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**THIS IS A MEETING WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND**

15th November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)**

A meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) will be held as a Hybrid Meeting: via Microsoft Teams/Abraham Darby Meeting Room, General Offices, Ebbw Vale on Monday, 22nd November, 2021 at 10.00 am.

***Please note that a pre and post meeting will be held 30 minutes prior to the start and following the conclusion of the meeting for members of the committee.***

Yours faithfully

Michelle Morris  
Managing Director

**AGENDA**

**Pages**

**1. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION**

You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation

We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh or English. / Croesawn ohebiaith trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.

will be provided if requested.

2. **APOLOGIES**

To receive.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND  
DISPENSATIONS**

To receive.

4. **JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET  
MONITORING)** 5 - 16

To receive the minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) held on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

(Please note the minutes are submitted for points of accuracy only.)

5. **ACTION SHEET - 27TH SEPTEMBER 2021** 17 - 30

To receive the Action Sheet.

6. **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING -2021/2022,  
FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31 MARCH 2022 (AS AT  
30TH SEPTEMBER 2021)** 31 - 58

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

7. **CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING, FORECAST FOR  
2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER  
2021)** 59 - 80

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

8. **USE OF GENERAL AND EARMARKED RESERVES  
2021/2022** 81 - 94

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

9. **BRIDGING THE GAP (BTG) PROGRAMME 2021/2022  
– PROGRESS UPDATE JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2021** 95 - 114

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

To: Councillor S. Healy (Chair)  
Councillor M. Cook (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor P. Baldwin  
Councillor D. Bevan  
Councillor G. Collier  
Councillor M. Cross  
Councillor G. A. Davies  
Councillor G. L. Davies  
Councillor M. Day  
Councillor P. Edwards  
Councillor L. Elias  
Councillor K. Hayden  
Councillor J. Hill  
Councillor W. Hodgins  
Councillor J. Holt  
Councillor H. McCarthy  
Councillor C. Meredith  
Councillor J. Millard  
Councillor M. Moore  
Councillor J. C. Morgan  
Councillor J. P. Morgan  
Councillor L. Parsons  
Councillor G. Paulsen  
Councillor K. Rowson  
Councillor T. Sharrem  
Councillor T. Smith  
Councillor B. Summers  
Councillor S. Thomas  
Councillor H. Trollope  
Councillor D. Wilkshire  
Councillor B. Willis  
Councillor L. Winnett  
T. Baxter  
Pritchard

All other Members (for information)  
Manager Director  
Chief Officers

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**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)**

**SUBJECT: JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
(BUDGET MONITORING) – 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR S. HEALY (CHAIR)**

Councillors M. Cook  
D. Bevan  
P. Baldwin  
G.A. Davies  
G.L. Davies  
L. Elias  
P. Edwards  
J. Hill  
L. Parsons  
G. Paulsen  
J. Millard  
M. Moore  
H. McCarthy  
K. Rowson  
T. Smith  
B. Summers  
H. Trollope  
B. Willis  
L. Winnett

**WITH:** Managing Director  
Chief Officer Resources  
Corporate Director Education  
Corporate Director Social Services  
Head of Community Services  
Chief Officer Commercial & Customer  
Service Manager Neighbourhood Services  
Scrutiny & Democratic Officer/Advisor

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<p><b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>	
No. 2	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were reported for Councillors S. Thomas, K. Hayden, C. Meredith, D. Wilkshire and Mr. T. Baxter.</p>	
No. 3	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>The following declarations of interest were reported:-</p> <p><i><u>Item No. 6 - Revenue Budget Monitoring - 2021/2022, Forecast Outturn to 31 March 2022 (As at 30th June 2021)</u></i></p> <p>Councillors B. Summers and M. Cook (Silent Valley Waste Services)</p>	
No. 4.	<p><b><u>JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 was submitted.</p> <p>It was reported that Councillor W. Hodgins' attendance had been omitted from the minutes.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 5	<p><b><u>ACTION SHEET – 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021</u></b></p> <p>The action sheet arising from the Joint Scrutiny (Budget Monitoring) Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 was submitted whereupon:-</p> <p><i><u>Festival Park</u></i></p>	

A Member asked whether the Council's SLA with the new company could potentially impact on the Council's budget in terms of future increase in the management fee.

In response the Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services explained that the lease arrangement with the new owners was the same as the previous arrangement. The management fee was built into the current long term lease, which protected both parties, and could not be negotiated. He said discussions with the new company had been positive and hopefully the site would be improved in the future.

Update on the Truck Shop, Tredegar

The Corporate Director confirmed that a submission had been made to CADW to undertake works, and a positive outcome was anticipated. The Corporate Director undertook to provide a briefing note to Members.

A brief discussion ensued when a Member requested that Officer responses to issues raised by Members at Committee be reported back to the Committee.

The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, the Action Sheet be noted.

No. 6

**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2020/2021  
FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2022 (AS AT  
30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2021)**

Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources.

The Chief Officer Resources presented the report which provided the forecast financial position across all portfolios for the current financial year. The overall forecast outturn at June 2021 was a favourable variance of £2.494m, after the application of Welsh Government Hardship Funding.

The table at 5.1.2 of the report highlighted the variances across each portfolio and indicated additional expenditure incurred in relation to the Covid pandemic response and

recovery. The forecast included actual and estimated funding from the WG Hardship Fund to be £1.354. Paragraphs 5.16 and 5.17 detailed the budget virements actioned to realign budgets during the year. There were a number of adverse variances across the portfolios, and the most significant were detailed in table 2 at section 5.1.12.

The Chief Officer confirmed that Action Plans to address cost pressures had been included in the report at Appendix 3, and paragraph 5.1.14 to 5.1.39 provided a narrative for the main variances across each portfolio. Paragraph 5.1.41 provided a summary position with fees and charges for the year, and Appendix 2 provided an analysis of income received for the financial year against individual budgets.

Table 3 of the report summarised the expected year end position for the Council's General Reserves, and based on the current favourable position this was forecast to increase to £10m by the end of this financial year. The Officer said Members would recall that during the July Joint (Budget) Scrutiny the 2021 draft outturn position on earmarked reserves was £20.7m which included school balances. Significant elements of those earmarked reserves related to grant funding held in respect of specific projects or services, and was expected to be utilised in delivering the relevant service outcomes during the current and next financial years.

A Member asked what work was being done to mitigate the significant adverse variance within the Environment portfolio to bring it to a balanced position.

The Chief Officer Resources reported that the adverse variance was due to recycling collection, disposal of waste costs and disposal of recycling.

The Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services explained that over the last 18 months during the Covid pandemic the Council had collected more residual waste resulting in increased disposal costs. However, he confirmed that the Warden Service, which had been suspended during the Covid pandemic, had now been



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reintroduced to ensure we get back to pre-pandemic residual waste levels.

He also reported that the level of recycling collected had increased, particularly cardboard, however, the market price for cardboard had dropped significantly which resulted in less income being received. He confirmed that a review of the Council's contracts for disposal of recyclate materials was being undertaken, looking at shorter term contracts to enable the Council to respond to market prices. He also confirmed that all opportunities to fund the ongoing demand and purchase of recycling receptacles was being explored.

The Corporate Director said there was no budget surplus within the Portfolio, but assured that all aspects were being considered.

The Member said general management of the Environment portfolio budget needed to be considered in terms of the political decision making process.

In response to a question raised by a Member, the Service Manager Neighbourhood Services reported that the costs per property for all recycling receptacles was £64.61. The cost for receptacles for the 387 new builds currently in development within the Borough was approximately £25k.

The Member pointed out that £25k for recycling receptacles for new builds was quite a small portion of the overall adverse variance of £138,485 within the recycling collection budget.

A Member sought an explanation on section 5.1.6 of the report, namely the Learning Disabilities Team restructure.

The Corporate Director Social Services explained that a review of the Learning Disabilities service was undertaken which recommended a 0-25 years, and a 25 and over approach. As a result, the service was restructured and the 0-25 service now sat within Children's Services and the over 25's within Adult Services, and the budgets had been changed to reflect the new arrangement.

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Another Member referred to the fluctuation in costs of recyclate materials, particularly cardboard, and asked whether this would have balanced out.

In response the Chief Officer Resources said this depended on the value of cardboard moving forward. She said this was a forecast for the year based on the current price of cardboard. If the price of cardboard increased the forecast for the year would improve.

A Member sought assurance on the figure detailed for the Transformation Fund, and also asked whether the revenue contribution for agile working included any potential increase to the rental of Anvil Court.

In relation to the Transformation Fund, the Officer confirmed that the forecast of £165k was the agreed committed amount, however, she confirmed that any changes would be reported to Members. In relation to agile working, the Officer said this figure did not include any potential rental increase, as the forecast was based on the current lease arrangement. The lease was due for renewal in a few years, so any future rental figure for Anvil Court would not be known until negotiations had concluded.

A Member expressed concern regarding the ongoing demand for new recycling receptacles due to vandalism and theft and asked what was being done to mitigate this moving forward. She also expressed concern regarding the increase in rental for the Council's business units, and also the lack of units available for companies wishing to expand.

In relation to recycling receptacles the Service Manager Neighbourhood Services it was difficult to control people's behaviour and the Council was limited in what action it could take. However, Officers had engaged with the youth service to identify hot spot areas and engaged with young people in the community, and a further engagement exercise was intended this year. He also pointed out that the situation may have been exacerbated last winter as the schools were closed due to Covid.

In relation to the increase in rental of the Council's business units, the Corporate Director Regeneration &

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Community Services said the Council took a decision to be a more commercially minded organisation, and part of that decision was the introduction of full care and repair leases for our industrial units, and to charge a market relevant rent. He pointed out that whilst office and retail rental had decreased over the last year, industrial rentals were strong and had increased. He assured that the Council was keen to protect businesses and had undertaken a huge effort to move a significant amount of money to help and protect businesses in Blaenau Gwent during the last 18 months. He pointed out that occupancy was up at 90% and business growth was doing well.

A Member referred to the adverse variance in the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and asked whether this would be off-set by money from Welsh Government.

In response the Chief Officer Resources explained that CTRS additional costs did not form part of the Hardship Fund, however, Welsh Government have indicated that this would be reviewed later in the year.

Another Member expressed concern regarding the lack of detail in the appendices. He also referred to the Council's healthy level of reserves and said some of this money should be used to set more realistic budgets moving forward, particularly within the Environment Portfolio.

In response to a question raised by a Member regarding the contingency – pay award, the Chief Officer Resources reported that a contingency of 2% had been estimated, however, this had not been formally agreed. The latest offer currently being considered by the Unions was 1.75%.

The Member then referred to section 5.1.29 of the report, namely legal fees within Children's Services and the Corporate Director of Social Services reported that a collaborative approach with a neighbouring LA was currently being discussed.

Another Member agreed with previous comments regarding the lack of information, particularly information on the Council's reserves, and asked that the report on the forecast general and earmarked reserves scheduled to be

	<p>submitted to the Joint Scrutiny Committee in November include information from Quarter 4 of last year.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Resources confirmed that the normal General Reserves report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee and include information from Quarter 2 onwards.</p> <p>Another Member referred to Appendix 1c and asked whether the £205k paid to Awen Trust meant a reduction in the money paid to Aneurin Leisure Trust.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Resources confirmed that responsibility for managing the Metropol had transferred to Awen Leisure. As a result, there had been a virement of budget between the Trusts.</p> <p>A Member requested a breakdown on the income generated from recycle materials, and the Service Manager Neighbourhood Services undertook to provide this information.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted and Members noted the virements detailed in paragraphs 5.1.4 to and 5.1.7.</p>	
<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>BRIDGING THE GAP (BTG) PROGRAMME 2021/2022 – PROGRESS UPDATE APRIL TO JUNE 2021</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Resources presented the report which provided an update on the progress of the Strategic Business Reviews during the period April to June 2021, and the latest assessment of the financial achievement for the current financial year.</p> <p>The table at section 2.1 detailed the current identified budget gaps for 2022/23 to 2025/26 as per the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy. Table 2 at section 2.4 and provided the latest estimated achievement of Bridging the Gap over the 5 years to be £4.29m.</p>	

Table 3 at section 2.5 of the report provided details of the remaining budget gaps that we are currently assessing for future years. In 2021/22 we are anticipating a surplus budget, and budget gaps in the following years.

The Chief Officer confirmed that the Council's CLT were continuing to identify and develop BtG proposals to close those future years' budget gaps, and was currently reviewing the Council's assumptions in the MTFS to ensure they are appropriate moving forward. Any changes to those assumptions would be reported to Members later in the year along with the MTFS.

The Officer concluded that section 5 of the report provided information on the provisional outturn for 2021/22 and the overall forecast achievement was expected to exceed the original estimated achievement of £0.75k by £0.1m for the current financial year.

In response to a question raised the Officer explained that in relation to fees and charges for those financial years, we have estimated receiving approximately £40k from the WG Hardship Fund. There was very little allocated from the Hardship Fund to the BtG proposals for this year.

A Member referred to table 4 at section 5.3, namely assets and property and asked if this was in line with the disposal of property policy, and also whether this could be achieved given the limited resources within the Legal Department.

The Chief Officer Resources explained that any disposal of assets would result in capital receipts and be included within the Capital Budget report. In terms of resources, she said this should not have a significant impact, and the estimated achievement of £127k was anticipated.

In response to a further question, the Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services confirmed that the Silent Valley performance report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.

A Member expressed concern regarding the Council's disposal of assets which meant that the services were

	<p>operating from rented properties. He felt that the Council would be too reliant on rented properties moving forward and the risks associated with rising costs etc. He requested information on the costs associated with Anvil Court and the percentage of properties leased by the Council.</p> <p>The Corporate Director Regeneration &amp; Community Services reported that the lease on Anvil Court was up until 2025 and options for negotiations would be considered over the next few years. He understood the Member's comments but assured that Officers worked to minimise the amount of money spent on properties to ensure more money could be spent on services. He undertook to provide a separate report on this issue.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted; and Members provided appropriate challenge to the Bridging the Gap programme.</p>	
<p><b>No. 8</b></p>	<p><b><u>CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING FORECAST FOR 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR AS AT 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2021</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Resources presented the report which provided an overview of each Portfolio's actual and forecast capital expenditure against funding approvals for the 2021/2022 financial year, as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The Overall financial position indicated an adverse variance of just over £287,017k against a total in-year capital budget of £15.3m.</p> <p>The report identified significant overspends on two projects which have been reported previously, namely the HWRC (£42,725) related to an increase in costs due to the Covid pandemic and future proofing of the site; and Lime Avenue business park (£234,710k) due to the loss and expenses claim for items in relation to unforeseen issues caused by the Covid pandemic. The Officer confirmed that the Council was currently in discussions with the funding bodies for both schemes, and whilst discussions were positive, the final outcome was not known at this point in time. However, if additional was not forthcoming, the</p>	

schemes would need to be built into the capital contingency fund unless alternative funding could be identified.

Members raised questions on the following budgets:

328340 LTF Metro Plus £220k

The Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services reported that this money was drawn down to undertake work on the Abertillery Railway Station and related to land acquisition and consultancy costs.

The Member asked whether the costs for land acquisition were incurred prior to the report received by Members on the loan for the Ebbw Valley Railway.

In response the Corporate Director said the intent to acquire land for the railway had been worked on for a number of years. He understood that completion of the land acquisition was undertaken during the last financial year, but said he would check to see if this was correct.

The Member sought clarification that decision to acquire land was undertaken under delegated powers and not part of Council agreement.

The Corporate Director confirmed that the land acquisition was not reported to Council, and the Member asked that details of the land acquisition be forwarded to all Members.

Another Member questioned the figures for the budget, and the Chief Officer Resources said it was likely that income of £186,209 had been received which had increased to the budget to £406,209, and we are forecasting to spend £220k in the year. The Officer undertook to provide details to Members.

The Member then requested a breakdown of spend on the following budgets:

- 332368 Play Area Schemes Boroughwide
- 327061 CATs
- 327103 Civic Centre Decommissioning
- 327140 Democratic Hub (GO)

327090 Fly Tipping CCTV

In response to a question raised, the Service Manager Neighbourhood Services confirmed that £14k grant funding was secured through Keep Wales Tidy for the purchase of equipment to be used as part of the new Joint Enforcement Service, and Members would see a more proactive approach to fly tipping moving forward.

The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted, and;

- Provided appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report.
- Continued to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council.
- Noted the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding.



**Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council**

**Action Sheet**

**Joint Scrutiny Committee – Budget Monitoring – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action to be Taken</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
5	<b><u>Action Sheet – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021</u></b> Update on the Truck Shop to be provided.	Richard Crook / Steve Smith	<b>Update provided to the Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.</b> Copy attached for members' information.
6	<b><u>Revenue Budget Monitoring</u></b> Breakdown of funds received for recycling.	Matthew Stent	<b>Information provided to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> November.</b> Copy attached for Members' information.
7	<b><u>Bridging the Gap Programme</u></b> Information to be provided on the percentage of properties the Council lease to those it owns.	Richard Crook	Update to be provided
8	<b><u>Capital Budget Monitoring Forecast</u></b> 328340 - Detail to be provided in relation to the Metro Plus funding and the Abertillery Spur and acquisition of land.	Richard Crook	<b>Information provided to the Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Update below for Members information</b> The Metro Plus funding makes up a small proportion of the funds required to begin the development of the Abertillery Spur work. In 2020-21 the expenditure was £430,374 and this included both WeITAG work and purchase of the land required as a terminus point. The allocation for 2021-22 is £390,000 for further design work taking the project into early GRIP (Governance for Railway Investment Projects) stages in preparation for the UK Govt funding expected.

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken
	332368 – Play Area schemes - breakdown of how the funding has been spent to be provided.	Dave Watkins	<b>Information provided to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> November.</b> Copy attached for Members' information.
	327061 – CATs – breakdown of CATs transfers that have taken place over the last two years.	Mark Howland	<b>Information provided to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> November.</b> Copy attached for Members' information.
	327103 – Civic Centre Decommissioning – spend of £7436 – what money has been spent on consultants.	Rhian Hayden	<b>Information provided to the Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.</b> Update below for Members' information.  There were no consultant costs incurred in quarter one, all cost's incurred were in association with decanting of the Civic Centre building.
	327104 – Democratic Hub – breakdown of spend.	Rhian Hayden	<b>Information provided to the Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.</b> Update below for Members' information.  There was nil capital spend as at end of Quarter one, however spending in Quarter two provisionally totals £115k.  Budget Monitoring statement enclosed.

## **Background**

Members will be aware of the long standing case of Tredegar Company Shop (aka former British Legion) at Shop Row Tredegar. The building is listed but has deteriorated over the past 20 years to the point where the building is shored by scaffolding and the highway closed. The Council now owns the property.

We have instructed the Conservation Officer at Mon CC to act as our agent to demolish parts of the complex to allow for the highway to be reopened for the benefit of the local community and address ongoing revenue liabilities with the scaffolding.

As the building is listed and owned by this Council, the application will be decided by Cadw/Welsh Ministers. A robust case is required based on the condition of the building, efforts to save the structure, site restoration and after use.

As we are unable to access the site due to the parlous condition of the building, we have instructed expert structural engineers who have used state of the art drone footage to survey the site and using this data, prepare detailed computer generated drawings to accompany the application.

Due to capacity issues, covid and other factors this process has taken longer than expected.

## **Current Position**

Along with our agent and the structural engineers, the Development & Estates Service Manager met with Cadw in August to explain the basis of the draft listed building application and the information that was to be submitted.

Cadw raised further issues around after use and making good of the site, all of which they require to accompany an application for demolition. Since that time, we have been working on this supplemental information and the application was duly submitted to Cadw on 30<sup>th</sup> September

The Council will now await a decision. Money has been allocated in the capital program but it is unclear at this time whether that will be sufficient to complete the demolition and comply with any conditions imposed by Cadw on site after-use/restoration (assuming approval).

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## Recycling Income Analysis

<b>Material</b>	Average price paid per tonne 2019-20		Average price paid per tonne 2020-21		Average price paid per tonne 2021
Paper	£83.33		£58.71		£121.67
Cardboard	£15.00		£21.96		£79.42
Mixed Glass	£20.50		£20.50		£20.50
Mixed Plastics	£156.33		£76.67		£127.50
Steel cans	£104.08		£101.88		£211.33
Aluminium cans	£785.75		£580.00		£760.00
Textiles	£169.50		£61.25		£48.67

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## Briefing Note Children's Play Area Schemes & Funding

### **Grant Funding Breakdown Children's Play Areas**

The Authority conducted a comprehensive review of all playgrounds and reported to committee in December 2018. The report identified that any future "All Wales Play Opportunity Grants" (AWPOG) would be used to address the recommendations from the play area review.

An initial AWPOG of £117,000 was received in 2019/20 to support the implementing of Blaenau Gwent's "Play Sufficiency Action Plan". A report on this funding was included on the information pack for scrutiny on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and has been identified as phase 1 works.

In March 2020 the Council was notified by Welsh Government of a further allocation of funding, this funding had already been received by Blaenau Gwent in 2017/18, (£110,000), this funding had been initially allocated to a project for the creation of a "**Splash Pad**" facility in Blaenau Gwent. This has now been identified as phase 2 works.

Due to the need to resolve the funding issue during the Covid 19 lockdown period, the Managing Director, advised by both Director of Social Services & Director of Regeneration & Community Services, used delegated authority to approve the use of the funding to purchase a range/selection of play equipment as there was a risk of having the **Splash Pad** funding (£110,000) clawed back by Welsh Government.

The two elements of funding have now been allocated as follows;

**Phase 1** - funding received £117,000 in 2019/20 from Welsh Government to commence the implementation of the Play Sufficiency Action Plan.

The following phase 1 play area sites to be upgraded were presented to scrutiny committee's information pack in February 2020 and are in line with the play area review undertaken and reported to committee in December 2018;

<b>Play Area Sites (Phase 1 works)</b>	<b>New Equipment to be Installed 2020</b>
Multi Use Games Area Fencing Six Bells Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrade Boundary Fencing</li></ul>
Letchworth Rd. Ebbw Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Swingo</li><li>• Multi Play Unit</li><li>• 4-Way Springy</li></ul>
Central Park Blaina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi Play Area</li></ul>

Brynmawr Welfare Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classic Slide</li> <li>• Ariel Runway</li> <li>• Add Swing Bay</li> </ul>
Williams Street Cwm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large Slide</li> <li>• Inclusive Roundabout</li> </ul>
Swffryd Play Area Abertillery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roundabout</li> <li>• Free Rider</li> </ul>
Bedwellty Pits Play Area Tredegar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See Saw Springer</li> </ul>
<b>Costs Breakdown</b>	
Play Sufficiency Officer Salary	£10,000
Equipment Purchase	£68,150
Installation Costs	£38,850
<b>Total Costs (Phase 1)</b>	<b>£117,000</b>

**Phase 2** - funding received (£110,000) in 2017/18 from Welsh Government to support the development of the **Splash Pad** Facility. Funding repurposed in March 2020 towards Play Sufficiency Action Plan.

The following phase 2 play area sites to be upgraded were presented to scrutiny committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020;

<b>Play Area Sites (Phase 2 works)</b>	<b>New Equipment to be Installed 2020</b>
Banna Park Nantyglo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Multi Play Unit (Replacement)</li> <li>• See Saw Springer</li> <li>• New Toddler Springers</li> <li>• Refurbishment of Swing Bays</li> </ul>
Duffryn Park Blaina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New See Saw</li> <li>• New Free Rider/Swinger/Roundabout</li> </ul>
Gelli Grug Park Abertillery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Multi Play Unit</li> <li>• New Free Ride Swingo</li> <li>• New Group Basket Swing</li> </ul>
Brynmawr Welfare Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New toddler Unit</li> </ul>
Warm Turn Play Area Abertillery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Spring Rocker</li> <li>• New See Saw</li> <li>• New See Saw Springy</li> </ul>



New Rassau Park Ebbw Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Multi Play</li> <li>• New Free Ride/Swingo</li> </ul>
<b>Costs Breakdown</b>	
Equipment Purchase	£65,150
Installation Costs	£44,850
<b>Total Costs Phase 2</b>	<b>£110,000 (repurposed Splash Pad Funding)</b>

The Council has also benefited from a further grant received from Welsh Government through the Valleys Regional Parks "Discovery Gateway Project" to support additional play facilities as follows;

<b>Play Area Sites (Additional)</b>	<b>New Equipment Installed 2020</b>
Parc Bryn Bach Tredegar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total upgrading and installation of a new visitor play attraction.</li> </ul>
<b>Costs Breakdown</b>	
Equipment Purchase and installation	£185,000
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>£185,000</b>

**Phase 3** - Additionally, a further £62,000 was allocated through AWPOG funding in December 2020 to be spent by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, which was a very tight deadline to achieve.

In line with the play area reports submitted to scrutiny and the executive and as the authority had conducted a comprehensive review of playgrounds in December 2018, where it was the intention that when this review was fully complete then AWPOG funding would be used to address the recommendations from the review.

The methodology used from the Playground Review 2018, has now been used to identify sites suitable for upgrading on a rolling programme and should future AWPOG funding be made available it could be easily allocated to priority play area works. This would also allow for implementation to be expedited should future funding require expenditure at short notice.

In line with the findings of the 2018 review, and now classed as phase 3 works, together with being as a Priority 2 site in the matrix, Abertillery park was identified as

the next play area for a full refurbishment to be undertaken utilising the additional £62,000 AWPOG funding.

<b>Play Area Sites (Phase 3 Works)</b>	<b>New Equipment Installed 2021</b>
Abertillery Park (Visit Play Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total upgrading and installation of a new visitor play area.</li> </ul>
<b>Costs Breakdown</b>	
Equipment Purchase and installation	£62,000
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>£62,000</b>

### Summary of Funding

The total funding allocation to children's play facilities is therefore as follows;

<b>From</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Year Awarded</b>
Welsh Government AWPOG funding - phase 1	£117,000	(2019/20)
Welsh Government AWPOG funding (Splash Pad) – phase 2	£110,000	(2017/18)
Welsh Government Valleys Regional Park Grant – additional works phase 2	£185,000	(2018/19)
Welsh Government AWPOG funding - phase 3	£62,000	(2020/21)
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>£474,000</b>	

## **Briefing/ Response Note - Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

### **Action/ Request - 327061 – CATs – breakdown of CATs transfers that have taken place over the last two years.**

#### **Response:**

- The majority of the community asset transfers took place past the two -year period to which the request relates. In the last two years only four transfers can be referenced which are: -
  - ❖ Met Theatre
  - ❖ Tredegar Recreation Ground
  - ❖ Sirhowy Woodland
  - ❖ Llanhilleth Playing Field and Changing Rooms
- There have been others where the occupants have moved onto new agreements and efforts continue to regularise occupations of some groups.
- Arrangements are also close to completion for: -
  - ❖ Millennium Gardens Brynmawr – to Growing Spaces from original Trustees.
  - ❖ Brynmawr Welfare pitch to Brynmawr FC
  - ❖ Cwm Welfare – fields and pavilion to Cwm Community Sports
- Occupation also needs to be regularised on some sites where groups are in occupation but formal / revised paperwork need to be concluded. This has been hampered by lack of legal resources/ issues with groups registrations/ other issues but include: -
  - ❖ Eugene Cross Park – Eugene Cross Park Sports Limited
  - ❖ Orchard Street former Community Centre
  - ❖ Blaina Institute
  - ❖ Brynithel Recreation Ground
  - ❖ Llanhilleth Institute
  - ❖ Market Hall Cinema
- Newer CAT's currently being processed: -
  - ❖ Queen Street school – CAT process complete, applicant has not completed planning
  - ❖ Trinity Chapel/ Abertillery Library – CAT process complete, legal agreements still to be complete
  - ❖ Community Growing Space – Cwm – awaiting business plan
  - ❖ Community Growing Space – Cwmtillery – awaiting EOI/ Business Plan
  - ❖ RTB RFC – Beer Garden – CAT process (excluding advert under 1972 Local government Act 1972) complete, awaiting outcome of planning application

- ❖ Rassau Community Centre – Report ready for Executive but delayed as building has not legally been returned/ transferred

MH151021

Journal Date	Ledger Code	Amount	Period	Ref No (Line)	User Analysis	User Data	Ref No 2 (Line)	Source Accr	Source Account Name	Narrative	Budget	Year
<b>2020/21</b>												
31/12/20	327104/5415/000	700.07	9	TS1519		PAY006733				Rob Jenkins	Technical Services Fee	2020-21
<b>2021/22</b>												
01/07/21	327104/3000/000	93,307.00	4	SCI0383838		28424	GVEN00250	00511665	VAUGHAN SOUND INSTALLATION Q9706R4/KF - GENERAL OFFICES EBBW VALE FOR SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AS PER TENDER		Equipment	2021-22
20/07/21	327104/1005/900	280.00	4	SCI0384955		176	ENTS46103/4	00525916	C & F ELECTIRCAL LTD	General Offices and Archives invoice 176 service and clean AHU 21-	Other	2021-22
05/08/21	327104/1015/225	217.00	5	SCI0385964		8871696	ENTS46401/1	00004685	CHUBB FIRE & SECURITY LTM04456 - General Offices invoice 8871696 Install extra panic button as quotation received on 21.07.21 EM21 0844 Requested by Chris Evans		Equipment	2021-22
09/08/21	327104/1008/000	212.00	5	SCI0386309		0000076180	GVEN00270	00526720	GLASSFIBRE FLAGPOLES LTD	Site survey for flagpole placement.	Surveys / Assessments	2021-22
01/09/21	327104/1005/225	4,375.49	6	SCI0387642		9408	ENTS45509/1	00521532	E F S SYSTEMS (UK) LTD	M04456 - General Offices invoice 9408 Supply and install 6no dual socket outlets within the Abraham Derby room EM21 0239 Requested by Nathan Jones	Equipment	2021-22
12/10/21	327104/3024/000	11,278.88	7	SCI0389923		DSRS10043(RECP05417		00514403	SHARED RESOURCE SERVICE	Catalyst 9200L 48-port PoE+ 4 x 1G Network Essentials	Network Equipment	2021-22
12/10/21	327104/3024/000	3,242.88	7	SCI0389923		DSRS10043(RECP05417		00514403	SHARED RESOURCE SERVICE	C9200L DNA Essentials 48-port 3 Year Term license	Network Equipment	2021-22
12/10/21	327104/3024/000	2,250.00	7	SCI0389923		DSRS10043(RECP05417		00514403	SHARED RESOURCE SERVICE	Cisco Aironet 1850	Network Equipment	2021-22

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# Agenda Item 6

*Executive Committee and Council only*

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee**  
Date of meeting: **22 November 2021**  
Report Subject: **Revenue Budget Monitoring -2021/2022, Forecast  
Outturn to 31 March 2022 (as at 30th September 2021)**  
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Daniels – Corporate Services**  
Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden – Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	04/11/2021				22/11/21	15.12.21		

## 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide members with the forecast financial outturn position across all portfolios for the financial year 2021/2022 (as forecast at 30th September 2021).

## 2. Scope and Background

2.1 This report provides details on the following:

- Forecast financial position to the end of March 2022 across all portfolios
- Budget Virements actioned during the period July to September 2021
- Forecast outturn for Fees & Charges

2.2 This report will inform the quarterly financial reporting framework to Members.

## 3. Options for Recommendation

### 3.1 Option 1 (Recommended Option)

Members to consider and provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report and to note the virements detailed in paragraphs 5.1.4 to 5.1.6.

### 3.2 Option 2

Members do not accept the report.

## 4. Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan

4.1 This report supports the Council Corporate Plan proposed outcome statement 2020/2022 “An ambitious and innovative council delivering the quality services we know matter to our communities”.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 **Impact on Budget**

5.1.1 The overall forecast outturn as at September 2021, is a favourable variance of £2.814m, after the application of Welsh Government Hardship Funding. There has been an increase in the favourable variance of £0.319m since the June 2021 forecast position (£2.495m).

5.1.2 The forecast overall financial position across all portfolios at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (and before the inclusion of Covid-19 related expenditure) is shown in the table below:

Table 1 – Portfolio Summary

<b>Portfolio/ Committee</b>	<b>2021/2022 Revised Revenue Budget</b>	<b>2021/2022 Forecast Outturn @ 30 Sept 2021</b>	<b>Favourable/ (Adverse) To 31 March 2022</b>	<b>Append ref:</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	
<b>Underspending Portfolios</b>				
Corporate Services & Financial Management & Strategy	18.425	17.171	1.254	1a
Education & Leisure	63.863	63.693	0.170	1c
Social Services	46.329	44.825	1.504	1b
Planning	1.274	1.274	0.000	1f
Licensing	0.106	0.106	0.000	1f
<b>Sub Total (1)</b>	<b>129.997</b>	<b>127.069</b>	<b>2.928</b>	



<b>Overspending Portfolios</b>				
Economy	1.551	1.568	(0.017)	1d
Environment	26.484	26.581	(0.097)	1e
<b>Sub Total (2)</b>	<b>28.035</b>	<b>28.149</b>	<b>(0.114)</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>158.032</u></b>	<b><u>155.218</u></b>	<b><u>2.814</u></b>	
<b>Covid-19 Costs</b>				
Social Services		1.487	(1.487)	
Education		0.277	(0.277)	
Environment		1.791	(1.791)	
<b>Sub Total – Covid19 spend</b>		<b><u>3.555</u></b>	<b><u>(3.555)</u></b>	
<b>WG Hardship funding</b>			<b><u>2.068</u></b>	
<b>WG SS Hardship funding</b>			<b><u>1.487</u></b>	
<b>Revised Total</b>			<b><u>2.814</u></b>	

- 5.1.3 The forecast includes actual and estimated funding from the Hardship fund for April to September 2021 of £3.555m. Claims have been submitted, in line with the set of principles issues by Welsh Government, for quarter 1 and quarter 2 loss of income and £104,000 is included in the forecast for Social Services.
- 5.1.4 It has been confirmed that Welsh Government Hardship Funding will continue to March 2022.
- 5.1.5 **Budget Virements**
- 5.1.6 During quarter 2, there have been a number of budget virements between and within Portfolios to realign budgets with forecast spend. These are in addition to those reported previously for quarter 1.
- 5.1.7 As agreed as part of the new operating model business case, an analysis of the mileage budgets was undertaken and a number of virements have been actioned between Portfolios to realign budgets to fund the Agile Working Allowances.

Table 2: Budget Virements

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Virement</b>
Corporate Services & Financial Management & Strategy	£38,500
Education & Leisure	(£5,000)
Social Services	(£37,000)
Environment	£5,000
Economy	£1,500
Planning	(£3,000)

5.1.8 **PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS**

5.1.9 Within the total forecast favourable variance of £2.814m, the cross cutting budgets within Corporate Services account for 28% (£0.865m) of this forecast. The breakdown is as follows:-

- Commercial & Contract Management - £0.5m
- Pay award contingency - £0.12m
- Contingency – Community Care - £0.25m

5.1.10 Portfolio summary pages can be found in Appendix 1.

5.1.11 Details of the variances greater than £50,000 within the Portfolios are included in the Portfolio Analysis section below.

5.1.12 Action plans to address cost pressures are attached at Appendix 3. A breakdown of the adverse variances contained within the action plans is summarised below:-

Table 3 – Significant Adverse Variances

Social Services	Legal Fees	£363,000
Environment	Waste Services	£208,684
<b>Total</b>		<b>£571,684</b>

5.1.13 **Portfolio Analysis**

5.1.14 **Corporate Services – £1,253,633 favourable variance**

5.1.15 The forecast is made up of the following main variances: -

5.1.16 ***Cross Cutting Budgets - £865,247***

5.1.17 Commercial & Contract Management (Budget £496,410) – This budget was created to fund contract price increases during the year, that cannot be managed within portfolio budgets. However, no requests for funding have been received to date, therefore this budget is showing a favourable variance of £496,410.

- 5.1.18 Contingency – Pay Award / Community Care (Budget £1.2m) - This budget has been established to cover a potential pay award for 2021/2022 of up to 2.0% for Council staff and increased costs within Community Care. The forecast includes a commitment of a 1.75% pay award for staff (£831,863). Local authority employers have subsequently rejected this offer with the decision to strike currently being considered by trade unions. At present this budget is showing a £368,838 favourable position.
- 5.1.19 ***Departmental Budgets - £307,611***
- 5.1.20 The forecast favourable variance mainly relates to reduced employee related expenditure due to delays in filling vacant posts, maternity leave, staff on temporary reduced hours and the utilisation of one-off grant funding. In addition, there is an increased level of income provided by Welsh Government for an administration grant for providing COVID-19 related support.
- 5.1.21 **Social Services – £1,504,024 favourable variance**
- 5.1.22 The forecast is made up of the following main variances: -
- 5.1.23 ***Children’s Services – Favourable Variance of £769,000***
- 5.1.24 There is only one main adverse variance, Legal Fees of £363,000 which is mainly due to the continuing cost pressure as a result of using an external law firm resulting from court proceedings in relation to Children Looked After.
- 5.1.25 A cost pressure of £350,000 was awarded in 2021/2022 to partially address the cost pressure.
- 5.1.26 This adverse variance has been completely offset mainly by two underspending areas:
- Residential Placements showing a favourable variance of £745,000 mainly due to the application of Sustainability Grant Funding and
  - Social worker Teams of £332,000 mainly due to vacant posts resulting from the issues experienced with recruitment and retention.
- 5.1.27 ***Adult Services – Favourable Variance of £735,0000***
- 5.1.28 The overall favourable variance of £735,000 is mainly due to the application of Sustainability Grant, ICF and Home First Grant funding for a number of established posts. In addition, there are a number of vacant posts and a reduction in staffing cover costs within Provider Services (as Day Services provision is not fully operational as yet). There has been a reduction in the number of placements and packages of care since the pre-Covid-19 period. The service is experiencing an increase in demand and referrals, however, current staff capacity is having an impact on the placement process.
- 5.1.29 **Education and Leisure – £170,002 favourable variance**
- 5.1.30 There are two main areas of favourable variances:-

- Strategic Management - £150,000 favourable variance – relating to lower pension contributions to the local government pension scheme for school based staff, and the delay in the appointment of the new Statutory ALN Officer.
- LEA Budget Supporting SEN £62,000 favourable variance, relating to income arising from the secondment of the Principal School Psychologist.

5.1.31 **Environment Portfolio – £97,139 adverse variance**

5.1.32 The forecast is made up of the following main adverse variances:-

5.1.33 **Recycling Collection - £137,059 adverse variance**

Approximately 50% of the adverse variance relates to the ongoing cost of receptacles and food waste bags. External funding for the purchase of food waste bags has ceased and therefore this now presents a cost pressure within this budget. The budget for receptacles is not sufficient to meet demand for replacement receptacles and food waste bags as requested by households and in addition new receptacles will need to be provided to the new development/builds that is ongoing within Blaenau Gwent.

5.1.34 **Disposal of Waste - £47,995 adverse variance**

This is mainly due to an increase in residual waste tonnages. This has been partly offset by Welsh Government Hardship Funding for Quarter 1 and quarter 2. Subsequently funding for the remainder of this year should have a positive impact on the adverse variance. Also the forecast cost of leachate disposal at the Silent Valley site exceeds the budget. However, this is based on last year's outturn. The weather has an impact on costs, so there is the potential for the forecast to change later in the year.

5.1.35 **Recycling Disposal - £23,635 adverse variance**

There is currently a high demand for steel, plastics and aluminium and therefore the forecast income has increased for these recyclates, which has improved the financial position when compared to quarter 1.

5.1.36 **Planning Committee – balanced budget forecast**

5.1.37 **Planning – Dealing with Applications - £13,413 adverse variance**

The variance is due to a Planning Application Fee of £300,000 being received from Ciner Glass Ltd. Receipt of this large fee has assisted the Service to offset additional costs arising from:

- staff shortages (due to sickness and retirements of two of the Services Management Team), which has greatly impacted on the Service.

- Planning Application Appeals costs of £20,000 arising from Planning Committee declining applications.
- Upgrade to Planning IT Software to support agile working.

#### 5.1.38 **Fees & Charges**

5.1.39 The 2021/2022 portfolio estimates include income budgets in relation to fees & charges (excluding Council Tax) of £15m across all portfolios. Attached at Appendix 2 is an analysis of income received against budget for the financial year for individual portfolios, and current forecast indicates an adverse variance against this target of £1.1m, primarily relating to lost income: -

- from the sale of recyclate - £0.2m
- charges for Community Care & CHC income - £1.3m

5.1.40 Whilst the analysis of fees and charges is useful, it should not be considered in isolation, as elements of any shortfall within Portfolios can be inextricably linked to underspends in expenditure within the same budget heading. Where this is the case, budget holders should action budget virements to ensure that the income targets reflect more accurately expected income. Likewise, any over achievement in income which offset overspends in expenditure within the same budget, should be treated in the same way.

#### 5.2 **Risk including Mitigating Actions**

5.2.1 Grants form a significant element of the Council's income and support the delivery of priority services to the people of Blaenau Gwent. There is a risk that a reduction or cessation of grant funding will result in service levels reducing or services no longer being delivered.

5.2.2 A grants register has been developed and is being maintained and will be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5.2.3 There is a risk that Action Plans will not address the cost pressures identified.

5.2.4 Action Plans have been developed, identifying actions to mitigate the forecast cost pressures. The Action Plans will be monitored as part of the Budget Monitoring and Reporting Framework and the impact reported to the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee, Executive Committee and the Cost Pressure Sub Group.

5.2.5 There is a risk that Covid-19 will continue into the medium/long term, impacting on Council services and budgets. This risk can be mitigated by the continuation of processes that the Council has introduced since March 2020 eg prioritising services, redeployment of staff, home working.

5.2.6 There is a risk that Welsh Government will not provide Hardship funding/loss of income funding for all cost pressures identified. This risk can be mitigated by a continuing dialogue and lobbying with Welsh Government, through the WLGA and the continuing development of action plans by budget holders.

5.2.7 There is a risk of increase costs for food, fuel and other essential goods and services as a result of the ongoing situation regarding the U.K. Exiting the E.U.

5.2.8 The UK Exiting the EU has been added as an organisational risk to the corporate risk register, whilst a separate, more detailed high level action plan has been developed and is being monitored by the Core Planning Group.

5.3 Legal  
N/A

5.4 Human Resources  
N/A

## 6. **Supporting Evidence**

### 6.1 **Performance Information and Data**

6.1.1 A summary page for each portfolio is contained in Appendices 1a to 1g.

### 6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The report details the financial implications for the Council in providing services to the communities of Blaenau Gwent.

### 6.3 **Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)**

6.3.1 CLT have considered the forecast financial position for 2021/2022 (as 30th September 2021).

### 6.4 **Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)**

6.4.1 For new and emerging cost pressures identified during the financial year, budget holders have produced Action Plans which should address the cost pressure during the year. These Action Plans will form part of the quarterly budget reports and will be submitted to the Cost Pressure Sub Group for scrutiny, challenge and monitoring.

6.4.2 Cost Pressures are also considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

### 6.5 **Preventative focus**

6.5.1 Budget holders will continue to develop and monitor Action Plans for those services reporting forecast adverse variances which should address the cost pressure during the year

### 6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**

6.6.1 Accountancy works closely with budget holders during the financial year in producing the financial forecast, identifying cost pressures and in developing Action Plans.

6.7 *Integration*  
N/A

6.8 ***Decarbonisation and Reducing Carbon Emissions***

6.8.1 The Council is committed to the Decarbonisation Plan to achieve a carbon neutral public sector by 2030 and the Bridging the Gap programme includes a Strategic Business Review, Low Carbon.

6.9a ***Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment***  
N/A

6.9b ***EqIA***

6.8.1 All Bridging the Gap Projects that were approved as part of the budget setting process have gone through the EqIA process.

7. ***Monitoring Arrangements***

7.1 Financial reporting to Joint Budget Scrutiny and the Executive is carried out on a quarterly basis. Where services are reporting significant cost pressures, there will be a requirement for Budget Holders to develop and implement Action Plans these will be reported to the Cost Pressure Sub Group, on a quarterly basis.

***Background Documents /Electronic Links***

*Appendix 1- Portfolios*

*Appendix 2 – Fees and Charges*

*Appendix 3 – Action Plans*

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## CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2022	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL AND OTHER RECHARGEABLE SERVICES</u></b>			
Corporate Services Department	(173,230)	(376,835)	203,605
Resources Department	1,500	(102,506)	104,006
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(171,730)</b>	<b>(479,341)</b>	<b>307,611</b>
<b><u>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Archives	151,640	142,789	8,851
Festival Park	94,680	99,631	(4,951)
Housing Benefit	(117,130)	(115,927)	(1,203)
ICT Service	0	0	0
Cross Cutting	(50,000)	(50,000)	0
Community Hubs	111,440	111,440	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>190,630</b>	<b>187,933</b>	<b>2,697</b>
<b><u>LEGAL &amp; CORPORATE COMPLIANCE SERVICES</u></b>			
Registration of Electors	17,170	17,499	(329)
Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	51,370	51,380	(10)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>68,540</b>	<b>68,879</b>	<b>(339)</b>
<b><u>GOVERNANCE &amp; PARTNERSHIP SERVICES</u></b>			
Corporate Management (inc Audit Fees)	107,370	106,428	942
Democratic Representation and Management	1,267,430	1,258,800	8,630
CCTV Cameras	79,000	67,248	11,752
Civil Contingencies	101,040	88,858	12,182
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,554,840</b>	<b>1,521,334</b>	<b>33,506</b>
<b><u>RESOURCES SERVICES</u></b>			
Corporate Management	348,810	349,458	(648)
Non Distributed Costs	1,039,730	1,033,300	6,430
Apprenticeship Levy	351,400	361,972	(10,572)
Council Tax Collection	(1,315,620)	(1,351,743)	36,123
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	9,908,050	9,899,296	8,754
N.N.D.R. Collection	(107,040)	(111,868)	4,828
Grants and Subscriptions	57,270	57,270	0
Cross Cutting Budget	2,189,110	1,323,863	865,247
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12,471,710</b>	<b>11,561,548</b>	<b>910,162</b>
<b><u>CORPORATE CHARGES</u></b>			
Corporate Recharges	4,310,790	4,310,794	(4)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,310,790</b>	<b>4,310,794</b>	<b>(4)</b>
Covid-19 Related Expenditure	0	0	0
<b>CORPORATE SERVICES TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>18,424,780</b>	<b>17,171,147</b>	<b>1,253,633</b>

## SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2022	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
<b><u>SOCIAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Children's Services - Commissioning and Social Work	3,727,710	3,546,738	180,972
Looked After Children	7,428,140	6,876,898	551,242
Family Support Services	188,600	199,603	(11,003)
Youth Justice	232,920	228,118	4,802
Other Children's and Family Services	2,340,130	2,297,228	42,902
Older People Aged 65 or Over	6,672,430	6,260,780	411,650
Adults Aged Under 65 with a Physical Disability or Sensory Impairment	41,800	23,577	18,223
Adults Aged Under 65 with Learning Disabilities	3,306,890	3,165,832	141,058
Adults Aged Under 65 with Mental Health Needs	531,730	522,314	9,416
Other Adult Services	392,250	391,155	1,095
Community Care	15,373,320	15,291,024	82,296
Support Service and Management Costs	881,130	812,132	68,998
Corporate Recharges	5,212,400	5,210,027	2,373
<b>Sub Total Expenditure</b>	<b>46,329,450</b>	<b>44,825,426</b>	<b>1,504,024</b>
<b>Social Services COVID-19 Costs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,487,239</b>	<b>(1,487,239)</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>46,329,450</b>	<b>46,312,665</b>	<b>16,785</b>

## EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2022	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
<b>SCHOOLS BUDGET</b>			
Individual Schools Budget	46,522,380	46,522,380	0
Education Improvement Grant	257,360	261,402	(4,042)
Other Costs	722,410	722,897	(487)
Supporting Special Education Needs	1,679,830	1,756,986	(77,156)
<i>Schools Budget Total Expenditure</i>	<u>49,181,980</u>	<u>49,263,665</u>	<u>(81,685)</u>
<b>LEA BUDGET</b>			
Strategic Management	2,432,410	2,243,658	188,752
Assuring Access to Schools	2,317,310	2,316,456	854
Facilitating School Improvement	419,760	407,815	11,945
Supporting Special Education Needs	342,470	310,763	31,707
<i>LEA Budget Total Expenditure</i>	<u>5,511,950</u>	<u>5,278,692</u>	<u>233,258</u>
<b>OTHER EDUCATION SERVICES</b>			
Further Education and Training	133,290	121,816	11,474
Youth Service	311,437	298,097	13,340
Other Expenditure	141,030	124,748	16,282
Education Departmental Budget	64,323	81,685	(17,362)
<i>Other Education Services Total Expenditure</i>	<u>650,080</u>	<u>626,346</u>	<u>23,734</u>
<b>CORPORATE CHARGES</b>			
Corporate Support Recharges	4,360,220	4,360,220	0
<i>Corporate Charges Total Expenditure</i>	<u>4,360,220</u>	<u>4,360,220</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u><u>59,704,230</u></u>	<u><u>59,528,923</u></u>	<u><u>175,307</u></u>
<b>LEISURE TRUSTS</b>			
<b>LEISURE TRUSTS</b>			
Aneurin Leisure Trust	2,789,760	2,798,092	(8,332)
Awen Leisure Trust	205,000	200,507	4,493
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>2,994,760</u>	<u>2,998,599</u>	<u>(3,839)</u>
<b>RETAINED SERVICES</b>			
Corporate Recharges	1,164,340	1,165,806	(1,466)
General Reserve Funding Re: Staff Support	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>1,164,340</u>	<u>1,165,806</u>	<u>(1,466)</u>
<b>LEISURE TRUSTS TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><u>4,159,100</u></u>	<u><u>4,164,405</u></u>	<u><u>(5,305)</u></u>
<b>Overall Portfolio Total</b>	<u><u>63,863,330</u></u>	<u><u>63,693,328</u></u>	<u><u>170,002</u></u>
Covid-19 Related Expenditure	0	277,007	(277,007)
<b>Revised Overall Portfolio Total</b>	<u><u>63,863,330</u></u>	<u><u>63,970,335</u></u>	<u><u>(107,005)</u></u>

## ECONOMY PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to September 21	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Economic Strategy and Development - Departmental Budget	1,504	2,045	(541)
Estates Management - Rechargeable	(1)	(1,045)	1,044
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>503</u>
<b><u>ECONOMY SERVICES</u></b>			
Affordable Housing	0	0	0
Aspire	0	0	0
Community Benefits Investment	0	0	0
CSCS	(10,200)	810	(11,010)
Destination Management	16,473	16,473	0
DRivE	0	0	0
Financial Support to Business	4,276	4,276	0
General Offices	(53,783)	(53,783)	0
Industrial Land	7,195	7,006	189
Inspire	0	0	0
Nursery Units/Misc. Industrial Premises	(694,037)	(694,037)	0
Pentagon	0	0	0
Regeneration Projects	4,998	4,998	0
Resilient Project	0	0	0
Estates Management Non Rechargeable	(94,780)	(87,709)	(7,071)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>(819,858)</u>	<u>(801,966)</u>	<u>(17,892)</u>
Corporate Recharges	2,369,375	2,369,375	0
Funding from General Reserves	0		0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u><u>1,551,020</u></u>	<u><u>1,568,409</u></u>	<u><u>(17,389)</u></u>

## ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2021	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
<b><u>COMMUNITY SERVICES</u></b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Environment Department - Corporate	0	(37,983)	37,983
Environmental Services Division	(629)	(25,908)	25,279
Technical Services - Engineering & Property Management	9,940	9,940	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>9,311</u>	<u>(53,951)</u>	<u>63,262</u>
<b><u>WASTE SERVICES</u></b>			
Waste Services Team	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b><u>WASTE COLLECTION</u></b>			
Household and Trade Waste Collectio	616,930	619,177	(2,247)
Recycling Collection	2,088,970	2,226,029	(137,059)
Bulky Waste Collection	(2,440)	(12,878)	10,438
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>2,703,460</u>	<u>2,832,328</u>	<u>(128,868)</u>
<b><u>WASTE TRANSFER</u></b>			
Civic Amenity Sites	252,950	313,854	(60,904)
HWRC Roseheyworth	302,750	247,687	55,063
Transfer Station	630,940	629,792	1,148
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>1,186,640</u>	<u>1,191,333</u>	<u>(4,693)</u>
<b><u>WASTE DISPOSAL</u></b>			
Disposal Of Waste	1,028,490	1,076,485	(47,995)
Recycling Disposal	31,250	54,885	(23,635)
Trade Waste Collection, Transfer & Di	(24,930)	(15,887)	(9,043)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>1,034,810</u>	<u>1,115,483</u>	<u>(80,673)</u>
<b><u>PUBLIC SERVICES</u></b>			
County Borough Cleansing	1,094,140	1,093,802	338
Cemeteries / Crematorium	(279,475)	(272,001)	(7,474)

## ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2021	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
Grounds Maintenance	959,000	958,983	17
Countryside Recreation Sites	36,690	35,212	1,478
General Entertainment	2,440	2,430	10
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,812,795</b>	<b>1,818,426</b>	<b>(5,631)</b>
<b><u>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT</u></b>			
Corporate Landlord	1,571,200	1,535,562	35,638
Corporate Property	11,720	11,720	0
Building Cleaning	120,860	120,860	0
Catering Account	158,300	158,300	0
Appetite For Life	43,710	43,710	0
School Breakfast Club	394,180	394,180	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,299,970</b>	<b>2,264,332</b>	<b>35,638</b>
<b><u>HIGHWAYS &amp; ROADS SERVICES</u></b>			
Highways - Street Care Team	0	(315)	315
Non Operational Land	1,460	1,460	0
Licensing (Highway Permits)	(51,190)	(51,190)	0
Shopping Arcade, Abertillery	2,780	2,780	0
Road and Street Works Acts	(16,260)	(16,260)	0
Multi-Storey Car Parks	269,460	269,460	0
On Street Parking	1,100	1,100	0
Surface Car Parks	31,790	31,790	0
Public Transport Co-Ordination	910	910	0
Bridges	77,590	77,590	0
Structural Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)	167,700	167,700	0
Environmental Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)	19,440	19,440	0
Safety Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)	71,590	71,578	12
Routine Repairs (Principal and Other Roads)	838,500	834,790	3,710
Street Lighting	1,191,780	1,191,780	0
Winter Maintenance	390,020	390,020	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,996,670</b>	<b>2,992,633</b>	<b>4,037</b>

## ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2021	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b><u>TRANSPORT SERVICES</u></b>			
Traffic Orders	(16,510)	(16,510)	0
Highways Adoptions	(9,750)	(9,750)	0
Traffic / Accident Research	15,690	15,690	0
Traffic Management	6,760	6,760	0
Civil Parking Enforcement	0	0	0
Road Safety Education	18,330	18,330	0
Crossing Patrols	151,540	150,004	1,536
Concessionary fares and Support to Operators	281,050	281,050	0
Local Transport Plans	2,620	2,620	0
Home to School Transport	0	0	0
Transport and Heavy Plant	79,780	79,780	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>529,510</u></b>	<b><u>527,974</u></b>	<b><u>1,536</u></b>
<b><u>CULTURAL &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
General Administration and Markets	(25,950)	(25,950)	0
Countryside Programme and Manage	1,710	1,710	0
Landscaping and Afforestation	20,290	20,290	0
Reservoirs, Tips, Quarries and Mines	10,130	10,130	0
Flood Defence And Land Drainage	55,380	55,380	0
ENRaW	0	0	0
City Deal	97,200	97,200	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>158,760</u></b>	<b><u>158,760</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>12,731,926</u></b>	<b><u>12,847,318</u></b>	<b><u>(115,392)</u></b>
<b><u>PUBLIC PROTECTION</u></b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Environmental Health	(2,728)	9,185	(11,913)
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>(2,728)</u></b>	<b><u>9,185</u></b>	<b><u>(11,913)</u></b>
<b><u>CARAVAN SITES</u></b>			
Cwmcrachen Caravan Site	(42,710)	(42,854)	144
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>(42,710)</u></b>	<b><u>(42,854)</u></b>	<b><u>144</u></b>

## ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2021	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b><u>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</u></b>			
Food Safety	6,270	4,439	1,831
Control of Pollution	9,390	8,683	707
Dog Wardens	1,470	1,470	0
Animal Health and Welfare	23,360	20,028	3,332
Pest Control	62,000	60,003	1,997
Littering and Dog Control Orders	0	1,302	(1,302)
Health and Safety at Work (Commerci	1,510	(243)	1,753
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>104,000</b>	<b>95,682</b>	<b>8,318</b>
<b><u>HOUSING SERVICES</u></b>			
Homelessness	244,680	244,680	0
20 Church Street	15,800	2,197	13,603
General Properties	(8,160)	(7,413)	(747)
Housing Access	50,960	49,992	968
Works in Default	(250)	(1,840)	1,590
Disabled Facilities Grants	1,040	1,040	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>304,070</b>	<b>288,656</b>	<b>15,414</b>
<b><u>TRADING STANDARDS</u></b>			
Trading Standards	(1,643)	(8,098)	6,455
Inspection and Enforcement	4,350	4,515	(165)
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>2,707</b>	<b>(3,583)</b>	<b>6,290</b>
<b>PUBLIC PROTECTION TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>365,339</b>	<b>347,086</b>	<b>18,253</b>
<b><u>CORPORATE CHARGES</u></b>			
Fire Service	3,481,840	3,481,840	0
Coroner's Court	120,830	120,830	0
Corporate Recharges	9,783,955	9,783,955	0
<b>CORPORATE CHARGES TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>13,386,625</b>	<b>13,386,625</b>	<b>0</b>



## ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2021	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
Covid-19 Related Expenditure	0		0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>26,483,890</b>	<b>26,581,029</b>	<b>(97,139)</b>

## PLANNING COMMITTEE AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Item	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2022	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
	£	£	£
<b>PLANNING COMMITTEE SUMMARY</b>			
<b><u>BUILDING CONTROL</u></b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Building Control	(1,000)	999	(1,999)
<b><u>BUILDING CONTROL SERVICES</u></b>			
Building Regulations	10,840	10,840	0
Dangerous Structures	22,640	22,645	(5)
<i>Building Control Total Expenditure</i>	<u>32,480</u>	<u>34,484</u>	<u>(2,004)</u>
<b><u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT</u></b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Development Management	(1,000)	(16,933)	15,933
<b><u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES</u></b>			
Dealing with Applications	(202,530)	(189,117)	(13,413)
Planning Appeals	3,250	23,254	(20,004)
Enforcement	(10)	15	(25)
<i>Development Management Total Expenditure</i>	<u>(200,290)</u>	<u>(182,781)</u>	<u>(17,509)</u>
<b><u>DEVELOPMENT PLANS</u></b>			
<b><u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u></b>			
Development Plans	132,000	112,485	19,515
<b><u>DEVELOPMENT PLANS SERVICES</u></b>			
Development Plans	34,760	34,762	(2)
<i>Development Plans Total Expenditure</i>	<u>166,760</u>	<u>147,247</u>	<u>19,513</u>
Corporate Recharges	1,275,250	1,275,250	0
Funding from General Reserves	0	0	0
Covid-19 Related Expenditure	0	0	0
<b>Planning Committee Total Expenditure</b>	<u><u>1,274,200</u></u>	<u><u>1,274,200</u></u>	<u><u>(0)</u></u>
<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE SUMMARY</b>			
Licensing	68,010	68,010	0
Internal Recharges	38,490	38,490	0
Funding from General Reserves	0	0	0
Covid-19 Related Expenditure	0	0	0
<b>Licensing Committee Total Expenditure</b>	<u><u>106,500</u></u>	<u><u>106,500</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>

**Fees and Charges Forecast 2021/2022 (As at September 2021)**

**Appendix 2**

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	WG Hardship Grant	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
				£	£	£	£
<b>Fees &amp; Charges</b>							
Corporate Services	Communications	Advertising	Fees & Charges	3,000		760	(2,240)
Corporate Services	Business Support	External Printing and photocopying charges.	Fees & Charges	8,000		0	(8,000)
Corporate Services	Legal Fees	Legal Charges	Fees & Charges	14,330		6,850	(7,480)
Corporate Services	Corporate Support	Land Charges	Fixed - Set Locally	32,150		36,136	3,986
Economy	General Offices	Rental Income	Fees & Charges	41,969		61,581	19,612
Economy	Departmental	Reimbursement of staff costs and receipts for external works	SLA	69,087		35,625	(33,462)
Environment	Household and Trade Waste Collection		Fees & Charges	0		0	0
Environment	Recycling Collection	Recycling Collection & Disposal Income - Commercial Customers	Fees & Charges	0		0	0
Environment	Trade Waste	Trade Waste Collection & Disposal Income - Commercial Customers	Fees & Charges	140,590		140,590	0
Environment	Bulky Waste Collection	Bulky Waste Collection	Fees & Charges	71,690		82,624	10,934
Environment	Recycling Disposal	Sale of Recyclate Materials	Fees & Charges	629,720		531,678	(98,042)
Environment	County Borough Cleansing	C&CR - External Cleansing Works	Fees & Charges	220		0	(220)
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	Burial Fees	Fees & Charges	495,080		492,858	(2,222)
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	General Properties	Fees & Charges	2,680		3,000	320
Social Services	Meals On Wheels	Sale of Meals	Fees & Charges	175,280		154,759	(20,521)
Environment	Grounds Maintenance	Income from Letting of Playing Fields, Ground Rent & Way Leaves	Fees & Charges	76,395		69,360	(7,035)
Environment	General Properties	Rental Income	Fees & Charges	8,164		7,416	(748)
Environment	Cwmcrachen Caravan Site	Rental	Fees & Charges	113,947		109,984	(3,963)
Environment	Dog Wardens	Byelaw Enforcement Fees	Fees & Charges	2,030		2,030	0
Environment	Corporate Landlord	Civic Centre - Rental of Land	Miscellaneous	828		370	(458)
Environment	School Catering Service	Sale of Meals		861,898		876,021	14,123
Financial Management and Strategy	Accountancy Division	Administration charges for administering Appointeeships	Fees & Charges	26,030		19,838	(6,192)
Infrastructure	Technical Services - Engineering & Property Management	Reimbursement of staff costs and receipts for external works	Fees & Charges	418,938		430,119	11,181
Infrastructure	FEP - Increase in Income	Fees	Fees & Charges	0		0	0
Infrastructure	Licensing (Highway Permits)	Skips & Scaffolding Permits	Fees & Charges	51,342		51,342	0
Infrastructure	General Administration and Markets	Rental income	Fees & Charges	30,351		27,855	(2,496)
Infrastructure	Traffic Orders	Income from contractors, Welsh Water etc. for road works	Fees & Charges	24,810		24,810	0
Infrastructure	Road and Street Works Acts	Inspection fees, section 74's, FPN, coring, Dropped kerbs etc.	Fees & Charges	51,814		70,541	18,727
Infrastructure	Highways Adoptions	Highway Searches	Fees & Charges	9,754		186,600	176,846
Infrastructure	Multi-storey Carparks	Charge to Coleg Gwent	Fees & Charges	30,000		30,000	0
Infrastructure	Civil Parking Enforcement	FPN's	Fees & Charges	105,000		105,000	0
Infrastructure	Public Transport Co-Ordination	Charge to bus companies for use of Brynmawr Bus Station	Fees & Charges	234		234	0
Licensing	Hackney Carriages	Licence Fees	Fees & Charges	46,030		45,032	(998)
Licensing	Private Hire Vehicles	Licence Fees	Fees & Charges	1,830		2,958	1,128
Licensing	Scrap Metal	Sale of Scrap Metal	Fees & Charges	600		0	(600)
Planning	Enforcement	Enforcement Fees	Fees & Charges	610		0	(610)
Planning	Development Plans	Heritage Officer Income	Fees & Charges	0		0	0
Social Services	Other Children's and Family Services	Training Fees (Early Years tied in with expenditure which is set	Fees & Charges	0		0	0
Social Services	Older People aged 65 or over	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Cwrt Mytton, Home Care, Extra Care & Joint Day Care Unit)	Fees & Charges	594,380	16,586	402,638	(175,156)
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Learning Disabilities	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Augusta, Supported Living Bungalows & Community Options)	Fees & Charges	340,460	83,074	67,069	(190,317)
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Mental Health Needs	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Vision House & Ysbyty'r Tri Chwm)	Fees & Charges	25,420	4,135	900	(20,385)
Social Services	Support Service and Management Costs	Fees & Charges in respect of Piper Alarms (IAA)	Fees & Charges	0		0	0
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>4,504,661</b>	<b>103,795</b>	<b>4,076,578</b>	<b>(324,288)</b>

**Fees and Charges Forecast 2021/2022 (As at September 2021)**

**Appendix 2**

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	WG Hardship Grant	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
				£	£	£	£
<b>Fees &amp; Charges - Set Nationally</b>							
Corporate Services	Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	Fixed - Set Nationally	94,770		83,878	(10,892)
Environment	Food Safety	Hygiene ratings & Health Certificates	Fixed - Set Nationally	2,120		6,739	4,619
Environment	Control of Pollution	Environmental Permits	Fixed - Set Nationally	16,890		10,737	(6,153)
Environment	Health and Safety at Work (Commercial Prem.)	Petroleum + Tattoo Licences	Fixed - Set Nationally	0		1,011	1,011
Environment	Trading Standards	Explosives Licences	Fixed - Set Nationally	790		749	(41)
Licensing	Licence Fees	Various (Gambling, Premises/ Clubs & Street Trading)	Fixed - Set Nationally	56,900		55,265	(1,635)
Planning	Dealing with Applications	Planning Application Fees	Fees & Charges	213,360		502,659	289,299
Planning	Building Regulations	Building Regulation Fees	Fixed - Set Nationally	95,620		96,644	1,024
Social Services	Older People aged 65 or over	CHC Income (Home Care)	Fixed - Set Nationally	0		51,597	51,597
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Learning Disabilities	CHC Income (Augusta House; Supported Living Bungalows; Community Options)	Fixed - Set Nationally	50,000		61,747	11,747
Social Services	Community Care	Fees & Charges in respect of Care	Fixed - Set Nationally	3,493,660		2,950,592	(543,068)
Social Services	Older People aged 65 or over	Sale of Property (Cwrt Mytton)	Fixed - Set Nationally	0		45,703	45,703
Social Services	Community Care	Sale of Property	Fixed - Set Nationally	292,340		143,962	(148,378)
Social Services	Community Care	CHC Income	Fixed - Set Nationally	378,650		0	(378,650)
Social Services	Support Service and Management Costs	CHC Income (Adult Service Managers)	Fixed - Set Nationally	0		0	0
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>4,695,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,011,283</b>	<b>(683,817)</b>
<b>Fees &amp; Charges - In Line with Local Agreements</b>							
Economy	Industrial Land	Ground rent and commercial bookings	Fixed - Set Locally	2,750		2,770	20
Economy	Nursery Units/Misc. Industrial Premises	Rental income for industrial units	Fixed - Set Locally	708,195		805,317	97,122
Economy	Estates - Non Rechargeable	Ground Rent	Fixed - Set Locally	142,268		120,000	(22,268)
Economy	Financial Support to Business	Ground rent and commercial bookings	Fixed - Set Locally	2,650		2,650	0
Economy	CSCS	Charges for Construction Skills Certificates	Fixed - Set Locally	10,200		0	(10,200)
Environment	Corporate Landlord	Little Stars Nursery - Rent (Recovery of costs)	Miscellaneous	8,496		12,464	3,968
Education	Inter Authority Recoupment	Charges to other Local Authorities for SEN placements within Blaenau Gwent Schools	Fixed - Set Locally	659,110		746,789	87,679
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>1,533,669</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,689,990</b>	<b>156,321</b>
		<b>Total - Fees &amp; Charges</b>		<b>10,733,430</b>	<b>103,795</b>	<b>9,777,851</b>	<b>(851,784)</b>
<b>SLA</b>							
Aneurin Leisure Trust	SLA Income	Provision of Support Services	SLA	243,600		214,196	(29,404)
Environment	Grounds Maintenance	SLA	SLA	168,220		168,220	0
Financial Management and Strategy	Accountancy Division	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	181,840		181,840	0
Corporate Services	Organisational Development, Payroll & Health & Safety	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	313,350		313,350	0
Corporate Services	Legal Fees & GDPR	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	41,160		41,160	0
Corporate Services	Communications	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	3,190		3,190	0
Corporate Services	Performance (SIMS Support)	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	75,750		75,750	0
Corporate Services	Business Support (Courier)	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	5,660		5,660	0
Financial Management and Strategy	Creditors Division	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	6,350		6,350	0
Corporate Services	ICT	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	0		0	0
Environment	School Catering	SLA with Schools (excludes Corporate Landlord)	SLA	1,138,600		1,138,600	0
Environment	Cleaning Services	SLA with Schools	SLA	1,091,389		1,091,389	0
Infrastructure	CPM - Schools Biodiversity SLA	SLA with Schools	SLA	14,280		14,280	0
Infrastructure	Winter Maintenance	SLA with LA's for salt Storage	SLA	13,000		13,000	0
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>3,296,389</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,266,985</b>	<b>(29,404)</b>

**Fees and Charges Forecast 2021/2022 (As at September 2021)**

**Appendix 2**

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	WG Hardship Grant	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)
				£	£	£	£
<b>Court Fees/Fixed Penalty Notices/Fines</b>							
Corporate Services	Corporate Services and Strategy	Legal income and land charges. Advertising.	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	10,000		3,557	(6,443)
Education	Welfare Service	Fixed Penalty Notices	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	2,150		2,150	0
Environment	Littering and Dog Control Orders	Income in relation to FPNs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	50,000		1,000	(49,000)
Corporate Services	Payroll Division	Attachment Orders	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	1,020		87	(933)
Financial Management and Strategy	Council Tax Collection	Court Costs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	162,680		75,643	(87,037)
Financial Management and Strategy	NNDR	Court Costs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	1,800		979	(821)
Corporate Services	Housing Benefits Account	Admin Penalties	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	25,000		0	(25,000)
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>252,650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83,416</b>	<b>(169,234)</b>
<b>Consortium Arrangements</b>							
Economy	General Offices	Annual Service & Rental Charge to Torfaen CBC in relation to Archives	Consortium Arrangements	77,967		77,967	0
Environment	Disposal Of Waste	Contribution from SVWS	Consortium Arrangements	110,000		110,000	0
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	Crematorium Income - Reallocation of surplus at year end	Consortium Arrangements	131,925		137,537	5,612
Environment	20 Church Street	Housing Advice Centre Contribution	Consortium Arrangements	12,210		13,550	1,340
Environment	Housing Access	Income from Housing Associations in relation to Administration of the Common Housing Register	Consortium Arrangements	110,763		121,939	11,176
Environment	Environmental Health	Public Protection Collaboration with Torfaen CC	Consortium Arrangements	0		0	0
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>442,865</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>460,993</b>	<b>18,128</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Education	Supporting Special Educational Needs	Internal Income - Recovery of pupil lead funding from schools.	Internal Income	102,000		102,000	0
Corporate Services	Corporate Procurement Division	Rebates - Energy & Randstad	Miscellaneous	95,700		73,816	(21,884)
Corporate Services	Corporate Procurement Division	Purchase Card Income	Miscellaneous	5,140		0	(5,140)
Infrastructure	L&A - Invasive Weeds	Contribution from Caerphilly for Treatment of Knotweed	Miscellaneous	10,000		10,000	0
		<b>Sub - Total</b>		<b>212,840</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>185,816</b>	<b>(27,024)</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>14,938,174</b>	<b>103,795</b>	<b>13,775,061</b>	<b>(1,059,318)</b>

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## Action Plan

### Social Services

#### 2021/22 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2021)

#### Appendix 3

Service Area	2021/2022 Variance at Sept 2021 Forecast £	2021/2022 Variance at June 2021 Forecast £	2020/2021 Variance at Outturn £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact  £	Responsible Officer
Looked After Children	(362,739)	(362,739)	(718,039)	<p><b>Legal Services</b></p> <p><b><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an ongoing pressure in this area due to the use of a private law firm for all our court proceedings, and our inability to recruit and retain legal staff specialising in children’s law. This has resulted in our need to outsource to an external provider. It is anticipated that the Legal budget will be significantly overspent again this year.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Actions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A long term solution will need to be identified in conjunction with Legal Services to mitigate this cost pressure for future years and a collaborative arrangement for legal services is being considered with a neighbouring council.</li> <li>• This cost pressure is currently being offset by favourable variances within other social services budgets.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Updates</u></b></p>		Tanya Evans/ Andrea Jones

## Action Plan

### Social Services

2021/22 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2021)

### Appendix 3

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>2021/2022 Variance at Sept 2021 Forecast £</b>	<b>2021/2022 Variance at June 2021 Forecast £</b>	<b>2020/2021 Variance at Outturn £</b>	<b>Action Required &amp; Timescale</b>	<b>Financial Impact  £</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Efforts have been made to progress the longer term solution with a neighbouring authority on our part, we are now awaiting a costed proposal to deliver the services on our behalf going forward.</li></ul>		



## Action Plan

### Environment

#### 2020/21 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021)

#### Appendix 3

Service Area	2021/2022 Variance at Sept 2021 Forecast £	2021/2022 Variance at June 2021 Forecast £	2020/2021 Variance at outturn £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact  £	Responsible Officer
<b>Waste Services</b>	(137,059)	(138,485)	(86,180)	<p><b><u>Recycling Collection</u></b></p> <p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u> This is mainly due to the cost of receptacles and food waste bags. External funding for the purchase of food waste bags has ceased and therefore this now presents a cost pressure within this budget. In addition, the forecast also includes the cost of receptacles and food waste bags for new developments/builds that will be required towards the end of the financial year.</p> <p><u>Actions</u> The budget for receptacles is not sufficient to meet demand and consequently, this will be reviewed as part of the 2022/2023 budget setting process. Side Waste Enforcement have recommenced and this should have a positive impact on increasing recycle and reducing black bag waste.</p>		C Rogers / M Stent
	(47,995)	(60,449)	(2,643)	<p><b><u>Disposal of Waste</u></b></p> <p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u> This is mainly due to an increase in residual waste tonnages.</p>		

**Action Plan**

**Environment**

**2020/21 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021)**

**Appendix 3**

Service Area	2021/2022 Variance at Sept 2021 Forecast £	2021/2022 Variance at June 2021 Forecast £	2020/2021 Variance at outturn £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact £	Responsible Officer
	(23,630)	(136,432)	(216,372)	<p><u>Actions</u> This has been partly offset by Welsh Government Hardship Funding. Also the disposal of leachate at Silent Valley forecast costs are over the budget. However, this is based on last year's outturn only, there is the possibility that the forecast could change later in the year.</p> <p><b>Recycling Disposal</b></p> <p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u> There is currently a high demand for steel, plastics and aluminium and therefore the forecast income has increased for these recyclates, reducing the adverse variance.</p>		

# Agenda Item 7

*Executive Committee and Council only*

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Joint (Budget) Scrutiny Committee**  
Date of meeting: **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**  
Report Subject: **Capital Budget Monitoring, Forecast For 2021/2022  
Financial Year (As At 30 September 2021)**  
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Daniels - Leader**  
Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden – Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	11/11/2021	12.11.21			22/11/2021	15.12.21		

## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide members with an overview of each Portfolio's actual and forecast capital expenditure against funding approvals for the 2021/2022 financial year, as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

## 2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 This report provides details on the following:

- Forecast financial position to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 across all portfolios
- Details of any significant adverse and/or favourable variances

- 2.2 This report forms part of the quarterly financial reporting framework to Members.

## 3. Options for Recommendation

### 3.1 Option 1 (Recommended Option)

Members of the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee accept the report and

- Provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report.
- Continue to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council.
- To note the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding.

### 3.2 Option 2

Do not accept the report.

## 4. Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan

- 4.1 This report supports the Forward Looking Corporate Plan 2020/22 as it ensures effective forward financial planning arrangements are in place to support the

Council's financial resilience. This is a key element to achieving "An ambitious and innovative council delivering the quality services we know matter to our communities"

## 5. Implications Against Each Option

### 5.1 *Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)*

- 5.1.1 The overall financial position as forecast at 30th September 2021 indicates an adverse variance of £283,128 against a total in year capital budget of £17.12m.

The overall position across all Portfolios is shown below: -

Total Approvals Q2 (Sept 2021)	Future funding	In year funding	Actual Expenditure to 30/09/2021 (Month 9)	Forecast Expenditure 2021/2022	Forecast Variance underspent / (overspent)
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
60,978	43,863	17,115	4,119	17,398	(283)

- 5.1.2 This report has identified significant overspends on the following projects:

- Household Waste recycling Centre - £42,752**  
The overspend relates to increased costs due to the Covid-19 pandemic & future proofing of the site.
- Lime Avenue Business Park - £234,710**  
The latest anticipated final account advises of a loss & expenses claim for items in relation to unforeseen issues caused by Covid-19 pandemic.

Discussions with funding bodies are ongoing to determine whether additional funding is available fund, therefore, at this stage it is not proposed that funding for these schemes be built in from the Capital contingency.

## 5.2 Risk including Mitigating Actions

- 5.2.1 Expenditure against external funding approvals needs to be maximised in order to avoid loss of funding. If significant delays in capital expenditure are anticipated or contract costs rise due to the impact of Covid-19 and inflation pressures, liaison with funding bodies will be required at the earliest opportunity in order to secure approval for funding re-profile.

- 5.2.2 If funding re-profile cannot be agreed and capital schemes are not kept within budget, then capital reserves may be committed beyond affordable levels, with the

consequence that projects that have not yet commenced may be deferred or not undertaken, so impacting upon future Capital Programmes.

- 5.2.3 If capital schemes do not achieve the required level of expenditure within the correct financial year and further peaks of the Covid-19 pandemic results in projects facing significant delay, funding may be lost to the Authority and be detrimental to the Authority's chances of securing future funding.
- 5.2.4 The aforementioned risks are mitigated as far as possible through close working relationship with Budget Holders, Technical Services and external funding bodies such as Welsh Government. This ensures that where possible, funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured should the need arise
- 5.2.5 Where overall funding approvals are likely to be exceeded and additional compensatory funding sources cannot be identified, budget holders will initially report the consequences to the Corporate Leadership Team, including proposals to defer/delete other approved schemes.
- 5.2.6 There is a potential risk of increase in Constructions costs & services following the ongoing situation regarding the UK's Exit from the European Union.
- 5.2.7 The UK's Exit from the EU has been added as an organisational risk to the corporate risk register, whilst a separate, more detailed high level action plan has been developed and is being monitored by the Core Planning Group.

5.3 **Legal**  
N/A

5.4 **Human Resources**  
N/A

## 6. **Supporting Evidence**

### 6.1 ***Performance Information and Data***

6.1.2 The Capital Expenditure Report is attached at Appendix 1.

6.1.3 Appendix 2 provides information of funding changes since the first quarter report.

### 6.2 ***Expected outcome for the public***

6.2.1 The report details the financial implications for the Council in providing capital investment for the communities of Blaenau Gwent.

All forecast overspends and underspends are managed in order that secured funding approvals are not lost and to mitigate any potential adverse impact upon future Capital investment in Blaenau Gwent.

6.3 ***Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)***

The Capital Programme is developed to support the Council's strategic priorities and is considered and agreed by full Council. Joint Budget Scrutiny and Executive Committees consider the budget monitoring reports on a quarterly basis and provide challenge as appropriate.

6.4 ***Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)***

It is essential that all forecast overspends and underspends are managed in order that secured funding approvals are not lost and to mitigate any potential adverse impact upon the future capital programme.

6.5 ***Preventative focus***

The Capital Services Team will continue their close working relationship with budget holders and external funding bodies to ensure that funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured in future financial years.

6.6 ***Collaboration / partnership working***

The Capital Services Team works closely with budget holders in producing the financial forecast and with external funding bodies to ensure that where possible funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured should the need arise.

6.7 ***Integration (across service areas)***

N/A

6.8 ***Decarbonisation and Reducing Carbon Emissions***

The Council is committed to the Decarbonisation Plan to achieve a carbon neutral public sector by 2030. The Capital Programme currently contains schemes which promote the reduction of carbon emissions such as ReFIT, Electric Vehicle Charge Points and the purchase of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. New Council buildings should be designed to the latest energy efficiency standards.

6.9a ***Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment***

N/A

6.9b. ***Equality Impact Assessment***

N/A

**Background Documents /Electronic Links**

Appendix 1 – Capital Programme – 2021/22 Funding Estimates Summary

Appendix 2 - Capital Funding Changes 2021/22

Management Reports

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

Capital Programme Funding Estimates Summary

<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure To: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
Corporate Services Portfolio	2,531,799	812,650	1,719,149	119,707	692,943	812,650	0
Social Services Portfolio	5,734,482	1,739,119	3,995,363	515,225	1,225,655	1,740,880	(1,761)
Economy Portfolio	13,773,153	3,263,132	10,510,021	1,463,630	2,034,212	3,497,842	(234,710)
Education and Active Living	26,446,098	2,433,361	24,012,737	567,246	1,866,115	2,433,361	0
Environment Portfolio	5,863,489	3,928,576	1,934,913	844,085	3,127,247	3,971,332	(42,756)
Infrastructure Portfolio	4,676,520	3,187,699	1,488,821	603,140	2,588,459	3,191,599	(3,900)
All Portfolios	1,952,775	1,750,860	201,915	5,960	1,744,900	1,750,860	0
<b>Total Capital Funding</b>	<b>60,978,316</b>	<b>17,115,397</b>	<b>43,862,919</b>	<b>4,118,994</b>	<b>13,279,530</b>	<b>17,398,524</b>	<b>(283,127)</b>

End of Report

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>In Year Budget</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Expenditure to: September 2021</b>	<b>Remaining in Year Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Expenditure</b>	<b>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</b>
<b>Corporate Services Portfolio</b>								
<b>Corporate Services</b>								
101385	Workplace Transformation	70,587	587	70,000	587	0	587	0
327102	Corporate Properties H&S and Capital Wo	314,131	3,632	310,499	3,632	0	3,632	0
327103	Civic Centre Decommissioning	650,000	70,350	579,650	14,296	56,054	70,350	0
327104	Democratic & Community Hubs	180,000	180,000	0	98,391	81,609	180,000	0
327106	ICT Roadmap	952,000	193,000	759,000	0	193,000	193,000	0
327107	Data Centre Move	362,000	362,000	0	0	362,000	362,000	0
328090	CCTV Upgrade	3,081	3,081	0	2,800	281	3,081	0
<b>Corporate Services</b>		<b>2,531,799</b>	<b>812,650</b>	<b>1,719,149</b>	<b>119,707</b>	<b>692,943</b>	<b>812,650</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Corporate Services Portfolio</b>		<b>2,531,799</b>	<b>812,650</b>	<b>1,719,149</b>	<b>119,707</b>	<b>692,943</b>	<b>812,650</b>	<b>0</b>

Page 64



**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2021	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
<b>Social Services Portfolio</b>								
<b>Childrens Services</b>								
323152	Beaufort Road - Extension Training Flat	12,110	12,110	0	13,082	0	13,082	(972)
323153	Beaufort Road - Outdoor spaces and Exiti	560	560	0	560	0	560	0
324719	Flying Start - Cwm 2	30,000	30,000	0	0	30,000	30,000	0
324721	Flying Start - Ebbw Vale North	265,473	265,473	0	151,885	113,588	265,473	0
324724	Flying Start - Sirhowy Primary	18,500	18,500	0	0	18,500	18,500	0
324726	Flying Start - Garnlydan	24,500	24,500	0	0	24,500	24,500	0
324728	Flying Start - Blaina ICC	235,000	235,000	0	0	235,000	235,000	0
324733	Flying Start Abertillery	12,000	12,000	0	149	11,851	12,000	0
324735	Flying Start Brynithel FS Centre	20,000	20,000	0	2,600	17,400	20,000	0
324736	Flying Start Additional Works	73,700	73,700	0	13,245	60,455	73,700	0
324737	Flying Start Capital (Covid-funding)	36,000	36,000	0	0	36,000	36,000	0
324738	FS Covid Recovery - Cwm Dev. Garden S	115,000	115,000	0	0	115,000	115,000	0
324739	FS Covid Recovery - Scout Hall	50,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	50,000	0
324770	Childcare Offer - Sixbells Scheme	1,482,230	0	1,482,230	0	0	0	0
324771	Childcare Offer - Badminton Scheme	1,500,000	50,000	1,450,000	0	50,000	50,000	0
324772	Childcare Offer - Blaina ICC Scheme	408,782	0	408,782	0	0	0	0
324773	Childcare Offer - Swfryd Scheme	484,965	420	484,545	420	0	420	0
324774	Childcare Offer - Small Grants Scheme	50,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	50,000	0
<b>Childrens Services</b>		<b>4,818,820</b>	<b>993,263</b>	<b>3,825,557</b>	<b>181,940</b>	<b>812,295</b>	<b>994,235</b>	<b>(972)</b>
<b>Adult Services</b>								

Page 65

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
323003	Health & Safety	57,483	0	57,483	0	0	0	0
323005	Tackling Food Poverty - WLGA	12,651	1,560	11,091	1,560	0	1,560	0
323006	Cwrt Mytton Replacement Boilers	50,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	50,000	0
323120	Disabled equipment	279,750	279,750	0	279,750	0	279,750	0
323141	ICF - Further Enhanced Digital & Mobile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
323144	ICF Main Capital Programme	86,651	0	86,651	0	0	0	0
323147	Intermediate Care Fund	3,133	0	3,133	0	0	0	0
323148	ICF - Digital & Mobile Assistive Technol	38,825	38,825	0	39,614	0	39,614	(789)
323149	Better Care Capital Project	21,809	10,361	11,448	10,361	0	10,361	0
323151	Augusta House - Enablement Pods	365,360	365,360	0	2,000	363,360	365,360	0
	<b>Adult Services</b>	<b>915,662</b>	<b>745,856</b>	<b>169,806</b>	<b>333,285</b>	<b>413,360</b>	<b>746,645</b>	<b>(789)</b>
	<b>Social Services Portfolio</b>	<b>5,734,482</b>	<b>1,739,119</b>	<b>3,995,363</b>	<b>515,225</b>	<b>1,225,655</b>	<b>1,740,880</b>	<b>(1,761)</b>

Page 66

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2021	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
<b>Economy Portfolio</b>								
<b>Tredegar Regeneration</b>								
326163	Tredegar HLF	674,415	674,415	0	150,291	524,124	674,415	0
	<b>Tredegar Regeneration</b>	<b>674,415</b>	<b>674,415</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150,291</b>	<b>524,124</b>	<b>674,415</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Ebbw Vale Town Centre</b>								
326191	TRI - Urban Centre Commercial Property I	265,315	265,315	0	192,635	72,680	265,315	0
326192	TRI- Urban Centre Residential Property E	123,024	123,024	0	0	123,024	123,024	0
	<b>Ebbw Vale Town Centre</b>	<b>388,339</b>	<b>388,339</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>192,635</b>	<b>195,704</b>	<b>388,339</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Valleys Regional Park</b>								
326200	VRP Ebbw Fach Trail	899	0	899	0	0	0	0
326205	VRP - Discovery Gateway	30,180	30,180	0	0	30,180	30,180	0
326206	Local Places for Nature Capital Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
326207	Parc Bryn Bach - Co Working Space	116,661	116,661	0	52,388	64,273	116,661	0
	<b>Valleys Regional Park</b>	<b>147,740</b>	<b>146,841</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>52,388</b>	<b>94,453</b>	<b>146,841</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>The Works Site</b>								
325097	Big Arch	1,008,986	0	1,008,986	0	0	0	0
325103	Learning Works	37,985	0	37,985	0	0	0	0
325220	Site Investigation Works	19,001	0	19,001	0	0	0	0
325225	Ebbw Valley Railway - Northern Extension	2,441	0	2,441	0	0	0	0

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2021	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
	<b>The Works Site</b>	<b>1,068,413</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,068,413</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Other Regeneration</b>							
326006	Tech Valley s Initiative	465,776	0	465,776	0	0	0	0
326180	Lime Avenue Business Park	530,810	530,810	0	511,693	253,827	765,520	(234,710)
326181	Lime Avenue Employment park	2,495,101	0	2,495,101	0	0	0	0
326182	Box Works	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
326183	Regain 2	5,555,153	107,389	5,447,764	107,389	0	107,389	0
326184	Brexit Schemes	369,465	0	369,465	0	0	0	0
326193	TRI - Town Centre COVID-19 recovery ad:	529,818	37,530	492,288	37,530	0	37,530	0
326225	Heat Networks Project	17,385	0	17,385	0	0	0	0
326226	Electric Vehicle Chargepoints	20,085	0	20,085	0	0	0	0
326252	Constrained Units - Roseheyworth	6,665	0	6,665	0	0	0	0
326265	Victoria Business Park - Development	39,251	0	39,251	0	0	0	0
326266	Brynmawr Retail Development	759,224	759,224	0	9,224	750,000	759,224	0
326267	Blaenau Gwent Digital	138,049	138,049	0	101,831	36,218	138,049	0
326268	Covid Recovery for Town Centres	367,464	280,535	86,929	280,535	0	280,535	0
326269	HIVE – Hi Value Engineering Centre - Mor	200,000	200,000	0	20,114	179,887	200,000	0
	<b>Other Regeneration</b>	<b>11,494,246</b>	<b>2,053,537</b>	<b>9,440,709</b>	<b>1,068,316</b>	<b>1,219,931</b>	<b>2,288,247</b>	<b>(234,710)</b>
	<b>Economy Portfolio</b>	<b>13,773,153</b>	<b>3,263,132</b>	<b>10,510,021</b>	<b>1,463,630</b>	<b>2,034,212</b>	<b>3,497,842</b>	<b>(234,710)</b>

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>In Year Budget</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Expenditure to: September 2021</b>	<b>Remaining in Year Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Expenditure</b>	<b>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</b>
<b>Education and Active Living</b>								
<b>Education Services</b>								
324125	Education Minor Works	48,497	88	48,409	88	0	88	0
324138	Education Capital Maintenance	90,802	14,217	76,585	14,217	0	14,217	0
324139	Education Capital Maintenance 20/21	155,676	0	155,676	0	0	0	0
324142	Georgetown Windows & Boiler Replaceme	6,206	0	6,206	0	0	0	0
324143	Rhos-y-fedwyn - Refurbishment	3,945	0	3,945	0	0	0	0
324144	St Marys - Refurbishment	200,000	2,412	197,588	2,412	0	2,412	0
324145	Tredegar Comp - Food & Technology	30,070	0	30,070	0	0	0	0
324146	Deighton - Kitchen	639	0	639	0	0	0	0
324147	Tredegar Comp Upgrade Services and Ac	3,450	0	3,450	0	0	0	0
324148	Coed y Garn Roof & Remedial Works	26,638	15,040	11,598	15,040	1	15,040	0
324149	Brynbach Primary Disabled Adaptations	70,000	5,839	64,161	5,839	0	5,839	0
324150	Ebbw Fawr - Developing 3/4 classrooms, t	100,000	0	100,000	0	0	0	0
324151	Tredegar Comp Upgrade Electrical Supply	8,107	8,107	0	8,107	0	8,107	0
324152	Brynmawr Canopy	50,000	6,210	43,790	6,210	0	6,210	0
324155	Brynmawr Comp Lift	110,000	0	110,000	0	0	0	0
324156	River Centre Boiler	70,000	0	70,000	0	0	0	0
324157	Tredegar Comprehensive Kitchen Electric	1,455	1,455	0	1,455	0	1,455	0
324158	Beaufort Hill Kitchen	69,238	69,238	0	43,944	25,294	69,238	0
324159	Glyncoed Highways Works	30,000	30,000	0	750	29,250	30,000	0
324161	Pen Y Cwm – Refurbishment Works	53,376	53,376	0	53,376	0	53,376	0
324201	Class Size - Willowtown	69,557	0	69,557	0	0	0	0

Page 69

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2021	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
324203	Period Poverty	5,028	0	5,028	0	0	0	0
324205	St. Marys CIW MUGA	11,450	11,450	0	11,450	0	11,450	0
324519	Digital 2030 Capital Grant - Post 16	4,621	0	4,621	0	0	0	0
324530	ALN	22,299	50	22,249	50	0	50	0
324532	Ebbw Fawr ASD	3,890	0	3,890	0	0	0	0
324560	Schools IT Infrastructure	39,225	39,225	0	39,225	0	39,225	0
324561	IT Upgrades - Schools	21,318	21,318	0	21,318	0	21,318	0
324580	Brynmawr 3G Pitch	862,480	862,480	0	199,863	662,617	862,480	0
324590	Tredeggar Comp 3G Pitch	79,359	0	79,359	0	0	0	0
324743	21st Century Schools Six Bells Project	50,295	50,295	0	8,871	41,424	50,295	0
324750	Band B - Welsh Medium New Build	5,962,761	100,000	5,862,761	84,468	15,532	100,000	0
324751	Band B - New Primary Ebbw Fawr Valley	8,002,596	580,000	7,422,596	30,720	549,280	580,000	0
324752	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Brynma	3,190,237	0	3,190,237	0	0	0	0
324753	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Abertille	3,198,691	0	3,198,691	0	0	0	0
324754	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Tredega	3,197,459	0	3,197,459	0	0	0	0
324755	Band B - Welsh Medium Remodelling Bro	561,513	561,513	0	18,796	542,717	561,513	0
<b>Education Services</b>		<b>26,410,878</b>	<b>2,432,313</b>	<b>23,978,565</b>	<b>566,199</b>	<b>1,866,114</b>	<b>2,432,313</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Active Living Services</b>								
329089	Abertillery LC Demolition	1,048	1,048	0	1,048	1	1,048	0
329092	ALC - Changing Room Refurbishment	20,000	0	20,000	0	0	0	0
329095	AWPOG - Play Equipment 20-21	1,733	0	1,733	0	0	0	0
332368	Play Area Schemes - Boroughwide	12,439	0	12,439	0	0	0	0

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

<b>Management Reports</b>		<b>Capital Programme Funding Estimates</b>						
<i>Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6</i>								

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
	Active Living Services	35,220	1,048	34,172	1,048	1	1,048	0
	Education and Active Living	26,446,098	2,433,361	24,012,737	567,246	1,866,115	2,433,361	0

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>In Year Budget</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Expenditure to: September 2021</b>	<b>Remaining in Year Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Expenditure</b>	<b>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</b>
<b>Environment Portfolio</b>								
<b>Environmental Services</b>								
327018	RCAF Long Term Organics Procurement	26,512	0	26,512	0	0	0	0
327039	Kerbside Collections	2,052	0	2,052	0	0	0	0
327042	Collaborative Change Programme 18-19	88,436	88,436	0	88,436	0	88,436	0
327043	Household Waste Recycling Centre	120,042	120,042	0	104,446	58,348	162,794	(42,752)
327044	AHP Waste Collections	52,380	52,380	0	0	52,380	52,380	0
327045	BRC Decommissioning Project	191,777	0	191,777	0	0	0	0
327046	Repair Cafe	1,066	0	1,066	0	0	0	0
327061	CATS	80,000	0	80,000	0	0	0	0
327065	Re:Fit	2,088,980	2,088,980	0	540	2,088,440	2,088,980	0
327067	Market Hall - Asbestos Removal	18,606	0	18,606	0	0	0	0
327068	Cemeteries Investment Programme	196,071	196,071	0	173,034	23,037	196,071	0
327069	Green Recovery	10,010	10,010	0	10,006	4	10,010	0
327070	WRAP Cymru Capital Funding	3,787	0	3,787	0	0	0	0
327071	Education Centre	200,000	200,000	0	920	199,080	200,000	0
327073	Kerbside Recycling Lorry	165,566	165,566	0	165,566	0	165,566	0
327074	New Vale HWRC Refurbishment Works	256,526	256,526	0	8,087	248,439	256,526	0
327076	Ultra Low Emission Vehicles	92,920	92,920	0	0	92,920	92,920	0
327080	Cemetery Capacity - Cefn Golau Tredegar	527,028	0	527,028	0	0	0	0
327081	Cemetery Capacity - Dukestown Tredegar	227,500	0	227,500	0	0	0	0
327082	Cemetery Capacity - Brynmawr	142,000	0	142,000	0	0	0	0
327083	Cemetery Capacity - Brynithel Abertiller	105,000	0	105,000	0	0	0	0

Page 72



**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>In Year Budget</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Expenditure to: September 2021</b>	<b>Remaining in Year Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Expenditure</b>	<b>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</b>
327090	Fly Tipping CCTV	14,000	14,000	0	14,004	0	14,004	(4)
327110	Allotment Support Grant	25,599	25,599	0	0	25,599	25,599	0
<b>Environmental Services</b>		<b>4,635,858</b>	<b>3,310,530</b>	<b>1,325,328</b>	<b>565,039</b>	<b>2,788,247</b>	<b>3,353,286</b>	<b>(42,756)</b>
<b>Housing Environmental Health</b>								
328221	Remediation of Contaminated Land/Dereli	154,269	2,470	151,799	2,470	0	2,470	0
350510	Improvement grants - new scheme	753,905	469,000	284,905	208,555	260,445	469,000	0
350550	Support for Independent Living	151,154	131,053	20,101	52,498	78,556	131,053	0
350560	Empty Property Grants	168,303	15,523	152,780	15,523	0	15,523	0
<b>Housing Environmental Health</b>		<b>1,227,631</b>	<b>618,046</b>	<b>609,585</b>	<b>279,046</b>	<b>339,000</b>	<b>618,046</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Environment Portfolio</b>		<b>5,863,489</b>	<b>3,928,576</b>	<b>1,934,913</b>	<b>844,085</b>	<b>3,127,247</b>	<b>3,971,332</b>	<b>(42,756)</b>

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2021	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
<b>Infrastructure Portfolio</b>								
<b>Engineering Services</b>								
328040	Cwm By Pass	13,970	0	13,970	0	0	0	0
328149	SRiC - Tredegar Footway Improvements	25,000	25,000	0	0	25,000	25,000	0
328310	Local Transport Fund	0	0	0	3,900	0	3,900	(3,900)
328312	Local Transport Fund 2020/21	174,702	174,702	0	174,702	0	174,702	0
328314	Local Transport Network Fund	2,319	2,319	0	0	2,319	2,319	0
328315	Local Transport Fund - Project Retention	16,020	0	16,020	0	0	0	0
328318	Active Travel Fund	399,000	399,000	0	12,715	386,285	399,000	0
328323	Resilient Roads Fund	300,000	300,000	0	0	300,000	300,000	0
328340	LTF Metro Plus	220,000	220,000	0	0	220,000	220,000	0
328342	LTF Bedwellty Pits	990,000	990,000	0	1,382	988,618	990,000	0
328344	LTF Bus Stop Infrastructure	405,000	405,000	0	7,448	397,552	405,000	0
<b>Engineering Services</b>		<b>2,546,011</b>	<b>2,516,021</b>	<b>29,990</b>	<b>200,147</b>	<b>2,319,774</b>	<b>2,519,921</b>	<b>(3,900)</b>
<b>Highways Network Management</b>								
328063	Bridge Strengthening Works	1,857	0	1,857	0	0	0	0
328095	Ebbw Vale Railway study Phase 3	2,668	2,668	0	2,668	0	2,668	0
328269	Highways PB Imp. Works.	20,946	0	20,946	0	0	0	0
328270	Highways Improvement Works	1,692,700	381,078	1,311,622	276,945	104,133	381,078	0
328334	LGBl - Trinant Hall	59,747	45,805	13,942	45,805	0	45,805	0
328404	Flood Damage - Emergency Repairs	12,593	12,593	0	0	12,593	12,593	0
328405	Aberbeeg Road Repairs	110,498	34	110,464	34	0	34	0

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

<b>Management Reports</b>		<b>Capital Programme Funding Estimates</b>						
<i>Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6</i>								

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
328406	Small Scale Works Grant	229,500	229,500	0	77,541	151,959	229,500	0
	<b>Highways Network Management</b>	<b>2,130,509</b>	<b>671,678</b>	<b>1,458,831</b>	<b>402,993</b>	<b>268,685</b>	<b>671,678</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Infrastructure Portfolio</b>	<b>4,676,520</b>	<b>3,187,699</b>	<b>1,488,821</b>	<b>603,140</b>	<b>2,588,459</b>	<b>3,191,599</b>	<b>(3,900)</b>

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

**Management Reports**

Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6

**Capital Programme Funding Estimates**

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
<b>All Portfolios</b>								
<b>All Portfolios</b>								
300300	City Deal	1,220,900	1,220,900	0	0	1,220,900	1,220,900	0
303990	OS Capital Admin/Design & Supervision	524,000	524,000	0	0	524,000	524,000	0
321112	Disabled Access - Special Programme	10,911	5,960	4,951	5,960	0	5,960	0
324672	The Company Shop - Tred	196,964	0	196,964	0	0	0	0
<b>All Portfolios</b>		<b>1,952,775</b>	<b>1,750,860</b>	<b>201,915</b>	<b>5,960</b>	<b>1,744,900</b>	<b>1,750,860</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>All Portfolios</b>		<b>1,952,775</b>	<b>1,750,860</b>	<b>201,915</b>	<b>5,960</b>	<b>1,744,900</b>	<b>1,750,860</b>	<b>0</b>

**Capital Programme - 2021/22 Funding Estimates**  
**Capital Report 2021/22**

<b>Management Reports</b>		<b>Capital Programme Funding Estimates</b>						
<i>Reporting Year: and Period: 2022/6</i>								

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2021</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
	<b>Total Capital Funding</b>	<b>60,978,316</b>	<b>17,115,397</b>	<b>43,862,919</b>	<b>4,118,994</b>	<b>13,279,530</b>	<b>17,398,524</b>	<b>(283,127)</b>

End of Report

Page 77

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**Information on Capital Funding Changes 2021/22**  
**New Approvals and/or material Funding Changes in Quarter Two**

**APPENDIX 2**

Portfolio	Cost Centre	Scheme	Amount (£)	Funding Body	Type	Additional Information
<b>Corporate Services</b>						
	327102	Corporate Properties H&S and Capital Wor	-85,960	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Transfer to projects as agreed by Budget Holder.
<b>Social Services</b>						
	323003	Health & Safety	-279,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Transfer to correct project code
	323120	Disabled equipment	279,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Transfer to correct project code
	324724	Flying Start - Sirhowy Primary	6,500	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324726	Flying Start - Garnlydan	24,500	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324728	Flying Start - Blaina ICC	235,000	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324733	Flying Start Abertillery	12,000	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324735	Flying Start Brynithel FS Centre	17,400	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324737	Flying Start Capital (Covid-funding)	36,000	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324738	FS Covid Recovery - Cwm Dev. Garden Space	115,000	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	324739	FS Covid Recovery - Scout Hall	50,000	Welsh Government	Flyng Start	New Approval
	323006	Cwrt Mytton Replacement Boilers	50,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Transfer from cost code - 327102 to fund replacement boilers at Cwrt Mytton
<b>Economy</b>						
	326180	Lime Avenue Business Park	242,927			Adjustment to funding due to system reporting glitch.
	326183	Regain 2	1,550,000	Welsh Government		Additional approval for the National Digital Exploitation Centre at Regain 2.
	326268	Covid Recovery for Town Centres	-25,000	Welsh Government	Valleys Taskforce	Virement from Covid Recovery approval to fill the funding gap on the Parc Bryn Bach - Co Working Space project, as agreed with Welsh Government.
	326207	Parc Bryn Bach - Co Working Space	25,000	Blaenau Gwent	Valleys Taskforce	
<b>Education, Active Living and Learning</b>						
	324159	Glyncoe Highways Works	30,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Transfer from cost code - 327102 to fund the new layby works on Allotment Road, Glyncoe.
	324138	Education Capital Maintenance	-30,000	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Virement to individual projects
	324139	Education Capital Maintenance 20/21	-142,171	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Virement to individual projects
	324151	Tredeggar Comp Upgrade Electrical Supply	8,107	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Transfer from cost code - 324139
	324158	Beaufort Hill Kitchen	69,238	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Transfer from cost code - 324139
	324161	Pen Y Cwm – Refurbishment Works	53,376	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Transfer from cost code - 324139
	324205	St. Marys CIW MUGA	11,450	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Transfer from cost code - 324139
	324159	Glyncoe Highways Works	30,000	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Transfer from cost code - 324138 to fund the new layby works on Allotment Road, Glyncoe.
	324560	Schools IT Infrastructure	14,388	Welsh Government	Education Capital Maintenance	Welsh Government approval
	324755	Band B - Welsh Medium Remodelling Bro Helyg	-338,487	Welsh Government	Band B	Reprofiling of spend within the Band B funding envelope
<b>Environment</b>						
	327045	BRC Decommissioning Project	-191,777			
	327065	Re:Fit	-2,088,980			
	327069	Green Recovery	-10,010			Reversal of system glitch where funding amounts were duplicated, resulting in the total funding being overstated by double within the quarter one report.
	327071	Education Centre	-200,000			
	327073	Kerbside Recycling Lorry	-165,566			
	327074	New Vale HWRC Refurbishment Works	-256,526			
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
	328312	Local Transport Fund 2020/21	-16,785			
	328404	Flood Damage - Emergency Repairs	-12,593			Reversal of system glitch where funding amounts were duplicated, resulting in the total funding being overstated by double within the quarter one report.
	328405	Aberbeeg Road Repairs	-110,498			
<b>All Portfolios</b>						
	321112	Disabled Access - Special Programme	5,960			Transfer from cost code - 327102 to fund essential disabled access works within corporate buildings

It should be noted that the funding changes detailed above will not balance to total funding changes between Q1 to Q2

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# Agenda Item 8

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee**  
Date of meeting: **22 November 2021**  
Report Subject: **Use of General and Earmarked Reserves 2021/2022**  
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr N Daniels, Leader / Executive Members Corporate Services**  
Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden, Chief Officer Resources**

Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	11/11/21	12.11.21			22/11/21	15/12/21		

## 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To report to the members of the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee the forecast reserves position for 2021/2022 as at Quarter 2 (30 September 2021).

## 2. Scope and Background

2.1 There are a number of statutory requirements concerning Local Authority Reserves, including:

- The Local Government Act 1972;
- The Local Government Finance Act 1988;
- The Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- The Local Government Act 2003; and
- The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

2.2 The CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) issued Bulletin 99: Local Authority Reserves and Balances in July 2014. This provides non-statutory guidance on relevant issues including:

- Proper accounting treatment; and
- Principles to assess the adequacy of reserves.

2.3 To ensure compliance with CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel Bulletin 99 and identified best practice, the Council revised its protocol for managing reserves, with effect from April 2015.

2.4 One aspect of the revised protocol concerns the enhancement of Elected Member engagement and scrutiny. To this end quarterly reports are prepared and presented to Executive and Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee during the financial year. These detail actual and forecast use of general and earmarked reserves, changes to the requirement to hold specific reserves and the level of reserve balances.

2.5 In order to adopt a long-term approach to the need to provide services to the citizens of Blaenau Gwent, the protocol was amended and agreed by Council in March 2016 to include a target level for general reserves. This

was set as 4% of the last reported actual net revenue expenditure (as included in the Revenue Outturn return).

### 3. **Options for Recommendation**

3.1 That the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee considers the forecast use of general and earmarked reserves for 2021/2022 and:

- consider the impact of the £2.814m favourable variance for 2021/2022 would have on the budgeted contribution to the General Reserve;
- note the forecast increase of the General Reserve in 2021/2022 to £10.567m, being 8.0% of net revenue expenditure, above the 4% target level;
- Consider the need for ongoing prudent financial management given the potential for future public spending restrictions required to fund the impact of Covid-19; and
- continue to challenge budget overspends and implement appropriate service Action Plans, where required.

3.2 Maintenance of general reserves at an adequate level is crucial to the Council being able to meet future liabilities arising from risks for which specific provision has not been made.

### 4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

#### 4.1 **National Well-being Goals**

The management of earmarked and general reserves (in recognition of the need to plan for known or predicted future obligations, unexpected events or emergencies), allows the Authority to deliver services in pursuance of its obligations under the national well-being goals.

#### 4.2 **Corporate Priorities**

This report supports the Council Corporate Plan 2020/22 proposed outcome statement “An ambitious and Innovative Council delivering the quality services we know matter to our communities”.

### 5. **Implications Against Each Option**

#### 5.1 **Financial Impact**

Section 6 provides an overall summary of the forecast financial position in relation to the balances in general and earmarked reserves at 31 March 2022.

5.1.1 The general reserve opening balance of £7.553m represents 5.72% of net revenue expenditure, which is above the 4% target level of £5.284m. Table

1 at 6.1.3 (below) shows the forecast position for the general reserve at year-end 2021/2022 to be an increase of £3.014m, to £10.567m. This balance would represent 8.0% of net revenue expenditure £5.283m above the 4% target level of £5.284m, indicating further progress towards strengthening the financial resilience of the Council and providing a buffer to deal with unexpected future issues.

5.1.2 The forecast increase in general reserves is a result of:

- currently forecast net portfolio underspends of £2.814m and;
- an agreed budget contribution in 2021/22 of £0.200m to support medium term financial planning and strengthen the Council's financial resilience

5.1.3 Table 2 at 6.1.6 (below) shows the forecast level of specific/earmarked reserves at 31 March 2022 to be £20.913m, an in year increase of £0.132m.

5.1.4 Table 3 at 6.1.8 (below) shows the forecast level of specific/earmarked reserves per reserve category at 31 March 2022. Further details of earmarked reserve movements are included in Appendix 1.

5.1.5 Significant elements of these earmarked sums relate to grant funding held in respect of specific projects or services that will be utilised in delivering the relevant service outcomes. In future years, it is probable that there will be restrictions on public spending in order to mitigate the extraordinary levels of borrowing incurred by Central Government in dealing with Covid-19. It would therefore be prudent to retain appropriate levels of earmarked and general reserves to assist with a funding situation potentially similar to that experienced during the last decade.

## 5.2 Risk

5.2.1 The Council must ensure an appropriate level and use of reserves to support its financial sustainability and to meet future liabilities arising from risks for which a specific provision has not been made.

5.2.2 The 2021/2022 budget includes a planned increase in the general reserve of £0.2m and in earmarked reserves of £1.054m. Additional increases to the general reserve of £0.2m per annum are planned for the life of the current Medium Term Financial Strategy. However potential ongoing cost pressures and reductions in income associated with the response to Covid-19 may adversely impact on the Council's ability to maintain and increase the level of reserves.

5.2.3 Failure to comply with the requirements set out in CIPFA LAAP Bulletin 99: *Local Authority Reserves and Balances*, which include the implementation of a clear protocol for the establishment, use, control and review of reserves, could result in adverse comments by regulators.

- 5.2.4 A protocol for the management of reserves was adopted in April 2015 to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with CIPFA LAAP Bulletin 99 and identified best practice.
- 5.2.5 In the short-term, the level and adequacy of reserves are regularly reviewed and monitored through regular outturn/ forecast reporting. In the medium term, reserves are assessed as part of the budget-setting process and the Medium Term Financial Strategy, which includes provision for an increase in reserves of £0.2m per annum over the life of the Strategy.
- 5.2.6 There is a risk that failure to maintain reserves at an appropriate level will attract adverse criticism from regulators. This risk can be mitigated by application of the Council's Reserves Policy including increases to the General Reserve if required.

### 5.3 **Legal**

- 5.3.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires authorities in England and Wales to have regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the budget requirement.
- 5.3.2 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 places a duty on chief finance officers' to report on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves when the authority is considering its budget requirement.
- 5.3.3 Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the chief finance officer to report to all the authority's councillors if there is or is likely to be unlawful expenditure or an unbalanced budget. This would include situations where reserves have become seriously depleted and it is forecast that the authority will not have the resources to meet its expenditure in a particular financial year.

### 5.4 **Personnel**

There are no direct personnel/staffing implications arising out of this report.

## 6. **Supporting Evidence**

### 6.1 Performance Information and Data

- 6.1.1 The level of the Council's general reserve disclosed in the statutory accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2021 was £7.553m equating to 5.72% of net revenue expenditure (as reported in the 2020/2021 Revenue Outturn forms). The current 4% target level of general reserves is £5.284m.
- 6.1.2 The revenue budget forecast year-end position for 2021/2022 (as at end of Quarter 2) indicates a surplus of £2.814m.

6.1.3 Therefore, the potential impact on the forecast outturn position for the general reserve at 31 March 2022 would be as follows:

Table 1: General Reserve	£000
Balance at 31 March 2021	7,553
Budgeted Contribution to General Reserve	200
Contribution to the Reserve: Net Portfolio Underspends	2,814
Forecast Balance at 31 March 2022	10,567

6.1.4 Appendix 1 gives details of the total earmarked reserves held at the start of the 2021/2022 financial year (£20.781m) with actual reserve movements to the end of quarter 2 (30 September 2021) and forecast movements to 31 March 2022.

6.1.5 The level of earmarked reserves has been determined in accordance with the agreed reserves protocol. The level of earmarked reserves available to the Authority is forecast to increase by £0.132m in 2021/2022.

6.1.6 The current summary forecast outturn position for earmarked reserves at 31 March 2022 is as follows:

Table 2: Earmarked Reserves	£000
Balance at 31 March 2021	20,781
Budgeted Contribution to Earmarked Reserves	1,054
Actual Expenditure to Q2	(155)
Forecast Expenditure to Q4	(767)
Provisional Balance at 31 March 2022	20,913

6.1.7 For those reserves that have been utilised to fund actual expenditure to 30 September 2021 (£0.155m), details of the expenditure funded have been provided in Appendix 2.

6.1.8 The current summary forecast outturn position for the categories of specific/earmarked reserves at 31 March 2022 is as follows:

Table 3: Summary of Provisional Earmarked Reserve Balances at 31 March 2022	£000
Earmarked for Capital Purposes	745
Usable Earmarked Revenue Reserves	13,135
Unusable Earmarked Revenue Reserves	5,203
Revenue Grants and Contributions Unapplied	1,830
Provisional Balance at 31 March 2022	20,913

6.1.9 The reserve categories are summarised as follows:

- Earmarked for Capital Purposes are to meet expenditure or liabilities arising on Capital schemes;
- Usable Earmarked Revenue Reserves can be applied to fund revenue expenditure on specific schemes or services. These are retained at the discretion of the Council for known or potential liabilities and projects;
- Unusable Earmarked Revenue Reserves represent sums held by the Council but cannot be applied generally or specifically to fund services.
- Revenue Grants and Contributions Unapplied have yet to be applied to the specific scheme or service to which they relate, and cannot be applied to fund items other than those for which they were received.

## 6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The management of earmarked and general reserves (in recognition of the need to plan for known or predicted future obligations, unexpected events or emergencies), helps demonstrate stewardship of the Authority's resources and its ability to provide services to the local community.

## 6.3 **Involvement** (*consultation, engagement, participation*)

6.3.1 Not applicable.

## 6.4 **Thinking for the Long term** (*forward planning*)

6.4.1 Stewardship of the Authority's resources allows for the provision of services to the local community in the short and long term.

## 6.5 **Preventative focus**

6.5.1 Not applicable.

## 6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**

6.6.1 Not applicable.

## 6.7 **Integration (across service areas)**

6.7.1 Not applicable.

## 6.8 **Decarbonisation and Reducing Carbon Emissions**

6.8.1 Not applicable.

## 6.9 **Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment**

6.9.1 A Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment has not been completed for the Authority's forecast use of reserves, as it provides details of the Authority's transactions for the financial year and position at the year-end. This information can be utilised in making decisions that might help to reduce the inequalities of outcome associated with socio-economic disadvantage.

## 6.10 **Equality Impact Assessment**

6.10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as this report provides an estimated outturn position in relation to the Authority's reserve balances for the financial year, on an objective basis in accordance with relevant accounting standards, codes, concepts, principles, guidance and legislation.

## 7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

7.1 In the short-term, the level and adequacy of reserves are regularly reviewed and monitored through regular outturn/forecast reports.

7.2 There are legal requirements in respect of the reporting of reserves when setting the annual budget and the statutory outturn position is considered by the Authority's external auditors in their audit of the annual Statement of Accounts.

7.3 In the medium term, reserves are assessed as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

### **Background Documents /Electronic Links**

Appendix 1

Appendix 2





**Appendix 1: Earmarked Reserves Movements 2021-2022**

Name of Reserve	Balance Brought Fwd 1 April 2021	Reserve Adjustments		Total Reserve Adjustments	Actual Expenditure	Forecast Expenditure	Balance Carried Fwd 31 March 2022
		Increases	Decreases				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Earmarked for Capital Purposes</b>							
Deminimis Capital Works	86,098.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	86,098.46
Facilities	118,769.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	118,769.00
Energy Centre	107,217.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	107,217.22
Industrial Units	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(50,000.00)	0.00
IT Infrastructure	225,811.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225,811.79
Road Maintenance	229,715.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(229,715.00)	0.00
WRAP Regional Vehicles	206,579.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	206,579.85
<b>Total Earmarked for Capital Purposes:</b>	<b>1,024,191.32</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(279,715.00)</b>	<b>744,476.32</b>
<b>Usable Earmarked Revenue Reserves</b>							
Budget Contingency Fund / Invest to Save	64,351.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64,351.89
Business Support Hybrid Model	53,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	53,000.00
Corporate Landlord Building Rationalisation	73,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	73,000.00
COVID19 Response & Recovery	2,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,367.00)	0.00	1,988,633.00
Customer Services	95,892.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(6,250.00)	89,642.05
Discretionary Housing Payments	67,482.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	67,482.87
Displaced Expenditure - Social Services	87,230.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(23,682.00)	(63,368.00)	180.00
Downsizing & Redundancy & Transitional Costs	183,038.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	183,038.71
Election Costs	36,228.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,228.83
Financial Planning / Resilience	2,500,000.00	1,054,000.00	0.00	1,054,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,554,000.00
Future Interest Rate	244,055.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	244,055.89
General/ Voluntary Sector Grants	27,680.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,680.00
ICT	1,438,352.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,875.00)	(191,125.00)	1,245,352.18
Individual Schools Budget (ISB)	168,491.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	168,491.81
Insurance Liabilities	2,851,230.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,851,230.80
Local / Strategic Development Plans	143,512.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	143,512.54
Match Funding Regeneration Projects	60,129.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,129.22
Members Local Grants	54,192.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54,192.28
Payroll Project Management	23,529.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,529.97
PRC Funding	293,219.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	293,219.00
Re-fit Loan Repayments	18,750.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(18,750.39)	0.00
Specialist Commercial Advice (Silent Valley)	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(15,000.00)	85,000.00
Social Services - Legal Costs	400,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00
Stock Conditions Survey	12,137.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,137.34
Strategic Business Reviews	193,061.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	193,061.27
Superannuation	600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00

**Appendix 1: Earmarked Reserves Movements 2021-2022**

Name of Reserve	Balance Brought Fwd 1 April 2021	Reserve Adjustments		Total Reserve Adjustments	Actual Expenditure	Forecast Expenditure	Balance Carried Fwd 31 March 2022
		Increases	Decreases				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation	133,913.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,320.00)	0.00	130,593.08
Technology Park Feasibility Study	26,017.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26,017.00
Test, Trace, Protect Service	77,944.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	(77,944.86)	0.00	0.00
Transport Oncost	147,470.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	147,470.00
Waste Services	120,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120,000.00
Winter Maintenace	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00
<b>Total Usable Earmarked Revenue Reserves:</b>	<b>12,493,911.98</b>	<b>1,054,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,054,000.00</b>	<b>(118,188.86)</b>	<b>(294,493.39)</b>	<b>13,135,229.73</b>
<b>Unusable Earmarked Revenue Reserves</b>							
Building Control Fees	75,868.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75,868.68
Cardiff Capital Region City Deal	136,361.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	136,361.00
Deposits and Bonds	3,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,200.00
Land & Property Charges (Social Services)	161,954.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	161,954.55
LMS Balances	3,681,671.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,681,671.49
Section 106 Agreements	191,988.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	191,988.51
W Adoption Collaboration	708,973.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	708,973.95
Social Services - Gwent Regional Development (SP)	43,330.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	(7,793.83)	0.00	35,536.77
Workforce Development Collaboration	207,516.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	207,516.16
<b>Total Unusable Earmarked Revenue Reserves:</b>	<b>5,210,864.94</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(7,793.83)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,203,071.11</b>
<b>Revenue Grants and Contributions Unapplied</b>							
All Age School Forum	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
Aneurin Bevan Health Board - Education	18,225.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,225.89
Community Safety & CCTV	45,895.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,663.00)	0.00	34,232.66
Contribution to Crematorium Infrastructure Works	63,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,000.00
Early Action Together Programme	31,903.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	(17,272.00)	(14,631.29)	0.00
Early Years Grant	279,057.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(73,324.00)	205,733.24
Education - Gypsy Travellers	21,028.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,028.42
Flood Risk Management	132,729.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	132,729.00
Homelessness Transitional Funding	55,463.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,467.85)	50,995.72
Individual Electoral Register	103,745.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103,745.13
LEA / ALN Grant	168,729.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	168,729.16
Participatory Budget	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(100,000.00)	0.00
Period Poverty	12,796.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,796.05
Planning WAG Grant - Planning Committee	2,103.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,103.66
Regen General Contributions Unapplied (Town Centre Management)	65,621.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65,621.25
Rights of Way Diversions	20,255.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,255.00
Scrutiny Development	7,867.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,867.15

**Appendix 1: Earmarked Reserves Movements 2021-2022**

Name of Reserve	Balance Brought Fwd 1 April 2021	Reserve Adjustments		Total Reserve Adjustments	Actual Expenditure	Forecast Expenditure	Balance Carried Fwd 31 March 2022
		Increases	Decreases				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Small & Rural Schools Grant	35,904.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35,904.00
SMIFFs	166,685.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	166,685.84
Syrian Resettlement Programme	173,520.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173,520.88
Tai Calon Highways Maintenance (Commuted Sums)	374,876.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	374,876.00
Youth Service	72,360.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72,360.34
<b>Total Revenue Grants and Contributions Unapplied:</b>	<b>2,051,767.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(28,935.00)</b>	<b>(192,423.14)</b>	<b>1,830,409.39</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20,780,735.77</b>	<b>1,054,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,054,000.00</b>	<b>(154,917.69)</b>	<b>(766,631.53)</b>	<b>20,913,186.55</b>

<b>Earmarked for Capital Purposes</b>	Revenue reserves established to meet expenditure or liabilities arising on Capital schemes.
<b>Usable Earmarked Revenue Reserves</b>	Reserves that can be applied to fund revenue expenditure on specific schemes or services. These reserves are retained at the discretion of the Council for known or potential liabilities and projects.
<b>Unusable Earmarked Revenue Reserves</b>	Reserves which represent sums that are held by the Council but cannot be applied generally or specifically to fund services. These includes amounts restricted by statutory provision and balances relating to other individuals or entities, such as the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal or Schools.
<b>Revenue Grants and Contributions Unapplied</b>	Grants or contributions received by the Council that should not have to be repaid to the awarding body but have yet to be applied to the specific scheme or service to which they relate. These reserves cannot be applied to fund items other than those for which they were received.

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**Appendix 2: Expenditure Funded by Earmarked Reserves, 2020-2021**

<u>Name of Reserve</u>	<u>Actual Expenditure to Q2</u>	<u>Purpose of Expenditure</u>
	£	
COVID19 Response & Recovery	11,367.00	Payment to Recruitment agency.
Displaced Expenditure - Social Services	23,682.00	Lateral flow testing and mental health professional training.
ICT	1,875.00	Laptops.
Taxation	3,320.00	Tax Consultancy.
Test, Trace, Protect Service	77,944.86	Underspend from 2020/2021 to fund additional EHO's required in 2021/2022.
Social Services - Gwent Regional Development (SP)	7,793.83	Regional costs incurred - Wider Gwent Development for SP (Supporting People).
Community Safety & CCTV	11,663.00	This reserve covers the shortfall in funding from the PCC grant which pays towards the salary of the Community Safety Officer.
Early Action Together Programme	17,272.00	Employee Costs.
<b>Total to Qtr 4:</b>	<b>154,917.69</b>	

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# Agenda Item 9

*Executive Committee and Council only*

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring)**

Date of meeting: **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

Report Subject: **Bridging The Gap (BTG) Programme 2021/2022 – Progress Update July to September 2021**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr. Nigel Daniels, Leader / Executive Member Corporate Services**

Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden - Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	4/11/2021	12.11.21			22.11.21	15.12.21		

## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report is to provide Members with an update on the progress made with the Strategic Business Reviews during the period July to September 2021, and the latest assessment of the financial achievement for the current financial year.

## 2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) currently identifies budget gaps for 2022/23 to 2026/27 as:-

Table 1: Budget Gaps (surplus) per Draft MTFS (November 2021)

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Prior to BtG Opportunities	(548)	6,693	3,546	3,551	3,555	3,556

- 2.2 In recognising the challenges that the Council faces in the short, medium and long term, a programme of Strategic Business Reviews have been developed to deal with the potential funding gaps identified in the MTFS (Table 1) and to improve the financial resilience of the Council.
- 2.3 The latest assessment of the potential achievement of the BtG programme (as per the Draft MTFS) is estimated to be £7.5m between 2021/2022 and 2026/2027. Table 2 provides the annual assessment of achievement at that time.

Table 2: Latest Estimated Achievement of BtG

<b>Estimated Achievement:</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26 &amp; 2026/27</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Low</b>	755	2,688	1,180	1,262	846	7,577

- 2.4 In agreeing the budget for 2021/2022 the estimated achievement of BtG is £755,000 resulting in a surplus budget of £1.3m. For 2022/2023 onwards the forecast budget gaps based upon the estimated achievement above are:-

Table 3: Remaining Budget Gaps following application of BtG Opportunities

	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>2025/2026</b>	<b>2026/27</b>
	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>
Remaining Budget Gap	(1,303)	4,005	2,366	2,289	2,709	2,710

- 2.5 The Council's Corporate Leadership Team, supported by officers from all services are continuing to identify / develop additional BtG proposals to close the future years' budget gaps.
- 2.6 The budget gaps identified within the report are based upon the Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy assumptions. These assumptions include a cash flat settlement from Welsh Government, pay awards & price inflation of 2% per annum and annual cost pressures of £4.2m for 2022/23 and £2m thereafter.
- 2.7 Variations to/from these assumptions will impact the budget gaps.

### 3. **Options for Recommendation**

#### 3.1 **Option 1 – (Recommended Option)**

Members of Joint Budget Scrutiny (Budget Monitoring) Committee consider the report and provide appropriate challenge to the Bridging the Gap programme.

#### 3.2 **Option 2**

Members of Joint Budget Scrutiny (Budget Monitoring) Committee Scrutiny Committee do not accept the report.

### 4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**



- 4.1 The Bridging the Gap programme supports the achievement of the Outcome Statement of an ambitious and innovative council delivering the quality services we know matter to our communities, supporting:
- The financial resilience of the Council
  - Developing a more commercial organisation to generate income and deliver cost reductions to make local services sustainable and raise money to re-invest in our priorities

## 5. Implications Against Each Option

### 5.1 Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)

#### 5.1.2 Financial Year 2021/2022 – Forecast Out-turn

- 5.1.3 Table 4 identifies the Strategic Business Reviews, the estimated achievement and the forecast actual achievement to be delivered in 2021/2022.

Table 4: Strategic Business Reviews Forecast Out-turn 2021/2022

Strategic Business Review	Estimated Achievement 2021/2022 £'000	Forecast Achievement 2021/2022 £'000	(Adverse) / Favourable Variance £'000
Industrial Units	0	92	92
Commercial Waste	0	0	0
Income Recovery	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0
Commercial Activity	0	0	0
Third Party Spend	490	490	0
Assets & Property	35	140	105
Review of MRP	0	0	0
Future Workplace & Service Delivery	0	0	0
Growth Strategy	230	230	0
Low Carbon	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>197</b>

- 5.1.4 Overall, the forecast achievement is expected to exceed the estimated achievement of £0.75m by £0.2m for the current financial year. This is due to:
- the successful outcome of the appeals on the rateable values of the Council's property and assets, with the Council receiving a rates rebate, relating to previous years' charges, totalling £120,000. Further appeals are anticipated during the current financial year
  - Rental income on the Industrial Units portfolio exceeding the income budget by £92,000.
- 5.1.5 A number of Strategic Business Reviews have no financial achievement for 2021/2022, due to the impact the Covid-19 pandemic is having on the Council's ability to progress the Reviews including:

- Fees and Charges due the economic impact of the pandemic on the residents and local businesses
- Commercial Waste, there was a delay in implementing the new service change due to closure of businesses within the borough as a result of the national lockdown in March 2020.

5.1.6 In setting the budget for 2021/2022, cost pressure funding was built into the budget for Industrial Units (£133,000) and Commercial Waste (£23,000) to recognise the medium / long term impact of the pandemic and mitigate the resulting cost pressure for 2021/2022. However, the financial performance of the Industrial Units has improved.

5.1.7 A progress update on the individual business reviews is attached at Appendix 1.

## 5.2 **Risk including Mitigating Actions**

5.2.1 Current assessment of achievement against the Strategic Business reviews do not identify sufficient financial benefits to Bridge the funding Gap identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy in the medium to long term. Additional / alternative proposals will therefore be required to ensure that the Council can set a balanced budget.

## 5.3 **Legal**

5.3.1 The Council must set a balanced budget on an annual basis and the Bridging the Gap programme will support this requirement.

## 5.4 **Human Resources**

5.4.1 The Strategic Business Review, Future Place and Service Delivery, will have an impact on staff as it will result in a variation to Terms and Conditions.

## 6. **Supporting Evidence**

### 6.1 **Performance Information and Data**

6.1.1 The scope and outcome, including key activities for each of the Strategic Business Reviews is attached at Appendix 1.

### 6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The Bridging the Gap Programme support the Council in the development of its annual budgets which in turn will allow the Council to deliver services to the public.

### 6.3 **Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)**

6.3.1 Officers & Members of the Council are involved in the development of the Bridging the Gap Strategic Business Reviews.

- 6.3.2 The proposals have/will be considered by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.
- 6.4 **Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)**
- 6.4.1 The Bridging the Gap programme supports the Council's medium term financial planning in line with the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 6.5 **Preventative focus**
- 6.5.1 Included within the Bridging the Gap programme is a proposal focussing on an evaluation of the long term impact of prevention and early intervention on reducing the requirement for high cost services and better outcomes for our most vulnerable residents.
- 6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**
- 6.6.1 Achievement of the Bridging the Gap proposals will require cross Council working and collaboration / partnerships with other stakeholders.
- 6.7 **Integration (across service areas)**
- 6.7.1 Bridging the Gap proposals have been developed across the Council and are crosscutting in nature.
- 6.8 ***Decarbonisation and Reducing Carbon Emissions***
- 6.8.1 The Council is committed to the Decarbonisation Plan to achieve a carbon neutral public sector by 2030 and the Bridging the Gap programme includes the strategic business review, Low Carbon.
- 6.9a ***Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment***  
N/A
- 6.9b ***EqlA***
- 6.8.1 Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken on the opportunities taken forward as part of the Bridging the Gap proposals.
7. **Monitoring Arrangements**
- 7.1 Progress against predicted delivery of Bridging the Gap proposals form part of the budget monitoring arrangements and is monitored and reviewed by the Strategic Commercial and Commissioning Board, Scrutiny Committee & Executive.

**Background Documents /Electronic Links**

- *Appendix 1*

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Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio Holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables				
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022				
Industrial Portfolio	Ellie Fry	<p>To review the Council's Industrial Unit Portfolio to identify areas for improvement and opportunities to maximise income.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop a long term sustainable income source for the Council.</li> <li>Explore and develop new income streams.</li> <li>Reduce reactive maintenance liabilities.</li> <li>Improve quality of portfolio to further support economic development.</li> <li>Get greater visibility of income and expenditure to support invest/divest decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed agents to undertake high value RR's.</li> <li>Appointed agents to manage service charge (SC) program</li> <li>Planned 1<sup>st</sup> phase of Capex/revenue investments</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up new accountancy structure</li> <li>Implement SC to pilot estate</li> <li>Completed handover of Lime Avenue units to portfolio</li> <li>Handover of <b>BoxHyb</b> units</li> <li>Completion of first lettings at Lime Av.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of rent review program</li> <li>Review of 1<sup>st</sup> phase SC program</li> <li>Begin targeted investment program on portfolio</li> <li>Recruitment of key estates role</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further role out of SC.</li> <li>Continued investment in portfolio.</li> <li>Completion of</li> </ul>				
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>										
			<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>					<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
			2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 of the high value rent reviews are underway and initial valuations are showing a very positive reply due to positive market conditions.</li> <li>On target to roll out service charge program to pilot estate by end Q2.</li> <li>We have completed the letting of 5 of the 9 Lime Av hybrid units with a further 2 under offer and with solicitors. There has been strong interest in the remaining 2 which I would anticipate being let by the end of Q3.</li> <li>Awaiting rent review results to update figures.</li> </ul>					
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000									
0	0	100	0	50									
<b>Risk Management:-</b>													
<b>Risks / Issues</b>						<b>Mitigating Actions</b>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Departure of Team Manager Estates &amp; Asset Management</li> <li>Lack of resource (legal, estates, tech services)</li> <li>Negative PR associated with actions</li> <li>End of year accounts affect finance resources required to manage portfolio budgets</li> <li>Covid-19 related rent arrears</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefings to forewarn about PR issues</li> <li>Recruitment underway for estates &amp; legal role</li> <li>Communications Officer in post to support PR going forward</li> <li>Regular credit reviews to keep onto of debt and appropriate action being taken.</li> </ul>							
Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables				
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022				
Commercial Waste	Richard Crook	<p>To roll out a new Commercial Waste service borough wide. A successful capital bid secured £250,000 for Blaenau Gwent's Commercial Waste Service.</p> <p>During the financial year 2019/2020, the Trade Waste Service underwent a full revamp with a revised implementation date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch of Service [May 2021]</li> <li>Liaise with customers re. any teething issues</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidation of the new service</li> <li>Monthly budget monitoring</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin proactive marketing of new service to attract more customers, annual review of pricing strategy</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of online contracts and Duty of Cares</li> <li>Implementation of revised pricing schedule</li> </ul>				
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>										
			<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>					<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
			2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Service was launched on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May following delay [this was to allow businesses to reopen after relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions around non-essential businesses].</li> <li>New Service continues to be consolidated, initial issues with vehicles, rounds and customer's containment requirements have settled. Budget being monitored with Portfolio Accountant</li> </ul>					
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000									
0	0	0	64	96									
<b>Risk Management:-</b>													
<b>Risks / Issues</b>						<b>Mitigating Actions</b>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 3<sup>rd</sup> Covid-19 wave could see the reintroduction of restrictions meaning some customers would have to close and therefore suspend their service requirements.</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some customers would continue to operate, therefore minimising losses.</li> </ul>							

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables																										
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022																										
Income Recovery	Rhian Hayden	To review current income recovery activities to ensure best / efficient practices in place.  <b>Intended outcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income recovery policies are appropriate and include early intervention actions</li> <li>agreed Fees &amp; charges are implemented</li> <li>payment in advance of service delivery (where appropriate) thereby avoiding costs of issuing invoices</li> <li>easy access to various payment methods</li> <li>use of technology is maximised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review current arrears levels</li> <li>Update debt analysis</li> <li>Implement agreed fees &amp; charges for 2021/22</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor debt levels &amp; ongoing recovery rates</li> <li>Revisit recommendations of CIPFA review</li> <li>Identify services where payment in advance can be implemented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor debt levels &amp; ongoing recovery rates</li> <li>Consult with service areas identified where payment in advance could be implemented</li> <li>Recommend pilot scheme – attending community organised sessions, providing advice as appropriate (subject to lifting of restrictions)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor debt levels &amp; ongoing recovery rates</li> <li>Work with services where payment in advance can be implemented</li> <li>Review outcomes from the pilot scheme and continue attending community organised sessions (providing advice as appropriate)</li> </ul>																													
			<b>Financial Management:-</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Estimated Financial Achievement</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2020/2021</th> <th>2021/2022</th> <th>2022/2023</th> <th>2023/2024</th> <th>2024/2025</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>54</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>											Estimated Financial Achievement					2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	54	0	0	0	0		
Estimated Financial Achievement																																			
2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025																															
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000																															
54	0	0	0	0																															
<b>Financial Management:-</b> <b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Income Recovery review has been impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic.</li> <li><b>2020/21</b></li> <li>Significant numbers of Blaenau Gwent residents have been affected by the economic impact of the pandemic and throughout 2020/21 the Council saw increasing daily contacts from residents indicating they were having difficulty paying their bills (including Council Tax, NNDR &amp; other Council liabilities e.g. Industrial Unit rentals) – alternative payment arrangement have been agreed and are being monitored including payment holidays, smaller instalment payments over a longer period of time. Where appropriate individuals have been encouraged to apply for Council Tax Reduction Scheme (eligible applications have increased significantly compared to previous years) and signposted to other advice organisations.</li> <li>Limited formal recovery action has been undertaken (this is consistent with the agreed approach across all Welsh LA's)</li> <li>Unfortunately the planned attendance at community organised sessions to provide advice to the public was suspended in line with the government's coronavirus restrictions.</li> <li>Whilst many Direct Debits were cancelled there has been an increased take up overall from those who would previously have paid by cash or cheque (a consequence of the national lockdowns &amp; restrictions)</li> </ul> <p>The Council Tax portal is now online with approximately 950 registering to use the service – when registered Council Tax payers are able to receive / view their accounts on line, make payments, set up a direct debit. There is also the ability to report change of circumstances via the my Council Services app. The overall impact of the above is a £1.3m increase in the level of arrears as at 31 March 2021 when compared to 2020:-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Arrears as at 31 March 2020 £000's</th> <th>Arrears as at 31 March 2021 £000's</th> <th>Increase / (Decrease) £000's</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Council Tax</td> <td>5,046</td> <td>7,069</td> <td>2,023</td> <td>Reduced collection rates have been identified across Wales, WG have acknowledged this pressure on LA budgets and provided a grant at the end of 2020/21 to help mitigate some of this (for BG this was £587k).</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sundry Accounts</td> <td>5,714</td> <td>5,191</td> <td>(523)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HB Overpayments</td> <td>1,561</td> <td>1,372</td> <td>(189)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>12,321</b></td> <td><b>13,632</b></td> <td><b>1,311</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Arrears as at 31 March 2020 £000's	Arrears as at 31 March 2021 £000's	Increase / (Decrease) £000's		Council Tax	5,046	7,069	2,023	Reduced collection rates have been identified across Wales, WG have acknowledged this pressure on LA budgets and provided a grant at the end of 2020/21 to help mitigate some of this (for BG this was £587k).	Sundry Accounts	5,714	5,191	(523)		HB Overpayments	1,561	1,372	(189)		<b>Total</b>	<b>12,321</b>	<b>13,632</b>	<b>1,311</b>									
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<b>Risk Management:-</b>			<b>2021/22 – Quarter 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current debt analysis continues</li> <li>Court dates for formal recovery action have commenced with the first court taking place during September 2021, with further sessions planned for October and December 2021 and February 2022. Bailiff visits have been reinstated.</li> <li>Recommendations of CIPFA being reviewed.</li> </ul>																																
<b>Risks / Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic impact of Covid 19 may have medium / long term implications</li> </ul>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor arrears levels &amp; compliance with agreed payment arrangements</li> </ul>																																

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables		
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022		
Fees and Charges	Rhian Hayden	To review and develop an approach to the setting of fees and charges that reflects full cost recovery, and identifies further opportunities for raising income from discretionary services. Options to stretch targets on those budget lines that over achieving will be explored in future years.  <b>Intended outcome</b>  Fees and Charges are set at an appropriate level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review baseline income for 2020/21 - to assess underlying issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor Q1 forecast position</li> <li>Develop a priority matrix to determine which areas have potential to develop into full cost recovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options appraisals for individual areas in line with agreed priority list</li> <li>Re-establish the Officer Working Group and commence review of Fees &amp; Charges Register for 2022/2023</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options appraisals for individual areas in line with agreed priority list</li> <li>Complete Review of Fees &amp; Charges Register for 2022/23 and report to Council</li> </ul>		
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>				<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>	
			<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarter 1 forecast Fees &amp; Charges analysed and reported as part of the Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring report.</li> <li>Initial discussions have taken place to develop full cost recovery model for social services.</li> </ul>		
2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025				
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000				
121	0	100	100	100				
<b>Risk Management:-</b>								
<b>Risks / Issues</b>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political agreement to move to full cost recovery</li> <li>Reduced demand for Service as a consequence of Loss of custom with increased charges</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued monitoring of income collected through fees &amp; charges</li> <li>Fees &amp; Charges are set in consultation with relevant stakeholders</li> </ul>					

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022			
Commercial activity, investment and new income	Richard Crook	This strategic review will focus on identifying additional commercial opportunities to supplement the current activities of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fees and charges</li> <li>Developing the Industrial Portfolio</li> <li>Current income from traded or shared services</li> <li>Property Investment inside the Borough and out of the Borough</li> <li>Investment in energy and low carbon activities</li> <li>Disposals or development of assets and property</li> </ul> <b>Intended outcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefing for Exec around Wind Turbine opportunity</li> <li>Planning Feasibility work being undertaken</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission of planning application for Turbine</li> <li>Review Investment Framework inc advice around ROI</li> <li>Identify Investment funds in MTFS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement exercise for Turbine</li> <li>Market review of potential property investments</li> <li>Finalise funding arrangement for the Turbine</li> <li>Review Gov Tech Opportunity</li> <li>Review Industrial estate Energy Challenge</li> <li>Consider LUF investment</li> <li>Complete SV Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sign off Commercial arrangements with SV for the Turbine</li> <li>Report and agree on SV Options</li> <li>Agree Investment Fund in MTFS</li> </ul>			
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>			
			<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>						
2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025					
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000					
0	0	0	50	50					
<b>Risk Management:-</b>									
<b>Risks / Issues</b>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b>						
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> <li></li> </ul>						

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022		
Third party expenditure – commissioning, procurement and contract management	Bernadette Elias	<p>The Council commissions, procures and manages contracts with a wide range of third party suppliers across all its services spending circa. £80m +. This strategic business review seeks to identify for efficiencies and improved outcomes where possible.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <p>Through a combination of re-negotiated contract terms, consolidation of contracts competitive tendering and effective contract management, we are seeking to maximise cashable and non-cashable benefits comprising cost reductions, cost avoidance, efficiency savings (through alternative payment methodologies) and social and environmental benefits through the inclusion of community benefits and social value contract clauses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCCB Check and Challenge process agreed for Contracts above £75,000;</li> <li>• Operational Board Terms of Reference (TOR) reviewed to provide Check &amp; Challenge for Below £75,000 contracts;</li> <li>• 2021/22 procurement programme has identified circa 320 recurring and/or planned contracts;</li> <li>• Contracts prioritised by renewal date and value; Procurement officers assigned service areas / categories and commenced Quarter 1 activities;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Quarter 1 Outcomes;</li> <li>• Contracts prioritised by renewal date and value; Procurement officers assigned service areas / categories and commenced Quarter 2 activities;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Quarter 2 Outcomes;</li> <li>• Contracts prioritised by renewal date and value; Procurement officers assigned service areas / categories and commenced Quarter 3 activities;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Quarter 3 Outcomes;</li> <li>• Contracts prioritised by renewal date and value; Procurement officers assigned service areas / categories and commenced Quarter 4 activities;</li> <li>• Collate and Report 2022/23 Forward Procurement Programme;</li> </ul>					
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>											
<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>							
<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>							
550	490	250	250	250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement officers are actively engaging with service areas to deliver the 2021/22 procurement programme;</li> <li>• BtG commercial opportunities considered as part of each sourcing exercise.</li> <li>• Pre-procurement and contract award reports are submitted to commercial board to ensure effective check &amp; challenge;</li> <li>• The Corporate Purchase Card programme continues to expand as an alternative payment methodology. The programme affords suppliers better cash flow and includes an annual 1% rebate which contributes to the BtG savings target. In summary we currently have 55 cards in the programme and a year to date spend of £1,236,931 as compared with a spend of £965,117 for the same period in 2020/21;</li> <li>• The Council either leads and/or participates in a number of collaborative procurement arrangements which includes management fees and/or spend rebates. During qtr2, cashable savings of £50,000 have been realised;</li> </ul>						
<b>Risk Management:-</b>											
<b>Risks / Issues</b>				<b>Mitigating Actions</b>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract are awarded at a local level without due consideration to the wider organisational objectives.</li> <li>• Commissioning and procurement activities fail to realise the intended outcomes.</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCCB established to provide robust governance around the Council's 3<sup>rd</sup> Party spend and wider commercial activities.</li> <li>• Client and procurement officers will continue to challenge all existing contracts to determine commercial effectiveness.</li> <li>• Procurement officers will continuously monitor in-year spend to identify further commercial opportunities.</li> </ul>							



Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022		
Assets and Property	Richard Crook	<p>The Council has a range of property assets. This review will ascertain their value to the Council and identify how best to maximise these assets to strengthen our balance sheet. This review would include buildings and green spaces and will align with the growth strategy.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-operational buildings identified and programme of disposals agreed.</li> <li>Rating Agents appointed to review rates liability and identify potential savings.</li> <li>Leased in properties identified and discussions with service users ongoing.</li> <li>Area review of land holdings discussed and criteria for review agreed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target date to discuss rating appeals in respect of Abertillery properties set with VOA</li> <li>Ongoing inspections and appeals by Rating Agents</li> <li>Area Review Criteria and process agreed with Members</li> <li>Lease renewal terms agreed for 20 Church Street – Housing office</li> <li>Obtain external valuations of staff tenanted residential property</li> <li>Ongoing discussions with Landlords agent in respect of re-gearing Anvil Court lease</li> <li>Bring Bridge Street Health Centre lease to an end pending Social Services vacating team to Anvil Court.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposal programme – Blaina toilets informal tender for sale</li> <li>Discussions/negotiations with staff on residential tenanted properties for subsequent sale as per non-operational disposal list</li> <li>Ongoing rating discussions and appeals between retained rating agents and VOA</li> <li>Rating review of Civic Centre once decommissioning is finalised</li> <li>Ongoing discussions with Landlords agent in respect of re-gearing Anvil Court lease</li> <li>Area Review Criteria and process agreed with Members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposal programme reviewed</li> <li>Ongoing review of rating liabilities</li> <li>Ongoing discussions with Landlords agent in respect of re-gearing Anvil Court lease</li> </ul>					
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In year savings achieved through back dated NNDR rebates against the 2021/22 target to date total £140,000..</li> <li>Application for 3 months' rates relief on the basement, ground, fourth and fifth floors of the Civic Centre has been submitted. Agreements and actual savings yet to be determined.</li> <li>Community Asset transfer agreed for Queen Street Primary. Legal completion pending (Budget savings applied to previous year).</li> <li>Abertillery Toilets sold, further sales being considered for 2021/22 from non-operational list.</li> </ul>								
2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025							
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000							
85	35	50	0	0							
<b>Risk Management:-</b>											
<b>Risks / Issues</b>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complex legal issues delaying/preventing sale</li> <li>Departmental or Ward member opposition to sales</li> <li>Operational issues with sale to retained land</li> <li>Level of rates reduction/liability may be challenged.</li> <li>Reduction in rental levels on lease renewal may be unsatisfactory</li> <li>Property Solicitor is about to commence maternity leave, potential difficulty in backfilling the post which could mean a delay in undertaking property transactions.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to ensure adequate legal support to review documents/legal title in advance of sale</li> <li>Communication and consultation with stakeholders and area review criteria agreed in advance</li> <li>Provide option appraisal for alternatives to sale</li> <li>Specialist Rating Adviser appointed</li> <li>Property Advisor appointed to renegotiate lease terms/rental in respect of Anvil Court</li> </ul>								

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables		
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022		
Review of the MRP Policy	Rhian Hayden	<p>To undertake a review of the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) to determine options available for consideration when determining the optimum MRP strategy</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b> Identification of optimum MRP Strategy for Blaenau Gwent CBC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of current MRP policy</li> <li>Review of current methodology applied for supported &amp; unsupported borrowing</li> <li>Identification of options to provide optimum MRP Strategy / comparison of MRP charges for options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report to Council recommending change to MRP (subject to outcome of findings during Quarter1)</li> <li>Review &amp; update of current asset lives in readiness for policy change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review &amp; update of current asset lives in readiness for policy change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review &amp; update of current asset lives in readiness for policy change cr</li> </ul>		
<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current MRP policy has been reviewed</li> <li>Alternative options for making prudent MRP have been identified &amp; assessment of each option has been undertaken</li> <li>Proposals to amend MRP Policy considered &amp; supported by Corporate Overview Scrutiny &amp; Executive Committees during July 2021</li> <li>Report has been provided to Audit Wales for their views</li> <li>Proposals to be considered by Council in September 2021 (rearranged due to number of agenda items on July Council agenda)</li> </ul>					
<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>					<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>
<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>					<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,335 *</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>*Subject to approval of a change in Policy by Council</i>								
<b>Risk Management:-</b>								
<b>Risks / Issues</b>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b>					
MRP Policy not compliant with guidance			Proposals will be developed with due regard to WG guidance					

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022		
<b>Future work place and service delivery</b>	Michelle Morris	<p>This is a new Strategic Business Review that merges the previous business review on customer experience and the business review on workplace transformation.</p> <p>The impact of the pandemic has force the organisation to think radically about how and where it will deliver services to the communities in Blaenau Gwent. This Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Operating Model;</li> <li>• Community Hubs to improve customer access to council services;</li> <li>• Democratic Hub at the General Offices for formal Council business;</li> <li>• Permanent vacation of Civic Centre and move to Agile Working Model based on remaining office accommodation;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Programme Governance</li> <li>• Open new Democratic Hub and pilot agile meeting model</li> <li>• Open new Community Hubs</li> <li>• Commence project to decommission Civic Centre</li> <li>• Agree new Agile Working Policy</li> <li>• Commence leadership development to support new working arrangements</li> <li>• Complete consultation with all staff moving to home or agile working and agree variation to contracts</li> <li>• Complete Communication Plan to support change programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence full Council Diary using new agile meeting arrangements (in line with relaxation of covid restrictions)</li> <li>• Continue to develop the Community Hubs to broaden the services delivered - Phase 2 completed</li> <li>• Design and procurement of Anvil Court refurbishment – in progress</li> <li>• Commenced return to the office (in line with WG Guidance)</li> <li>• Revision to the application of the Mileage Allowance – Completed</li> <li>• Continued to progress decant of Civic Centre</li> <li>• Records Management progressing well with disposal and retention in line with policy</li> <li>• Leadership Development - Commenced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete establishment of new Democratic Hub</li> <li>• Continue to develop the Community Hubs – Phase 3</li> <li>• Complete decant from Civic Centre</li> <li>• Progress with the refurbishment of Anvil Court in line with agreed plan</li> <li>• Masterplan for the redevelopment of the site completed and agreed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civic Centre decanted and decommissioned, tender returned and awaiting award of contract</li> <li>• Community Hubs &amp; Democratic operating BAU – within Covid restrictions</li> <li>• Progress with the refurbishment of Anvil Court in line with agreed plan</li> <li>• Achieve full financial savings to support 2022/23 Revenue Budget</li> </ul>					
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>					
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme on-target for Quarter 2 deliverables;</li> <li>• Democratic Hub now operational;</li> <li>• Community Hubs now in Phase 3 of delivery;</li> <li>• Change in Out of Hours service delivery to a local provider – completed;</li> <li>• Leadership support in progress to assist in moving to new agile working model;</li> </ul>								
<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>							
<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>							
50	0	400	0	0							
<b>Risk Management:-</b>											
<b>Risks / Issues</b>				<b>Mitigating Actions</b>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delays to the final decommissioning of civic centre due to the need to relocate IT Servers to new host and the impact of global supplies shortage</li> <li>• Risk of increased costs from procurement activity due to pressures within the economy and the increasing price of goods and services</li> <li>• Impact on staff well-being from the return to the workplace</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk being managed and removal of servers prioritised for January 2022</li> <li>• Tenders being developed for issuing early in 2022</li> <li>• Continue to comply with Covid restrictions in the workplace, ensure risk assessments are in place, leadership development and support to ensure managers understand their role in supporting staff, provision of support via occupational health</li> </ul>							

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables		Key Activities / Deliverables																			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022		Quarter 2 2021/2022		Quarter 3 2021/2022		Quarter 4 2021/2022																			
Growth Strategy	Richard Crook	<p>Our Growth Strategy involves a programme of housing development that will see an impact on our revenue streams through increase Council Tax. This will contribute to the MTFS and is a critical element of building strong communities.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To bring back into use 5-10% of vacant properties per annum (circa 40)</li> <li>To support the delivery of circa 400 new houses by 2023</li> <li>To increase the economic competitiveness of Blaenau Gwent in the 2022 UKCI</li> <li>To secure £548,000 pa into the local economy with 100 households attracted/retained in BG</li> <li>To implement water and wind turbines to generate 3.6 mW and £2.5m of investment</li> <li>To have commenced an investment portfolio for BG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote housing sites for private development</li> <li>Continue to administer loans and grants for vacant properties (post covid)</li> <li>Work through planning process on housing sites</li> <li>SAB issues - address (Davies, Works)</li> <li>Delivery programme for EV School site, to inform build out rate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appoint new vacant property officer</li> <li>Begin 'investment portfolio' with Industrial Units review</li> <li>Silent Valley wind turbine scoping and planning</li> <li>Lovell's site 65% built 50% sold</li> <li>Persimmon site starts build</li> <li>SUDs scheme approved for Davies site</li> <li>Stage 2 decision on Ashvale</li> <li>Planning/SABS Northgate</li> <li>Delivery programme Northgate</li> <li>Development brief Civic Centre</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informal launch Energy Prospectus linked to COP26</li> <li>CCR approval for Tredegar?</li> <li>Completion of Golwg Y Bryn</li> <li>Completion of Greenacres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> <li></li> <li></li> <li></li> </ul>																						
							<p><b>Financial Management:-</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Estimated Financial Achievement</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2020/2021</th> <th>2021/2022</th> <th>2022/2023</th> <th>2023/2024</th> <th>2024/2025</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>184</td> <td>230</td> <td>300</td> <td>100</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b></p> <p>21/22 Q1 and Q2 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Golwg Y Bryn - £16.8 million Lovell development of 100 homes (70 open market, 30 affordable). During Q1 12 OM and 9 SR units completed, which brings the number of units to date to 77 completed, 68 of which are open market. The development will be completed during Q2. Max Council Tax return associated with the development £142k.</li> <li>Carn Y Cefn – £29million Persimmon development of 277 homes (222 private, 55 affordable). The development is onsite, show home will open Q3, first homes occupied Q2 22/23. Annual build target 30 units (up to 50 depending on sales demand). 5 phase development. Max Council Tax return associated with the development £316k.</li> <li>Northgate – 56 homes (51 open market, 5 affordable). Anticipated start on site Q3 21/22. The first homes will be completed Q1/Q2 2022/23. Annual build rate 25 – 30 per/annum, 2 year build programme. Max Council Tax return associated with the development £108k.</li> <li>Ashvale – Circa 70 homes (63 open market, 7 affordable). Dependent on CCR funding (determination Q3) and subject to contract Max Council Tax return associated with the development £120k.</li> </ul> <p>*max CT return does not make consideration to any applied discounts, working assumption is 80% paying full CT tax and relates to open market homes (not social rent)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civic Centre framework being prepared by the Urbanists to inform the development brief to be developed in Q3</li> <li>Nantyglo School Site; members briefing to be scheduled for Q3 to outline a proposed development programme to bring forward the site.</li> <li>12 'Empty Property Grants' received approval in Q1, which amount to the value of £287,963.44 and 1 property was completed and brought back into use.</li> <li>2 Houses to Homes applications were approved and amounted to a total of £50,000.</li> </ul>									Estimated Financial Achievement					2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	£'000	£'000	£'000
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<b>Risks / Issues</b>						<b>Mitigating Actions</b>																						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SABS decisions causing delays on development</li> <li>Internal staff resources e.g. planning to make determination on applications</li> <li>Escalating material costs associated with development</li> <li>Increasing house prices/demand – potential stall to the upward trend</li> <li>Supply outstrips demand</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing discussions with the SAB approving body and developers</li> <li>Contingency with funding applications</li> <li>Positive uplift in Social Housing Grant to assist development where appropriate</li> <li>Monitoring activity and close liaison with developers</li> <li>Development programme considered alongside wider policy docs and strategies e.g. LDP/Empty Property</li> </ul>																						

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022
Low Carbon	Michelle Morris	Develop a Low Carbon Plan which sets out an ambitious vision and targets for BG to become a Low Carbon Borough and supports the corporate objectives of being a more Efficient Council and Strong & Environmentally Smart Communities.  <u>Intended outcome</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readiness Assessment (RA) – Transport (Direct) complete</li> <li>Response to BG Climate Assembly findings complete</li> <li>Agree high level timeline for RA for all Transitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring Report to Scrutiny Committee</li> <li>Monitor/Progress delivery of actions from RA – Transport (Direct)</li> <li>Complete 2<sup>nd</sup> RA</li> <li>Council Report Template updated to ensure CC impact taken into account in all reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete 3<sup>rd</sup> RA</li> <li>Annual Report to Council</li> <li>Monitor/Progress delivery of actions from completed RA</li> <li>First annual report to WG completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete 4<sup>th</sup> RA</li> <li>All Transitions to be completed to inform high level action plan</li> <li>Monitor/Progress delivery of actions from completed RA</li> <li>Annual Progress Report to be reported to Council</li> </ul>
			<b>Financial Management:-</b> <b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>			
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			Quarter 1 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA Transport Direct (complete)</li> <li>Response to CA – in progress</li> <li>Timeline – in progress</li> </ul>			
2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025		
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
138	0	200	200	200		
<b>Risk Management:-</b>						
<b>Risks / Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New investment may be required to ensure that actions can be progressed to support transition to carbon neutral</li> <li>Need to ensure that policy development/service re-design is under-pinned by the principles of achieving carbon neutral council</li> <li>Capital Programme needs to support delivery through investment in the right designs and technology e.g. carbon neutral buildings</li> </ul>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA need to identify funding gaps/opportunities or where we need to change funding model to support this work</li> <li>All Committee Reports to identify impact on carbon emissions to ensure that the organisation builds a more sustainable future</li> <li>All investment decisions need to include impact on carbon emissions and ensure the Council only invests in low carbon or carbon free solutions</li> </ul>			

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022
Use of external grants	Bernadette Elias	<p><u>Scope of the Review</u> This strategic business review is concerned with deployment of additional grant funding that is available to the council and its partners. It is estimated that the organisation receives approximately £22m additional funding to support our priorities. This review will explore how the grants are utilised across the council to deliver outcomes for our residents.</p> <p>This review will also consider the impact of the removal of these grants and the risk placed on core funding.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better organisational oversight of how grants support our corporate priority areas.</li> <li>Clearer lines of accountability with identified leads to ensure delivery of intended outcomes and management of risk to core funding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start Review and update of the grants register with resource colleagues</li> <li>Initial scoping for review of Regeneration grants with service and finance colleagues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated grants register on SCCB agenda and presented quarterly to keep organisational oversight</li> <li>Finalise and agree scope for Regen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Findings from review of Regen presented to SCCB</li> <li>Quarterly reporting of grants register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly reporting of grants register</li> <li>Focus of next phase of review agreed</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the Grants Register continues to be progressed during the Quarter</li> <li>Meeting taken place with Service area to scope out the work. Report anticipated during quarter 4</li> </ul>				
<b>Risk Management:-</b>						
<b>Risks / Issues</b>			<b>Mitigating Actions</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>						

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022
Developing our customer experience and digital ambitions	Bernadette Elias	<p>This review supports the customer focus and use of technology themes in the Commercial strategy</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved Customer Service experience for residents of the borough</li> <li>Creation of Community Hub model</li> <li>Delivery of 12-month Digital programme set out for Council</li> <li>Collaboration with NPT and Torfaen on Digital projects – best practice to be shared across Council</li> <li>Development of Leadership &amp; Development opportunities</li> <li>Links into ICT investment roadmap</li> </ul>	<p><b>Customer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact Centre review commenced focussing on Customer Service delivery</li> <li>Working with community services, mapping process and understanding customer experience</li> <li>Development and introduction of service level standards,</li> <li>Review of answerphone message</li> <li>Review of out of hours' service</li> <li>Community Hubs model preparation and development</li> </ul> <p><b>Digital / Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital programme to support the new operating model</li> <li>Progression of externally supported digital projects, Adult Social Care, GovPay, Tech Valley and Democracy</li> <li>Planning for Leadership &amp; Development opportunities to raise awareness and scope of digital</li> <li>Digital apprentice role developed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Customer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further development of Contact Centre review – focus on training / skills gap to support improved service delivery</li> <li>Local out of hours' service delivery from July 2021</li> <li>Community hubs implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>Digital / Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital programme to support the new operating model, hybrid democratic meeting arrangements, service move to digital offer where this focus is most needed</li> <li>Leadership and Development awareness sessions– in progress</li> <li>Findings of Digital projects delivered with other Local Authorities, sharing learning</li> <li>Digital apprentice role recruited</li> </ul>	<p><b>Customer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community hubs implementation and review to inform next phase of development</li> <li>Scoping of Customer Service Standards development</li> </ul> <p><b>Digital / Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>digital programme to support the new operating model, hybrid democratic meeting arrangements, service move to digital offer where this focus is most needed</li> <li>Leadership and Development awareness sessions– in progress</li> <li>Developing the organisational approach Service re- design linked to the commercial strategy ambitions, digital programme and customer experience</li> </ul>	<p><b>Customer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further development of Community Hubs model</li> <li>Scoping of Working towards excellence in Customer Service delivery – charter mark for Customer Services across the Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Digital / Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>digital programme to support the new operating model, hybrid democratic meeting arrangements, service move to digital offer where this focus is most needed</li> <li>Leadership and Development awareness sessions– in progress</li> <li>Developing the organisational approach Service re- design linked to the commercial strategy ambitions, digital programme and customer experience</li> </ul>
			<b>Financial Management:-</b>			<b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes and financial)</b>
<b>Estimated Financial Achievement</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community services, mapping sessions held focusing on full end to end process</li> <li>Development of service level standards – setting residents expectations on delivery of services</li> <li>Review of answerphone message, findings were that it was very long and protracted. Queuing system introduced</li> <li>Review of out of hours' service, identified that the existing provider was not delivering great service from Customer perspective – resulting in change of providers from July 2021 (Q2)</li> <li>Community Hubs model preparation and development, phase 1 delivery commenced 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021</li> <li>Training plan developed linking into Call Centre Management framework</li> <li>Phases 2 and 3 delivery of Community Hubs model, increasing Hub presence in all agreed venues</li> <li>Development of Key Performance Indicators to support service delivery</li> </ul>			

**Digital / Technology**

- Digital programme to support the new operating model developed – attendance at DMT meetings to understand needs of services as we move into next phases of delivery
- Corporate road map developed – now, next, later setting out technical objectives
- Progression of externally supported digital projects, Adult Social Care, GovPay, Tech Valley and Democracy
- Planning for Leadership & Development opportunities to raise awareness and scope of digital – linking into offers from Centre for Digital Public Services and increasing knowledge of staff and members
- Digital apprentice role developed, appointed and inducted as part of Tech Valleys project focussing on waste and recycling services
- Further progression of digital programme, including supporting hybrid meetings to support NOM,
- Further development of digital road map, now, next, later objectives to support corporate objectives
- Commencement of Planning piece of work, supporting and assisting the Planning team
- Continuation of external projects linking into Centre for digital public services
- Commencement of digital skills maturity assessment
- Digital apprentice role recruited to

£'000    £'000    £'000    £'000    £'000

**Risk Management:-**

Risks / Issues	Mitigating Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	

Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables	Key Activities / Deliverables
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022
Prevention and early intervention services	Damien McCann / Lynn Phillips	<p>This review will focus on an evaluation of the long term impact of prevention and early intervention on reducing the requirement for high cost services and better outcomes for our most vulnerable residents.</p> <p>Approach potentially involves children and young people transitioning to adulthood to maximise the preventative benefits. Links to NEETs, Recovery/Renewal and Adult Social Care.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning meeting to take place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed at CLT meeting and agreed this was a corporate issue rather than for Social Services and Education only.</li> <li>• Have discussed potential to hold a workshop on prevention and early intervention corporately to share examples and generate ideas across the Council</li> <li>• Briefing Paper to SCCB Board for discussion regarding seeking external consultancy support.</li> </ul>		

Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLT have had initial update and requested further information on overall strategic approach etc</li> <li>• CLT agreed the corporate nature of this strand of work</li> <li>• Lead Officers met to discuss next steps</li> <li>• Discussed a Children's Services Invest to Save Project being badged under the Bridging the gap proposals</li> </ul>



<b>Risk Management:-</b>	
<b>Risks / Issues</b>	<b>Mitigating Actions</b>
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Review Title	Lead Officer/ Portfolio holder	Scope and Outcome	Key Activities / Deliverables			
			Quarter 1 2021/2022	Quarter 2 2021/2022	Quarter 3 2021/2022	Quarter 4 2021/2022
Using data and behaviour insight to help deliver better services	Bernadette Elias	<p>Becoming a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council means using data and insight to drive decision making. This Strategic Business Review will identify opportunities for the sharing and use of data to design services around the customer.</p> <p><b>Intended outcome</b></p> <p>The insight from quantitative and qualitative data is recognised as a valuable asset across the organisation.</p> <p>Data is used insightfully and routinely in service re design, analytics and performance monitoring to support better outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to build the data work streams supporting recovery</li> <li>Audit Wales data review- initial findings and scoping for next phase workshop. Nesta data maturity assessment framework.</li> <li>Behavioural science- early scoping of potential leadership session on applying the MINDSET methodology to service delivery</li> <li>Programme of WLGA funded sessions on user experience, content design and service re design delivered</li> <li>Cardiff University data science academy- summer MSc placement. Expression of interest and proposal submitted</li> <li>Assessment of Well Being planning for next round of Well Being plans in progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit Wales data review, next phases and findings</li> <li>Revisit Data application to BTgap reviews eg work done previously on income and debt</li> <li>testing Nesta data maturity assessment against a recovery theme-economic recovery</li> <li>Show and tell from digital projects</li> <li>Developing the organisational approach Service re- design linked to the commercial strategy ambitions, digital programme and customer experience.</li> <li>applying service re design to a prioritised programme of service areas including supporting the New Operating Model (NOM).</li> <li>Consideration of applying MINDSET to a pilot programme of service areas, potentially including the NOM</li> <li>Cardiff university placement progression</li> <li>Assessment of Well Being development through the regional sub group of GSWAG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting the organisational approach Service re- design linked to the commercial strategy ambitions, digital programme and customer experience</li> <li>Testing Nesta data maturity assessment against a recovery theme</li> <li>Cardiff university MSc final product delivery</li> <li>Assessment of Well Being development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cardiff university MSc --- exploring ways to use the product</li> <li>Assessment of Well Being mature product</li> <li>Development of a research and data programme for the organisational to include external opportunities, behavioural science potential and learning from Nesta assessment, intelligence hub and service re design work</li> </ul>
			<p><b>Quarterly progress update against deliverables (Project outcomes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovery themes are being supported with performance and data insight, including development of a set of performance indicators at both population and performance level.</li> <li>Council Tax data profiling has been re-established to support the bridging the gap project to provide the most up to date information.</li> <li>Audit Wales Review on Data agreed as part of their work programme, initial phase undertaken, next phase to be scoped in 2022 which will support the organisational approach to data.</li> <li>Data insight including user research used to inform digital transformation projects with services supporting agile delivery.</li> <li>Cardiff University data science academy student placements progressing.</li> <li>Assessment of Well being work to inform the next Well Being Plan is progressing with active input from officers into the regional working group.</li> <li>The Performance Team and Social Services are using monies from WG to support the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act Performance Framework. The Council is looking to get support from Oxford Brookes University to undertake a review of the Directorates' current effectiveness in its use of performance data and to support any future re modelling of services. The work will take place in quarter 4 and additional support is planned for mid-2022, once the directorate has submitted their annual data return to WG.</li> </ul>			

<b>Risk Management:-</b>	
<b>Risks / Issues</b>	<b>Mitigating Actions</b>

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