



VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE – 19TH MARCH 2013

SUBJECT: DIGEST OF COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY: INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report from Caerphilly CBC contains a digest of committee reports containing items of interest for the voluntary sector. If there are reports of particular interest Members can request the committee report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to prepare a further report/take questions.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A quarterly summary of Caerphilly CBC committee reports selected as they contain areas of interest for the voluntary sector.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 All Caerphilly CBC reports relate to aspects of the Caerphilly County Borough Community Strategy.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The following reports have been selected as having particular interest on voluntary sector issues (note Members can request a full hard copy of any of the reports included):-

4.2 Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee, 10th December 2013

- 4.2.1 Review of the Operation and Parking Charges for Blue Badge Holders in Council Public Car Parks

Clive Campbell, Transportation Engineering Manager, presented the report, which provided details of the outcome of a review carried out on the operation and current parking charges for blue badge holders in the Council's off-street public car parks, and sought the views of Members on the proposed recommendations contained therein.

A consultation exercise was carried out on the charging and operation of car park facilities, and the response identified a number of key improvements that needed to be made. Members were advised that the costs would be met from future Engineering Services budgets over a phased period of time. The recommended improvements for blue badge holders included the creation of additional disabled parking bays, increasing the size of existing parking bays, introducing 1 hour extra free parking and the promotion of on-street parking exemptions.

Following discussion on the content of the report, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained therein be adopted. By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed.

Recommended to Cabinet that:-

- (i) additional disabled parking bays be provided in 12 pay and display car parks;
- (ii) a number of existing disabled parking bays be increased in size in 9 pay and display car parks;
- (iii) concession of 1 hour extra free parking for blue badge holders be introduced in all pay and display car parks;
- (iv) on-street parking exemptions for blue badge holders be better publicized / promoted.

4.2.2 Kerbside Collection of Recyclables – Update on Recycling Marketing Issues

Mark S. Williams, Head of Community and Leisure Services, presented the report, which provided an update on the current market conditions facing the UK's recycling industry and their impact upon the Authority's kerbside recycling collection service, and sought the views of Members on the proposed recommendations contained therein.

Members were advised that fluctuating market prices over recent months and an increase in demand for high quality input at material recycling facilities had impacted significantly on the Authority's kerbside recycling service. Mr Williams explained that the recycling team was encountering numerous inappropriate items that had been put out by householders for recycling, such as food, nappies, dead animals and garden waste, which could disrupt the process at recycling centres and lower the quality and value of recycled materials.

Following discussion on the content of the report, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained therein be adopted. By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed.

Recommended to Cabinet that:-

- (i) new literature be prepared/issued to all properties;
- (ii) work be undertaken with Communications to publicise what should be placed in a recycling bin and the consequence of not adhering to the guidance provided;
- (iii) the procedures outlined in section 4.15 of the report be developed as new Council policy.

It was agreed that an update on the new procedure would be provided to Members in 12 months time at the Scrutiny Committee meeting of December 2014.

4.3 Cabinet, 11th December 2013

4.3.1 Community Furniture Enterprise

The report updated Members on the existing and future funding and support provided by the Authority to the Community Furniture Social Enterprise (CFE). The Authority has, for many years, paid the CFE to undertake bulky collections on its behalf. During the financial year 2012/13 a total of 83 tonnes was reused, which contributes to the overall reuse and recycling achievements of the Authority and most importantly, diversion of these materials from landfill.

Members were informed that the CFE have proposed to develop a Community Repaint Reuse Project where water based paints, which have been deposited will be collected and offered for sale to the public at the CFE outlet. It is anticipated that the scheme could make savings on hazardous waste disposal costs.

Resolved that for the reasons contained in the officer's report, the following recommendations be approved: -

The continued payment of £14,000 pa to the CFE for the collection of furniture for reuse.

The funding of the £6,000 required to run the community re-paint scheme in year 1 and the continued funding thereafter where the savings in hazardous waste disposal are equal to or greater than this amount.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Equalities implications have been taken into account for a number of reports submitted to Cabinet and other committees.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None, this is an information paper only on the contents of Caerphilly CBC reports which contains items of interest for the Voluntary Sector Committee.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 Not applicable.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Members are invited (if they feel appropriate) to select any report for further consideration by the Committee by requesting the report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to take questions/prepare another report.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To ensure Members are fully briefed on items of interest for the Voluntary Sector.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: John Elliott, Senior Research Officer
Consultees: Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager