

APPENDIX B**CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2024-25**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
9 September 2024	Director of Social Services Annual Report 2023/24	The Committee requested that the Recovery Plan considered by the Social Services Improvement Board be circulated to Members of the Committee.	Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing/ Scrutiny.	Circulating for response. Chased.	
24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	In addition to the usual winter challenges, the Committee expressed concern regarding the potential impact on social services, arising from the disruption at Princess of Wales Hospital while essential maintenance takes place. In particular, concern was expressed regarding pressures on the workforce including additional travelling time required and pressures relating to the decision making and payment of top up fees. The Committee therefore recommended that the situation needed to be carefully monitored and that a report be provided, as appropriate, to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2.	Chair / Officers / Scrutiny	ACTIONED - SOSC 2 on 23 Sept 2024 received a report on Community Rehabilitation Team Package of Care Delays	Follow link here

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24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee expressed concern regarding the risk that next year, many schools could have deficit budgets of over 5% which require a deficit recovery plan, as schools' budgets are being based on this year's figures and not taking account of further indicative budget reduction proposals for 2025-26. The Committee therefore recommended that future reports relating to the budget include projected deficit figures for schools accordingly.	Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Corporate Director - Education, Early Years and Young People	Circulating for response. Chased.	
24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee recommended that the next quarterly report include details of the actions taken by Cabinet and the Corporate Management Board, to find the full required savings in respect of non-essential recruitment and expenditure.	Corporate Management Board	Circulating for response. Chased.	
24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested additional information on how the Council compared with other local authorities in Wales in the delivery of services, including temporary accommodation, for the homeless.	Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED - response and information circulated 11 March 2025.	Follow link here

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24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested additional information on how many individuals and households are being housed in temporary accommodation by the Council.	Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change / Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED - response and information circulated 11 March 2025.	Follow link here
24 October 2024	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast	The Committee requested additional information on the funding arrangements with, and the steps being undertaken to ensure fair contributions from, partner organisations, including the Health Board, for the provision of residential placements and the delivery of social care.	Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing	Circulating for response. Chased.	
24 October 2024	Forward Work Programme Update	The Committee expressed concern regarding the significant projected overspend in learner support and additional learning needs and the costs of providing the related statutory home to school transport. The Committee recommended that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 request a report to explore whether alternative models of delivering these services could contribute to cost savings.	Chair / Officers / Scrutiny	ACTIONED - Referred to SOSC 1 and the matter explored in the MTFS 2025-26 to 2028-29 and further recommendations made.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?ClId=141&MId=4691

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16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee welcomed the commitment from the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors and Officers that the number and focus of Wellbeing Objectives would be reviewed and that there would be an exercise to determine the most important Performance Indicators/Commitments, those which should remain and whether any should be removed or amended. The Committee recommended that in order to provide measurable assurances, the narratives contained in the dashboard should provide more detail, including, for example, any specific funding, progress on projects or initiatives.	CMB	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee recommended that for future in-year Performance Reports, an asterisk or some other marker be added to any Performance Indicator that is identified to be deleted after the annual meeting of full Council.	Corporate Policy and Performance Manager / Corporate Performance Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee recommended that consideration should be given to the timeliness of scheduling	Corporate Policy and Performance	ACTIONED – response and information	Follow link here

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		future Performance Reports, highlighting that the Committee was being asked to consider the Authority's Quarter 2 Performance almost at the end of Quarter 3.	Manager / Corporate Performance Manager	circulated 3 February 2025.	
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee recommended that following the appointment of a new Chief Executive, their view of how they envisage future Performance reporting, be sought.	CMB	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	<p>The Committee considered that the performance of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) represented a corporate risk and recommended the following for future reporting of DFGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The reporting target show data attributed to legacy cases and data attributed to new applications separately, as well as showing the amalgamated data already contained in performance reports.b. That the target of 210 days be revisited and consideration given to a less aspirational and more	Corporate Policy and Performance Manager / Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here

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		achievable and measurable on a quarterly basis.			
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	<p>The Committee recommended that meetings be convened between local Members and specialist Officers, on a 6 or 12 monthly basis, to discuss, understand and feed into major projects and strategies relevant to the area/ward that they represent.</p> <p><u>Further Context:</u> This recommendation was made following discussions regarding Wellbeing Objective 3, a County Borough with thriving valleys communities, and that the Committee were content to start the process involving the 3 valleys and the 13 Councillors that represent those areas.</p>	Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here
16 Dec 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee recommended that the recommendations from Practice Reviews (now known as Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews) undertaken by Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board be included on the Regulatory Tracker which is reported to	Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing / Corporate Policy and Performance Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here

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		Governance and Audit Committee for monitoring.			
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	In relation to the retendering exercise being undertaken for the redevelopment of Porthcawl Pavilion, the Committee requested a response from the Corporate Director for Communities and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing in relation to the following: a) whether the reasons for the unsuccessful first contract have been properly analysed and lessons learned. b) whether the retendering exercise is ongoing and, if so, when is it anticipated it will be complete; and c) whether they are confident that the situation will not arise again.	Corporate Director - Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here
16 December 2024	Quarter 2 Performance 2024-25	The Committee requested an information report detailing the uptake of Flying Start support, the progress of the rollout of the programme to other areas	Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 3 February 2025.	Follow link here

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		including detail of why they have been chosen and an update on the current and new settings.			
16 December 2024	Forward Work Programme Update	The Committee discussed the Council's response to the recent storm, Darragh, expressing concern about the increasing pattern of storms hitting the UK and recommended that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 request a report to explore the Council's preparedness to respond to storms and adverse weather, preventative measures against foreseeable damage and the impact of adverse weather and any fallout (e.g. loss of power) on vulnerable residents. The Committee recommended that the report should have invitees from Communities and Social Services.	Scrutiny / SOSC 3	Scrutiny to action in Forward Work Planning meeting with Scrutiny Chair and Corporate Director.	Actioned
16 Dec 2024	Forward Work Programme Update	The Committee expressed grave concerns regarding the performance of Disabled Facilities Grants and considered that it represented a significant corporate risk to the Council. The Committee therefore recommended that Disabled Facilities Grants be	Scrutiny / Scrutiny Chairs	ACTIONED – Report on Disabled Facilities Grants being reported to meeting of the Committee on 17 March 2025.	Follow link here

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		added to the Committee's Forward Work Programme as soon as possible. The Committee agreed that the scheduling of the Item would be discussed between Scrutiny Chairs with Scrutiny Officers.			
15 Jan 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee made recommendations and requested additional information.	Scrutiny/ Chair of COSC	<p>ACTIONED - Recommendations formally reported to Cabinet on 4 February 2025 for consideration and response.</p> <p>Response from Cabinet on 18 February 2025.</p>	<p>https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Clid=141&MId=4691</p> <p>Follow link here</p>
15 Jan 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	<p>The Committee recommended that a letter be sent on behalf of the Committee to Welsh Government and the UK Government regarding the following:</p> <p>a. expressing that national policy commitments resulting from legislative changes should be fully funded both in terms of capital funding and ongoing revenue</p>	Chair/ Scrutiny	Being actioned	

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		<p>funding including a commitment to fund employer national insurance payments for individuals employed by agencies who provide services to the Council which currently results in a £1.5m cost pressure; and</p> <p>b. expressing concern regarding the repeated lateness of the settlement and requesting a commitment to bring forward the settlement date and to request that consideration be given to providing indicative multi-year settlements.</p>			
15 Jan 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee recommended that a letter be sent on behalf of the Committee to Welsh Government and the Department for Work and Pensions strongly recommend that they implement auto-enrolment of individuals to all benefits to which they are eligible/entitled when they apply for another benefit.	Chair/ Scrutiny	Being actioned	
15 Jan 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	With reference to the budget reduction proposal, CEX 6, the Committee recommended that a letter be sent on behalf of the Committee to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ascertain her	Chair/Scrutiny	Letter sent – response awaited	

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		reliance on the CCTV service created and managed by the Council and whether the Police and Crime Commission's contribution to CCTV has been cut and requesting a response prior to the next meeting of the Committee on 28 January 2025.			
15 Jan 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee requested Officer responses as to whether the population growth in the county borough was creating more demand in specific areas, e.g. whether families with children with special needs were moving into the area to take up the offer of in-county special schools offer or whether older people were relocating to the area.	Chief Executive	Circulating for response	
15 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee requested a copy of the report being presented to the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee at the end of January 2025 to assist the Committee in identifying statutory and non-statutory services provided by Regulatory and Corporate Services.	Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy	Circulating for response.	

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15 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	The Committee requested a written response setting out: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. the value of the Council's borrowing liability benchmark;b. the Council's current level of borrowing;c. whether the Council can increase its borrowing to support capital projects; andd. clarification as to whether external borrowing below the liability benchmark indicates a borrowing requirement and whether external borrowing above the liability benchmark indicates an over-borrowed position.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change.	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 27 January 2025.	
15 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28	<u>Budget Reduction Proposals - CEX 6</u> The Committee requested : <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. a map of the CCTV locations;b. information regarding which service areas benefit from the CCTV, i.e. does it cover out of hours, alarm	Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 27 January 2025.	

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		<p>monitoring for Council buildings, RSLs, etc.;</p> <p>c. confirmation of other service areas who could benefit from use of the CCTV but do not yet do so;</p> <p>d. granular detail setting out what the sum of the saving of £444k entails;</p> <p>e. clarity on the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as to where the statutory responsibility for the CCTV lies and who are mandated partners including whether Town and Community Councils are considered statutory partners under the Act;</p> <p>f. that the narrative in the budget reduction proposal be amended to reflect whether the saving related to removal of the service or a review seeking contributions from statutory partners in order to maintain the CCTV service.</p>			

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28 January 2025	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	<p>ACTIONED - Recommendations formally reported to Cabinet on 4 February 2025 for consideration and response.</p> <p>Response from Cabinet on 18 February 2025.</p>	<p>https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Clid=141&MId=4691</p> <p>Follow link here</p>
28 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee expressed concern regarding the perceived discrepancy between the Welsh Government promoting a 4% investment in education and Bridgend proposing a 1% cut to school budgets. The Committee were advised that Bridgend's allocation from the additional Welsh Government funding for education in Wales equated to around £10.8m. The Committee requested a copy of the letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Education detailing the breakdown of this allocation referred to by the Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People.	Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People	Circulating for response.	

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28 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee expressed concern regarding the impact of falling pupil roll numbers on funding for schools and requested the pupil numbers on roll for past years and a projection of future numbers including the Pupil Admission Number (PAN) for each school.	Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People	Circulating for response.	
28 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee requested a written response providing an estimated value of the revenue lost, at the Rhiw Car Park, as a result of the car park barrier remaining up all day.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change / Corporate Director - Communities	Circulating for response.	
28 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-25 to 2027-28 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	The Committee were advised that the Council's charging regime for car parking, including the free parking offers, were being reviewed. The Committee requested that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 consider requesting a report detailing the outcome of the exercise referred to above and that such report demonstrates the difference in revenue between the free parking period and a full charging model.	Scrutiny / SOSC 3	Scrutiny to action in Forward Work Planning meeting with Scrutiny Chair and Corporate Director.	Actioned

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28 January 2025	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	Whilst discussing significant overspends in some services, the Committee expressed concern that the Council's projected overall underspend position masks significant overspends in some areas and recommended that the Authority should continue the push to try to reduce and address these overspends.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change /	Circulating for response	
28 January 2025	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	The Committee expressed concern that the White Paper from Welsh Government regarding home to school transport is still awaited and the impact being a significant recurring overspend on service provision. The Committee recommended that transformation of the service was required and that there needed to be work and education around the public bus network. The Committee also expressed concern, that a Welsh Government review of bus network services and franchising will commence in North Wales so that a review of Bridgend is not scheduled for at least two years.	Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People	Circulating for response	
28 January 2025	Budget Monitoring	The Committee expressed concern regarding the significant increase	Corporate Director –	Circulating for response	

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	2024-25 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	<p>in demand for learners with additional learning needs (ALN) driving the overspend position in this area and queried whether the reasons for the increase in demand and the projected likely demand for ALN services were sufficiently understood.</p> <p>The Committee requested a copy of the Estyn review report referred to by the Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People regarding the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 which considered some areas of learning needs and support required for learners and which provided a helpful summary of themes from a number of schools across Wales.</p>	Education, Early Years and Young People		
28 January 2025	Budget Monitoring 2024-25 - Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	The Committee discussed legacy issues from the pandemic impacting on pupil behaviour leading to an increase in exclusions and the significant increase in demand for ALN provision, expressed concern that the increase in demand may not be solely due to pandemic and asked	Scrutiny / SOSC 1	Scrutiny to action with Chair of SOSC 1 in Forward Work Planning meeting with Chair and Corporate Director.	

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		<p>whether further work was necessary to fully understand all of the reasons driving the increase in demand and overspend in ALN services.</p> <p>The Committee were advised that educational specialists in Welsh Government were undertaking a detailed piece of work looking at the reasons for the additional demand and requested that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 consider requesting a report detailing the outcome of the exercise referred to above, when available, or to include it in the report on Behaviour scheduled to that Committee, as appropriate.</p>			