

## Silent Valley Reporting

Meeting / Date	Report Subject	Decision
Council – 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Future Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision	<p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Members approve the preferred Option of the Executive Committee, i.e. The preferred Option identified by Scrutiny was 2: Improvement to New Vale HWRC site and development of a second facility at Roseheyworth South, subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A business case be developed and prepared for the redevelopment of the New Vale HWRC and a second facility in Ebbw Fach Valley at the south of the Roseheyworth Industrial Estate;</li> <li>- The final business case be presented for approval by Full Council would contain the detailed design, waste flow modelling and financial implications for developing and operating both sites; and</li> <li>- The Final business case would also provide a detailed programme plan for the implementation of the proposals at both sites.</li> </ul>
Council – 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Future Management of the Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Centre	<p>RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report which related to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority) be accepted and Option 1 – Collaboration with the Public Sector (Shared Services) be endorsed, namely that approval be granted to proceed to the following:</p> <p>Take forward Option 1 and carry out soft market testing to better understand the opportunity to achieve a public sector collaboration.</p>

		<p>Should there not be sufficient interest from public sector partners to take forward the preferred option it was requested that Council endorse a proposal for officers to develop a contingency plan for the delivery of services.</p> <p>To mitigate against the risks associated with depleting the general reserves that should be retained to cover the costs associated with the aftercare liabilities of the landfill site it was proposed that the Council explored options for securing sufficient reserves to meet the assessed costs and liabilities up to 2076.</p>
<p>Special Council – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022</p>	<p>Report of the Audit General for Wales – Deficiencies in Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council’s governance and oversight arrangements in respect of the Council Owned company, Silent Valley Waste Services Limited</p>	<p>RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report be accepted and</p> <p>The contents of the Report of the Auditor General for Wales “Deficiencies in Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council’s governance and oversight arrangements in respect of the Council Owned company, Silent Valley Waste Services Limited” (the report) be agreed.</p> <p>The recommendation within the report be agreed, namely that:</p> <p><b>‘The Council should commission a review to seek assurance that its governance and oversight arrangements in respect of other companies in which it had an interest were adequate and effective, and that the deficiencies identified in the report were not more widespread’.</b></p> <p>Appropriate Council officers meet with Audit Wales with a view to jointly determining the approach and scope of commissioning that review in order to ensure it was acceptable to all concerned. The findings of this review be reported back via the democratic process.</p>

		<p>The Managing Director be authorised to prepare a written response, to be agreed with the Auditor General, to be published in a local newspaper as required under the Public Audit (Wales) Act.</p> <p>A full internal Council investigation be undertaken into the events referred to and the findings reported back to Council accordingly.</p>
<p>Special Council – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022</p>	<p>Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Centre</p>	<p><b>Option 3 (preferred option) was, thereupon, carried.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report which related to the financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority) be accepted and Option 3 be agreed, namely that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The services be brought back in-house and the winding up of the company named therein.</li> <li>· A transition plan be prepared by end of March 2022 to ensure the transition of services was managed correctly and that appropriate management arrangements were put in place.</li> <li>· Engagement of external specialist support to work with the Council to develop the transition plan.</li> <li>· In accordance with the Shareholders’ Reserved Powers contained within the Articles of Association, a special resolution (to be agreed at full Council in its capacity as sole shareholder of the Company) be served upon the Company instructing the Directors of the Company to work with the Council to ensure co-operation and progress in two areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) In the timely publication of the pending Audit Wales report.</li> <li>(ii) During the transition period, any use of the Company’s provisions and reserves would require agreement of the Council.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>Additional costs be built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and agreed budget from 2022/23 onwards. It was estimated that this would be £390,000 for 2022/23 increasing to £673,000 in 2023/24, prior to cost mitigation opportunities.</p> <p>A Business Plan be developed alongside the Transition Plan.</p>
Cabinet – 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Advanced Engineering Centre (HIVE) Ebbw Vale	<p>RESOLVED that the public be excluded whilst this item of business is transacted as it is likely there would be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended).</p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director Regeneration &amp; Community Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report which contained exempt information relating to the financial/business affairs of persons other than the Authority be accepted, and Option 1 be approved.</p>
Cabinet – 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Future Management of the Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Centre	<p>Due to the need to consider the following item as a matter of urgency, the Leader of the Council and the Presiding Member confirmed that the following matter can be considered under the Provisions of Paragraph 4(b), Section 100(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report and update be accepted on the proposed transfer of services from SVWS to the Council on 1st May, 2023 (including the transfer of assets and liabilities on or after the transfer date up to the point of winding up of the Company).</p> <p>It was noted that the estimated financial impact remains within the budget envelope as previously agreed.</p>

		<p>Approval was provided for the delegation of Officers to negotiate and agree the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• final terms of the hiving up agreement and any other ancillary agreements which may be required in the future to give effect to the transfer between the Council and Silent Valley Waste Services Limited; and</li><li>• the Deed of Performance (including the financial commitment) between the Council and Natural Resources Wales to support transfer of the Environmental Permit. The shareholder resolution as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report be approved.</li></ul>
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