

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

SUBJECT: CABINET – 4TH OCTOBER, 2023

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER

**PRESENT: Leader/
Cabinet Member - Corporate Overview & Performance
Councillor S. Thomas**

**Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member – Place & Environment
Councillor H. Cunningham**

**Cabinet Member – Place and Regeneration
Councillor J.C. Morgan**

**Cabinet Member – People & Social Services
Councillor H. Trollope**

**AND: Councillor T. Smith,
Chair of People Scrutiny Committee**

**WITH: Chief Officer Resources
Chief Officer Customer & Commercial
Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services
Interim Corporate Director Education
Interim Corporate Director Social Services
Head of Legal & Corporate Compliance
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships
Service Manager Customer Experience & Transformation
Customer Experience Officer
Press & Public Relations Officer**

DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
No. 1	<u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u> It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.
No. 2	<u>APOLOGIES</u> The following apologies for absence were received:- Interim Chief Executive Councillor S. Edmunds, Cabinet Member People & Education
No. 3	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u> No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.
	<u>DECISIONS</u>
No. 4	<u>CABINET</u> Consideration was given to the decisions of the Cabinet Meeting held on 4 th September, 2023. RESOLVED that the decisions be received as a true record of proceedings.

	<p><u>GENERAL MATTERS</u></p>
No. 5	<p><u>CONFERENCES, COURSES, EVENTS AND INVITATIONS</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the following:-</p> <p><u>WLGA Annual Conference – Llandudno 15th September, 2023</u></p> <p>RESOLVED that approval be given to Councillor H. Cunningham, Deputy Leader of the Council to attend.</p> <p><u>Reserve Forces’ and Cadets’ Association for Wales – Annual Briefing –19th October, 2023</u></p> <p>RESOLVED that approval be given to Councillor D Bevan, Armed Forces Champion to attend.</p>
	<p><u>CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO</u></p>
No. 6	<p><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 29TH NOVEMBER, 2023</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Scrutiny and Democratic Officer.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Forward Work Programme for Cabinet for 29th November, 2023 be agreed.</p>

No. 7

GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS

Consideration was given the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

The following grants to organisation were received further to the publication of the report:-

BRYNMAWR

Brynmawr Ward - Councillor J. Gardner

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|----|------------------------------------|------|
| 1. | Brynmawr & District Museum Society | £250 |
|----|------------------------------------|------|

EBBW VALE

Ebbw Vale North Ward Ward – Councillor Jen Morgan

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. | One Life Autism | £500 |
| 2. | Tredegar Operatic Society | £150 |
| 3. | Ebbw Valley Brass | £150 |
| 4. | Heads of the Valley's Boxing Club | £200 |

Rassau & Garnlydan Ward - Councillors D. Wilkshire

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|------|
| 1. | Garnlydan Community Spirit | £100 |
| 2. | Ebbw Vale Works Museum | £80 |
| 3. | Beaufort Male Voice Choir | £80 |
| 4. | Rassau & Beaufort Bowls | £75 |
| 5. | Rassau OAP's | £100 |
| 6. | Blaenau Gwent Young Stars | £80 |
| 7. | Puddleducks | £100 |
| 8. | Ebbw Vale Christmas Lights | £80 |
| 9. | Beaufort RFC | £80 |
| 10. | Ebbw Vale Male Voice Choir | £80 |
| 11. | Rhos Y Fedwen Primary School | £100 |
| 12. | Ebbw Vale Netball | £80 |
| 13. | Blaenau Gwent Indoor Bowls | £80 |
| 14. | Garnlydan Football Club | £100 |
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	<p>15. Rock Chapel £80</p> <p><u>NANTYGLO & BLAINA</u></p> <p><u>Nantyglo Ward – Councillor P. Baldwin</u></p> <p>1. Shared Prosperity Fund £300</p> <p><u>Nantyglo Ward – Councillor S. Behr</u></p> <p>1. Shared Prosperity Fund £300</p> <p><u>Blaina Ward – Councillor J. P. Morgan</u></p> <p>1. Christmas Extravaganza £300</p> <p><u>Blaina Ward – Councillor L. Winnett</u></p> <p>1. Shared Prosperity Fund £300</p> <p>RESOLVED accordingly.</p> <p>FURTHER RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report be accepted and the information contained therein be noted.</p>
<p>No. 8</p>	<p><u>CS092 INVESTIGATION ACTION PLAN PROGRESS QUARTERLY REPORT AND WELSH IN THE WORKPLACE POLICY / ADRODDIAD CYNNYDD CHWARTEROL CS092 CYNLLUN GWEITHREDU'R YMCHWILIAD A'R POLISI CYMRAEG YN Y GWEITHLE</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance and Partnerships.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the the Quarterly Progress Report and the Welsh in the Workplace Policy, as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the CS092 Quarterly Progress Report (Appendix 1), and supported the approach to be presented to Cabinet (Option 1a); and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Welsh in the Workplace Policy (Appendix 2) and recommended approval by Cabinet for publication (Option 2a).
No. 9	<p><u>DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Commercial and Customer.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the Digital and Transformation Strategy (Option 1).</p>
No. 10	<p><u>CUSTOMER SERVICE STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Commercial and Customer.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the Customer Services Strategy and associated Customer Standards and Charter with the minor amendment to the document as reported (Option 1).</p>
No. 11	<p><u>HEALTH & SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT – 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 31ST MARCH 2023</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet agreed the report as presented (Option 1).</p>
No. 12	<p><u>REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2023/2024 FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31 MARCH 2024 (AS AT 30 JUNE 2023)</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet provided the appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; approved the budget virements detailed in paragraph 5.1.18 in excess of £250,000 in line with the constitution and noted the application of reserves (Option 1).</p>

<p>No. 13</p>	<p><u>CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING, FORECAST FOR 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR (AS AT 30 JUNE 2023)</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet provided the appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; continued to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council and noted the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding (Option 1).</p>
	<p><u>JOINT PORTFOLIO - PLACE AND ENVIRONMENT & PLACE, REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u></p>
<p>No. 14</p>	<p><u>COMMUNITY SERVICES AND REGENERATION DIRECTORATE PERFORMANCE END OF YEAR REPORT 2022/23</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the report as provided (Option 2).</p>
<p>No. 15</p>	<p><u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 PROPOSED TRANSFER OF FURTHER LAND TO ABERTILLERY BLUEBIRDS</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and, subject to conditions being in place to permit continued public access, a lease be granted to Abertillery Bluebirds in respect of the sports field at Windsor Road to facilitate use by junior members of the club (Option 1).</p>

	<p><u>PEOPLE AND EDUCATION PORTFOLIO</u></p>
No. 16	<p><u>INCLUSION AND ALN STRATEGY/POLICIES/GUIDANCE (REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS)</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Interim Corporate Director Education.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and after considering the views of Scrutiny (that only Local Authority officers have been involved and engaged in the process), Cabinet approved the reviewed and amended documents. This would ensure that the documents are re distributed to key stakeholders with the inclusion of the most up to date changes to national guidance and legislation; this would allow LA processes and statutory functions to align (Option 1).</p>
	<p><u>PEOPLE AND SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO</u></p>
No. 17	<p><u>VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE & SEXUAL VIOLENCE (VAWDASV): GWENT REGIONAL STRATEGY 2023 – 2027</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance and Partnerships.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and approved the Strategy (Option 1).</p>
	<p><u>PEOPLE AND EDUCATION PORTFOLIO MATTERS</u></p>
No. 18	<p><u>HOME TO SCHOOL AND POST 16 TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW 2024 – 2025</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Interim Corporate Director Education.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the Home to School and Post 16 Transport Policy 2024/25 (Appendix 1). (Option 1).</p>