

**CABINET - TUESDAY, 10 MARCH 2026**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB / REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS. ON TUESDAY, 10 MARCH 2026 AT 14:30**

Present

Councillor JC Spanswick – Chairperson

J Gebbie

N Farr

E Caparros

M Evans

G Haines

M Jones

Present Virtually

H Williams

Officers:

Jake Morgan

Stephen Griffiths

Mark Galvin

Kelly Watson

Janine Nightingale

Adam Provoost

Louis Pannell

Claire Marchant

Nigel Smith

Lindsay Harvey

Ryan Jones

Chief Executive

Democratic Services Officer – Committees

Senior Democratic Services Officer – Committees

Monitoring Officer

Corporate Director – Communities

Strategic Planning & Transportation Manager

Strategic Planning Policy Team Leader

Corporate Director – Social Services & Wellbeing

Chief Accountant

Corporate Director – Children, Early Years and Young People

Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager

**608. Apologies for Absence**

**This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg**

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Decision Made	Apologies for absence were received from the Corporate Director Finance and Transformation.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**609. Declarations of Interest**

Decision Made	The following declarations of interest were made:-  Cllr G Haines personal interest in Agenda item 5 Cllr E Caparros prejudicial interest in Agenda item 17.  Councillor Caparros left the meeting whilst Agenda item 17 was being considered.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**610. Approval of Minutes**

Decision Made	RESOLVED: That the minutes of a meeting of Cabinet dated 03/02/2026 and 17/02/2026 be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**611. Connect to Work**

Decision Made	The Cabinet Member Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing presented a report in order to provide Cabinet with an overview of the UK Government's Connect To Work programme, to agree a proposal that Cardiff Council act as the regional Grant Recipient Body, and to authorise officers to enter into required agreements to deliver Connect To Work in Bridgend County.  The report explained that Connect to Work (CTW) is a new 5 year programme to be delivered by Local Authority areas in England and Wales, with funding being made available from the Department for Work
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Educational Facilities & Residential Development. Subsequent adoption of this SPG will support the effective implementation of the existing planning policy framework contained within the Replacement Local Development Plan adopted March 2024 (RLDP), the Council's statutory land-use Planning document. It explains in detail the Council's approach to the provision of educational facilities and outlines how the Council will, where appropriate, seek planning obligations to provide or enhance education and school facilities as part of new residential developments throughout the County Borough.

The draft SPG was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

A member referred to page 56 of the report and Table 2, headed Cost per Pupil Place and to paragraph 5.20 immediately below this table, that stated that the figures in the table had been tested against the costs of recently completed new school construction projects and that these will be regularly reviewed to reflect changes in school building costs. She asked when these figures were last reviewed and, being mindful of costs of construction works increasing year on year, she asked what the local authority were doing to adequately mitigate such costs.

The Strategic Planning Policy Team Leader advised that the updated SPG would address points such as the above, through revising key areas of this, to include consideration of, for example, pupil yield rates and associated cost guidance. It was added that the latter was particularly necessary, as costs have increased since the existing SPG's adoption in 2021.

The Leader stressed the importance of community facilities also being made available as part of the construction of new schools and that to look to ensure this is achieved wherever possible, it was important that dialogue took place prior to site works progressing, between the Education Department, the School Governing body and the site developer.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the draft SPG for Educational Facilities & Residential Development (Appendix 1 of the report referred) as the basis for public consultation for a minimum period of 6 weeks.
2. Authorised the Corporate Director – Communities and Group Manager – Planning and Development Services to make minor presentational changes, typographical or factual corrections as necessary prior to public consultation.
3. Authorised the Corporate Director – Communities and Group Manager – Planning and Development Services to undertake the public consultation and to report back the results of the public consultation to Cabinet for approval to send the report to Council to seek its approval for the adoption of the final draft SPG.











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Date Decision Made	10 March 2026
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**619. Urgent Items**

Decision Made	There were no urgent items.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**620. Exclusion of the Public**

Decision Made	RESOLVED:  The following items are not for publication as they contain exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and/or 16 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.  Following the application of the public interest test, Cabinet resolved pursuant to the Act to consider these items in private, with the public being excluded from the meeting during such consideration.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**621. Approval of Exempt Minutes**

Decision Made	RESOLVED:  That the exempt minutes of a meeting of Cabinet dated 3/02/2026, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**622. Social Services and Wellbeing Re-commissioning Care at Home Services**

Decision Made	This item is exempt and the decision is therefore not open to the public
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**623. Placement Commissioning Strategy 2025-2030 (Children and Family Services)**

Decision Made	This item is exempt and the decision is therefore not open to the public
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

**624. Exempt Joint Report - School Modernisation Programme - Bridgend West**

Decision Made	This item is exempt and the decision is therefore not open to the public
Date Decision Made	10 March 2026

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 3.40pm.