improvement Plan	The Committee recommended that they write a letter, to the Auditor General for Wales expressing their disappointment that a representative from Audit Wales was unable to attend the Committee meeting, due to budgetary constraints, to help the Committee better understand Audit Wales' perspective.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
23 Oct 23	Performance Monitoring Improvement Plan	<p>The Committee expressed concern regarding their restricted ability to scrutinise public spending on capital projects due to commercial sensitivity.</p> <p>The Committee referred to examples including the School Improvement Group, chaired by the Leader and the Children's Social Care Improving Outcomes Strategic Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, which consider sensitive Schools and Children's Services matters respectively.</p> <p>The Committee requested whether a similar Group or Board could be established to consider sensitive and commercially sensitive information regarding the</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 December 2023.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD805&ID=805&RPID=6759159&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		Communities Directorate/Capital Projects and that a Member of the Scrutiny Committee be invited to sit on the Group or Board to provide assurance that public spend on capital projects is scrutinised.			
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That Directorates complete the narrative section of their Performance Dashboards as completely as possible, to demonstrate where corrective actions are in place, what is being done in mitigation or to remove barriers.	(CMB)	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That following discussion of examples where the same narrative had been reported for more than one commitment, or for both Progress this Period and Next Steps for the same commitments, consideration be given to how the next steps and actions can be collated into an action plan for ongoing monitoring.	(CMB)	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That Local Members be invited to a Briefing Session for those interested in Self Build Homes opportunities and be requested to identify any potential land for sites in their communities.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That better links and working together regarding tree planting with Town and Community Councils be referred to the Town and Community Council Forum as an item for discussion.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That the existing number of Blue Flag beaches and Green Flag parks be added to those PIs for the Quarter 3 Dashboard if they are within the correct period or clarified in the narrative if not, and that both these indicators be changed to Annual Indicators.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director – Communities/ Corporate Performance Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	That the Committee write a letter to the Welsh Minister for Finance expressing that national policy commitments be fully funded both in terms of capital funding and ongoing revenue funding and that core responsibilities should not be diluted by not fully funding national policy commitments, such as Active Travel, 20 miles per hour zone, Universal Primary Free School Meals and School Modernisation, etc.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED – Letter sent to WG Minister for Finance and Local Government on 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	Additional information: That previous Performance Information data for Disabled Facilities Grants be broken down to include trend analysis for the next Quarter's Performance onwards and a briefing paper on the progress to date be provided for circulation to COSC Members to provide assurance.	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change/ Head of Partnerships and Housing/ Scrutiny.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	Additional information: The Heronsbridge Inspection Report.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Education and Family	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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14 Dec 23	Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023-24	Additional information: An Update on the number of CATs progressing and the stages from the latest monthly spreadsheet report.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated to Members on 14 March 2024.	N/A
14 Dec 23	Engagement and Participation Strategy	<p>The Committee acknowledged the aims and objectives of the draft strategy and highlighted that how to address the following issues should be included in an action plan for how the Strategy will be implemented and monitored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The website is not the easiest to navigate. - The number of clicks from the home page to the Agenda for meetings. - Who to follow via social media and how often social media is used. - What is planned to ensure effectiveness in engaging with the public through visual 	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change/ Head of Partnerships and Housing/ Scrutiny.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		<p>content rather than just written content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The low number of E petitions being received since May 2022 - How to encourage public to observe meetings and engage. - How to measure levels of engagement and the impact of consultation. - How to engage with children and young people. 			
14 Dec 23	Engagement and Participation Strategy	That following the consultation an Action Plan developed for the strategy be added to the Forward Work Programme at the appropriate time, to monitor progress of the implementation.	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change/ Head of Partnerships and Housing/ Scrutiny.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
14 Dec 23	Engagement and Participation Strategy	Additional information: The Peer Review report on Communications.	Chief Executive/ Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change/ Scrutiny.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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14 Dec 23	Engagement and Participation Strategy	Additional information: Statistics for call rates and answering times and identification of the busy and less busy calling times.	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change/ Head of Partnerships and Housing/ Scrutiny.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD844&ID=844&RPID=6759483&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
17 Jan 24	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee made recommendations and requested additional information.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED - Recommendations formally reported to Cabinet on 6 February 2024 for consideration and response. Response from Cabinet on 20 February 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=141&Mid=4425&Ver=4 https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=141&Mid=4426&Ver=4
30 Jan 24	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee made recommendations and requested additional information.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	ACTIONED - Recommendations formally reported to Cabinet on 6 February 2024 for consideration and response.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=141&Mid=4425&Ver=4

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				Response from Cabinet on 20 February 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=141&MId=4426&Ver=4
30 Jan 24	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee endorsed the MTFs Recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and agreed to write to the Welsh Minister for Finance and Local Government regarding the budget and funding concerns expressed.	Chair of Scrutiny/ Scrutiny	ACTIONED – Letter sent to WG Minister for Finance and Local Government on 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	Following discussion around the impact of budget reductions and reduced resources, including that available to Members, the Committee requested that the Democratic Services Committee consider the changes being proposed for support services to Members and Committees, such as more remote meetings, the number of meetings as well as general resources provided to Members, to potentially assist in making these efficiencies for the future and reducing pressure on staff, particularly in relation to the running of meetings.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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30 Jan 24	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	<p>Information Requested:</p> <p>The Committee requested that clarification be sought as to what the 500k identified under budget pressure EFS4 will cover as there were varying figures provided in relation to this.</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Corporate Director - Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	It was agreed that clarification on the figures for the number of care experienced children in out of county placements as well as those in other provision such as Heronsbridge would be provided in any future reporting to Scrutiny, including in budget reports.	Scrutiny/ Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing/ Corporate Director - Education and Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	Members queried the underspend in the Council tax reduction scheme in that this underspend had risen since last year and expressed concern that the process and criteria had potentially become too rigid. Providing personal examples of where this might be the case from residents within the borough, Members recommended that the application process be reviewed to determine whether the process had	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		in fact become too rigid, preventing some people, who should be eligible given their personal circumstances, from accessing this funding.			
30 Jan 24	Budget Monitoring 2023-24 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	<p>Information Requested:</p> <p>The Committee requested the following information as a result of their discussions surrounding the 2023/24 budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The figure for the Council’s Contingency Reserve. b) Clarification on how many Out of Authority children are attending Heronsbridge and Ysgol Bryn Castell Schools and how much the Authority receives for these placements compared to the cost of sending our own children out of county where there are no spaces in county. c) Clarification over the overspend within Fleet services and reassurance that any costs relating to third 	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Corporate Director - Education and Family Support/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		parties such as South Wales Police are fully recovered.			
30 Jan 24	Corporate Plan/ Delivery Plan Review for 2024/25	Members referred to the Councillor Portal for Member Referrals and requested that as Councillors are service users in this process, as they raise referrals from residents, a set of PIs to consider timely responses to these via the portal be incorporated. Members also urged the Chief Executive to look at the use of an analytical tool to provide this within the resources available.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Corporate Plan/ Delivery Plan Review for 2024/25	The Committee agreed that there were definite priority PIs that needed to be retained in the delivery plan, such as those associated with Schools, Social Services and Wellbeing as well as any associated with Homelessness. However, Members proposed that the PIs and points previously suggested by Scrutiny Committees remain for now and be revisited in March 2024 to consider the full implications of the budget reductions and resulting resources available.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive/ Chief Officer - Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy/ Corporate Policy & Performance Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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30 Jan 24	Corporate Plan/ Delivery Plan Review for 2024/25	<p>Information Requested:</p> <p>The Committee referred to the Communication Peer Review undertaken in 2023 and requested that they receive a copy of this report.</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	Members expressed concern regarding the unknown implications and risks associated with Bridgend Market including the potential financial implications for the Authority. The Committee asked that this be reflected somewhere in the Strategy to highlight the future potential schemes and costs this may result in.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	The Committee highlighted the need to be realistic in relation to what can be achieved by the Authority, expressing concern over the potential future revenue implications of the Capital Strategy. Whilst recognising that revenue implications form part of the decision-making process, the Committee supported the proposal by the Leader to strengthen this point within the Strategy.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	Following discussion around the Council's assets and the need to review and dispose of them where possible in order to release some income, the Committee recommended that consideration be given to whether Porthcawl Harbour could be such an asset that could be run just as well privately.	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	In relation to the Capital Programme Board, the Committee recommended that a review process of the Board be undertaken and included within the Strategy, to make sure that it is fulfilling its Terms of Reference and to consider aspects such as frequency of meetings, membership and whether there are areas that the Board should be considering given the challenges facing the Authority.	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	Whilst appreciating that there might be grant funding available to buy-in expertise required to manage Capital projects, Members expressed concern around the possibility that current staff resources could be moved to meet the needs of the numerous Capital projects, thereby taking away from	Scrutiny/ Chief Executive/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		<p>the day to day, business as usual, of the Council. There was further apprehension over this given the issues the Authority has already experienced in attracting qualified professionals into such project management positions. It was proposed that this be monitored closely including by Scrutiny during future consideration of the Capital Programme.</p>			
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	<p>Information Requested:</p> <p>The Committee requested clarification on when the investment period for the Council’s Investment properties, quoted at a value of £5.845 million in the report, actually started and also whether there are any CIPFA returns relating to this investment.</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Deputy Head of Finance/ Group Manager - Chief Accountant	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495
30 Jan 24	Capital Strategy 2024-25	<p>Information Requested:</p> <p>In relation to the Mutual Investment model for the development of schools, the Committee requested that clarification be provided, when available, as to the actual level of revenue costs the Authority will have to contribute on an annual</p>	Scrutiny/ Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Deputy Head of Finance/ Group Manager - Chief Accountant	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 14 March 2024.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD845&ID=845&RPID=6759451&sch=doc&cat=13495&path=13490%2c13491%2c13495

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		basis over the 25-year contract period.			