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Date: 11th January 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Cabinet** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 18th January, 2017** at **2.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

Chris Burns
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

	Pages
1 To receive apologies for absence.	
2 Declarations of Interest.	

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on the agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

3 Cabinet held on 14th December 2016.	
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1 - 6

A greener place Man gwyrddach



Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat

To receive and note the minutes of the following meeting(s):-

- | | | |
|---|--|--------|
| 4 | Future Generations Advisory Panel held on 29th September 2016. | 7 - 12 |
|---|--|--------|

To receive and consider the following reports on which executive decisions are required: -

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| 5 | Outcome of Informal Consultation on the Provisions to be Included in a Public Spaces Protection Order Relating to Dog Control. | 13 - 136 |
| 6 | Privately Owned Properties at Lansbury Park. | 137 - 140 |
| 7 | Rowan Place, Rhymney - Proposed Demolition of Flats - Block 65-68. | 141 - 146 |
| 8 | Newbridge School Specialist Resource Base. | 147 - 152 |

To receive and consider the following report, which requires a recommendation to Council:-

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| 9 | Review of Minimum Revenue Provision Policy. | 153 - 166 |
| 10 | Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022. | 167 - 236 |

Circulation:

Councillors D. Havard, Mrs C. Forehead, N. George, D.T. Hardacre, K. James, Mrs B. A. Jones, D.V. Poole, K.V. Reynolds, T.J. Williams and R. Woodyatt,

And Appropriate Officers.

Agenda Item 3



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2016 AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillors:

N. George (Community and Leisure Services), D. Hardacre (Performance and Asset Management), D. Havard (Education and Lifelong Learning), Mrs B. Jones (Corporate Services), D.V. Poole (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing), T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering) and R. Woodyatt (Social Services).

Together with:

C. Burns (Interim Chief Executive), C. Harry (Corporate Director - Communities) and N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151 Officer).

Also in Attendance:

S. Harris (Interim Head of Corporate Finance), A. West (School Admissions and Exclusions Manager), S. Richards (Principal Finance Officer), C. Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services) and C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs C. Forehead (Corporate Services), K. James and K. Reynolds and D. Street (Corporate Director - Social Services).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

3. CABINET – 30TH NOVEMBER 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th November 2016 (minute nos. 1 - 7) be approved and signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ON WHICH EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WERE REQUIRED

4. UPDATE ON RESERVES

The report, which was presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 15th November 2016, provided details of the usable reserves held by the Authority and consider proposals for the use of these reserves in some areas.

Members noted that usable reserves held by the Authority as at the 1st April 2016 totalled £122.622m, with details of these set out at Appendix 1 of the report. The report also summarised details of these reserves, which are held across a number of areas (General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Capital Reserves and individual directorates).

Members were advised that the actual General Fund opening balance as at the 1st April 2016 was £12.615m and after adjusting for the approved use of these balances during 2016/17, the projected balance as at the 31st March 2017 currently stands at £11.155m. This balance is above the minimum recommended level of £10m, which is circa 3% of the Authority's net revenue budget. The HRA usable reserves balance as at the 1st April 2016 was £21.218m, which is ring-fenced and cannot be transferred into General Fund balances. Most of this funding will be utilised for the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) Capital Programme. Capital Reserves totalled £39.156m as at the 1st April 2016 and these are ring-fenced for the Authority's Capital Programme, including approved matched funding for 21st Century Schools. Members were advised that capital reserves will be subject to a detailed review over the coming months and the outcome will be reported to the Scrutiny Committee in due course.

Sections 4.5 to 4.8 of the report provided details of the individual reserves held across each directorate as at the 1st April 2016 (totalling £49.633m). Following a review of these balances the report recommended that some uncommitted reserves should be released to General Fund balances.

Cabinet were also advised that the Reserves Strategy approved by Cabinet on the 27th July 2016 introduced a cap on the cumulative amount that can be held by Directorates in service underspend reserves. This cap is set at 3% of the net revenue budget for each Directorate. Where this is exceeded, then proposals must be presented to utilise the excess or a justification must be made to hold the reserves above the 3% level. Paragraph 4.9.3 of the report outlined proposals to utilise or retain the excess accumulated underspend reserves for Corporate Services, Education and Lifelong Learning and Social Services. Members noted that at its meeting on the 19th October 2016, Cabinet agreed to utilise £247k of the retained underspend of £305k for Environment to part-fund capital overspends.

Members thanked the Officer for the report and were asked to note that, as a result of the prudence and planning, funding can be offered to Schools in order to fund a number of initiatives in order to improve and support the Attainment agenda.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) the content of the report be noted;
- (ii) an earmarked reserve of £150k be established from the Local Management of Schools Contingency in respect of targeted support to raise GCSE attainment levels;
- (iii) the following reserves be released into General Fund balances:- Corporate Services – Policy (£32k), Corporate Services – Recruitment Advertising and

Legal Costs (£133k), Corporate Services – Housing Benefits (£100k) and Education and Lifelong Learning – Service Initiatives Reserves (£28k);

- (iv) accumulated underspend reserves above the 3% cap be utilised as detailed in the table in paragraph 4.9.3 of the report.

5. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2017-2018

The report sought the approval of Cabinet for the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2017/18.

Cabinet noted that the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995 as amended sets out the rules for the calculation of the Council Tax Base.

The Council Tax Base for discounted chargeable dwellings expressed as Band D equivalents has been calculated at 61,535.91 for 2017/18. This is a 0.19% increase on 2016/17 and a collection rate of 97% has been assumed. The Council pursues Council Tax arrears and this results in the collection rate of 97% being regularly exceeded and generates a council tax surplus, which is used to support the Authority's base budget.

Following the abolition of Council Tax Benefit in 2013/14 by the UK Coalition Government, Welsh Government (WG) decided to maintain entitlements under the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) until 31st March 2017. In November 2013 WG brought forward regulations placing a duty on local authorities to introduce Council Tax Reduction Schemes for 2014/15. This was extended for both 2015/16 and 2016/17. In addition WG have announced that they will continue to protect vulnerable and low income households by maintaining full entitlements for CTRS until the end of 2017/18.

Since 2014/15 funding for the CTRS has been included within the Revenue Support Grant at 2013/14 levels. Therefore, any increase in CTRS expenditure would have to be met by the Authority, as a result, it would be prudent to apply the same percentage increase in the Council Tax for 2017/18, to the total funds set aside for CTRS. An element of increased revenue from Council Tax would then need to be set aside to fund the increase CTRS costs.

Members thanked the Officer for the comprehensive report and expressed their gratitude for the hard work and dedication of staff on their prudence and as a result, providing positive recommendations.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) the Council Tax Collection rate of 97% remains unchanged for 2017/18.;
- (ii) CTRS funding is increased by the same percentage as the Council Tax for 2017/18. This will be funded by setting aside funding from anticipated Council Tax income as outlined in paragraph 4.6;
- (iii) The Council Tax Base for the year 2017/18 be £59,689.83 with the Council Tax Base for each community council area as outlined in paragraph 4.7.

6. ABERTYSSWG/PONTLOTTYN PRIMARY AND ISLWYN HIGH SCHOOL – REVISED PROPOSED OPENING DATES

The report sought the approval of Cabinet to notify relevant parties of the delay in implementation dates of the above projects.

Members noted that the Statutory Notice was published on 20th April 2015 and ended on 18th May 2015. This notice originally specified a new school opening date of 1st January 2017, however the business case processes became protracted, particularly in relation to the estimated costs of the scheme. The full business case (FBC) received final approval from Welsh Government (WG) on 13th June 2016.

Willmott Dixon was appointed as the Contractor and commenced site surveys and mobilisation in September 2016. In November 2016, a plan for the build programme was agreed and it is envisaged the scheme will be completed in December 2017, with the new school opening in January 2018.

In view of the delay in school opening, it was necessary to advise relevant parties in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2013. In addition, it was noted that the Council's Starting School book for 2016/17 has acknowledged this delay by not making any changes to existing arrangements for that academic year.

Cabinet noted that the Council published a Statutory Notice on 3rd March 2014 to discontinue Oakdale and Pontllanfraith Secondary Schools and establish a new school on the Oakdale plateau 3 site. This change took effect on 1st September 2016 insofar as Oakdale and Pontllanfraith Secondary Schools were discontinued and the new Islwyn High School was established, albeit operating initially on the 2 previous school sites.

The contractor (Wilmott Dixon) commenced the build programme in the summer of 2015 and it soon became evident that the school build would not be completed until end April 2017. However, the newly constituted Governing Body met in November 2016 and agreed to open the new school for staff on 26th June and pupils shortly after. The headteacher has kept key stakeholders up to date with the developments and timescales and update reports have been presented to Scrutiny Committee.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report the revised school opening dates be agreed to enable relevant parties to be advised as per School Organisation Code 2013.

7. CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

To seek Cabinet endorsement of the Forward Work Programme for the period January 2017 to March 2017, which outlined the proposed future Cabinet reports.

The Forward Work Programme is updated on a monthly basis to reflect any amendments that are made to it since it was first agreed on 22nd January 2014.

A more detailed Forward Work Programme will be reviewed during this period and a more detailed format will be developed.

Cabinet thanked the Officer for the report and requested the addition of a report on Child Burial Fees.

RESOLVED that subject to the addition of a report in relation to Child Burial Fees, and for the reasons contained in the Officer's report, the Cabinet Forward Work Programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 2.25pm

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 18th January 2017.

CHAIR

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FUTURE GENERATIONS ADVISORY PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON THURSDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 5:00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillors:

D. Havard, M. Adams, A. Blackman, C. Elsbury, C.P. Mann, and J.A. Pritchard.

Together with:

Rob Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), Kath Peters (Corporate Policy Manager), Paul Cooke (Senior Policy Officer) and Vicki Doyle (Policy Officer)

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors K. James, L. Jones, P. Leonard, K. Dawson and S. Kent.

1. WELCOME AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Havard welcomed attendees to the meeting. There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING 27TH JULY 2016

The minutes of the meeting of the 27th July 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. CORPORATE REQUIREMENTS UPDATE

Rob Hartshorn updated the Panel on the Council's progress in relation to its own duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. He explained that he had recently attended a number of meetings internally to share where we are.

He noted that at the moment our corporate priorities are not yet fully aligned with the Act as the Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan is not yet in place, however we are moving in this direction. He made reference to ICLIP, the 5-ways of working (Involvement, Collaborative, Long-Term, Integrated, Preventative) around the Sustainable Development principle.

He noted that as officers we have begun the process of changing the language around the corporate objectives and are now referring to them as well-being objectives.

There are seven core activities that are common to the corporate governance of public bodies as identified in the statutory guidance:

- Corporate planning
- Financial planning
- Workforce planning
- Procurement
- Assets
- Risk Management
- Performance Management

He discussed the work that is being done around each of the key activities in order for the Council to update the way it works to start to reflect the requirements of the Act. He gave an example in relation to Finance where the Council needs to be thinking 25 years into the future, even though we do not know what the likely budget will be from year to year.

In relation to the Council's decision making processes, he noted that the Corporate Management Team has agreed to amend the corporate reports template on a trial basis. From the 1st October 2016 there will be an extra section for officers to complete in relation to the WFG Act and how they have considered ICLIP in relation to what they are doing. A guidance note has also been developed to support this.

Rob stated that this approach would offer useful evidence for the Council to be able to satisfy the Future Generations Commissioner and the Wales Audit Office that it is embedding the WFG Act within the organisation, and it is also important that officers consider the Act and possible impacts on future generations in what they are doing.

He noted that the Future Generations Advisory Panel was a very important part of this process, and that the existence of this Panel was not evident in all Welsh local authorities.

Cllr Pritchard stated that there will be a big job to do in terms of educating the public about the implications of the WFG Act, and that it needed to be included in the National Curriculum so that children can take control over their own futures. She also made reference to the issue of electoral cycles and associated five year focus.

Paul Cooke noted that a member of his team had already done an exercise to map the WFG Act against different aspects of the curriculum, and it was agreed that this information would be shared with the Panel.

Cllr Mann noted that it was less about words on paper and more about what we actually do. He suggested the need for Directors to come to the Panel and explain how the WFG Act is being integrated into what each department is doing. Rob suggested that the Panel could have a programme to look at key areas in more depth and having more of a debate around the various issues – this suggestion was agreed by the Panel.

4. LOCAL WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT UPDATE – ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND EMERGING PRIORITIES

Paul Cooke described the detailed work that has been undertaken over the summer months to engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including professionals, the Third Sector and the general public, which are summarised below:

- Members of the Corporate Policy Team have organised or attended events such as a Viewpoint Panel meeting, the Armed Forces Day, the Big Cheese and GAVO Play Day.
- A series of five geographically based meetings were held, one in each of the five 'community areas' with a mixture of morning, afternoon and evening sessions.

- A 'Future Scenarios' meeting was held with a wide range of professionals from within the Council and partner organisations.
- Specific groups were targeted including the 50+ Forum, the Parent Network, Looked After Children, job seekers, LGBTQ community, and the Caerphilly Business Forum to name a few.
- A series of workshops packs were produced aimed at children and adults and were distributed to all schools within the county borough and other groups, to enable them to undertake their own workshops sessions and feed the results back
- Finally an on-line survey (with a hard copy version) was produced and publicised via social media.

Paul noted that all the information gathered from this engagement activity is being used to develop the Well-being Assessment, alongside other sources such as the catalogue of data developed by the Data Unit Wales, data held within the Council, and data contributed by partner organisations. He stated that a number of key themes are starting to emerge under the wellbeing goals:

A Prosperous Caerphilly

- Skills and education – low educational attainment
- High levels of long term illness
- Lack of entrepreneurship
- Integrated transport – opportunities offered by the Metro and City Deal

A Resilient Caerphilly

- Balancing protection of greenspace with development needs
- Fly tipping/dog fouling/litter – individual responsibility and respect for the environment
- Climate change – resilience to effects such as flooding; threats to biodiversity
- Longer term global pressures – food, water and energy security

A Healthier Caerphilly

- Inequalities across the county borough
- Wider determinants – Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Lifestyle behaviours – exercise, diet, smoking etc.
- Access to services – GP appointments, local A&E, dentists etc.

A More Equal Caerphilly

- Inequalities e.g. areas of multiple deprivation
- Equal access for all – education, transport, housing, employment etc.

A Caerphilly of Cohesive Communities

- Hate crime and intolerance
- Community responsibility – anti-social behaviour
- Older adult loneliness
- Immigration

A Caerphilly of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

- Cuts to cultural and arts funding
- Unable to access services in Welsh
- Gaps in data

A Globally Responsible Caerphilly

- Renewable energy/energy efficiency in buildings
- Education for Sustainable Development & Global Citizenship (ESDGC)
- Resource consumption

Common/cross-cutting themes

- Recognition that many issues/themes are interrelated – need to move away from silos
- Individuals need to take more responsibility
- Education and raising awareness of issues
- Need for a partnership approach

Paul explained that a mature draft of the Well-Being Assessment would be taken to the Public Services Board for approval at its meeting on 6th December. The document would then be sent out for final consultation. The aim is to publish the Assessment in early March to avoid the purdah period linked to the Local Government Elections in May 2017. The Assessment will be used by the PSB to start the process of developing its Well-being Objective and Plan, which have to be in place by May 2018.

It was agreed that a copy of the presentation be sent to Panel members for information.

Cllr Elsbury asked what age groups have been involved in the engagement activity around the Assessment. Paul explained that every attempt has been made to involve as many different age groups as possible, from children in primary/secondary schools, to the Youth Forum, to parents of young children, to the 50+ Forum and representatives of local community organisations.

Cllr Blackman noted that individuals taking responsibility for themselves and their local community is very important, as many people are always ready to blame someone else for their problems.

Cllr Pritchard noted that health inequalities are a big issue. She asked whether the public have identified this as a particular issue. Paul responded that this issue had come out more from the data analysis than the engagement activity, as often people don't regard their health as an issue as it was part of their daily lives.

Rob Hartshorn explained that the purpose was to deliver a balanced picture from the data and the engagement activity, and 'sense checking' whether the emerging findings are correct. He noted that health inequalities, particularly around life expectancy and healthy life expectancy, are an issue within the county borough, and even more so when considered against Wales and the UK as a whole.

5. LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN - TIMELINE

Vicki Doyle noted that following on from the timeline that was produced for undertaking the Well-being Assessment she had started to develop a draft timeline for the production of the Well-being Plan. She circulated a document which highlighted the work that needs to take place in order for the Plan to be published by May 2018.

She noted that there were a number of areas of work where there are statutory timescales that have to be met e.g. 14 weeks to gather information from partners and seek the advice of the Future Generations Commissioner; and 12 weeks formal consultation. This means that work will need to start on the preparatory work for the Plan (i.e. undertaking response analysis and agreeing well-being objectives) before the Assessment is finalised.

It was agreed that the draft timeline be circulated to the Panel for information.

6. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

Kath Peters circulated the draft forward work programme and noted that it would in future consider both corporate and collaborative responsibilities.

Cllr Mann requested that relevant officers be asked to attend future meetings to discuss what actions are taking place within their departments in order to meeting the requirements of the WFG Act.

The Panel requested more information on the Globally Responsible goal and what impact we can have within the county borough. It was agreed that this be put on the agenda for the November meeting.

Kath suggested that for each future meeting there should be one item relating to the process and another on an issue to be discussed in greater detail, and this was agreed.

The meeting closed at 6:20 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any amendments being recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2016.

CHAIRMAN

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CABINET – 18TH JANUARY 2017

SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE PROVISIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER RELATING TO DOG CONTROL

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151

- 1.1 The report was considered by the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 12th December 2016.
- 1.2 The Head of Public Protection introduced the report which detailed the outcome of the informal consultation on the provisions to be included in a public spaces protection order relating to dog control. Each of the restrictions as detailed in sections 4.9 to 4.15 of the Officers report were summarised and the informal consultation responses received for each outlined.
- 1.3 The Committee then heard representations from Councillor J. Pritchard and Ms D. Duffy on behalf of local residents and dog owners in the Morgan Jones ward and Mr Paul Smith of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) who spoke in general support of provisions detailed in sections 4.9 to 4.14 but expressed concern in relation to restriction 4.15 (excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches). Mr P. Budd, Secretary of Bargoed Rugby Club spoke in support of the protection order as presented and specifically for the restriction to exclude dogs from all council owned market sports/playing pitches.
- 1.4 The Committee fully discussed the report and considered each of the provisions in turn. In relation to restriction 4.15, Members expressed concern with regard to its impact on dog owners in more urban areas, where access to green spaces was limited and those with mobility or transport issues. Members were also concerned that responsible owners who dogs inadvertently strayed onto pitches could be prosecuted under the order but it would still not address those irresponsible dog owners continually failing to control their animals. Members were advised that robust training would be provided to enforcing officers, when implementing the order and a common sense approach adopted towards each individual incident. Members also reference the need to raise public awareness of the changes particularly during the early stages of the order and that consideration be given to increasing dog bin provision in certain areas.
- 1.5 Members noted and accepted the proposals set out in paragraphs 4.9 to 4.14 of the Officers report.
- 1.6 An amendment to recommendation 10.3 was moved and seconded in relation to the provision at paragraph 4.15 of the report to exclude dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches on a seasonal basis according to use and that this proposal be omitted from the next stage of the process and be revisited once the impact of the other provisions can be established and consideration be given to implementing an awareness raising campaign in relation to sports pitches and responsible dog ownership. By show of hands the amendment was carried in noting there were 2 against and 1 abstention. By a further show of hands the amended recommendation was carried and in noting there were 2 abstentions this was

agreed by the majority present.

- 1.7 It was moved and seconded that the outcome of the informal consultation relating to dog control findings from the informal dog control order consultation be noted and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that: -

i) restrictions: -

- Excluding dogs from enclosed children's play and multi-use game areas;
- A requirement to place dogs on a lead in all enclosed memorial gardens within the County Borough;
- A requirement to pick up after their dogs on all public land within the County Borough;
- A requirement for dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog/s produce within the County Borough;
- A requirement to place a dog on a lead by direction of no more than 2 metres in length when directed to do so by authorised officer, which could include local authority officers, police officers and/or PCSOs;

be included in the draft order and the statutory order making process, including formal consultation be commenced in relation to these restrictions with the outcome reported back to Cabinet for consideration.

ii) the restriction excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches on a seasonal basis be omitted at this stage of the process and be revisited once the impact of the other provisions can be established and consideration be given to implementing an awareness raising campaign in relation to sports pitches and responsible dog ownership.

- 1.8 Members are invited to consider the report and the above recommendations.

Author: E. Sullivan, Democratic Services Officer, Ext 4420.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Report – 12th December 2016 - Agenda No. 3



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12TH DECEMBER 2016

**SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE PROVISIONS TO
BE INCLUDED IN A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER RELATING
TO DOG CONTROL**

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Scrutiny Committee of the outcome of the Council's informal Consultation on proposals to use new powers available to tackle irresponsible dog ownership and dog fouling, by making a Public Spaces Protection Order.
- 1.2 To make recommendations to Cabinet on the provisions to be included in a proposed Public Spaces Protection Order.
- 1.3 To ask Cabinet to authorise the commencement of the statutory order making process (including formal consultation) on the final content of the draft Public Spaces Protection Order.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) were introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and can be used to regulate activities in particular public places to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces safe from anti social behaviour. As such, they provide an opportunity to enhance the Council's enforcement ability to respond to public opinion regarding dog fouling. This opinion manifested itself through complaints to officers and Members, the Council's Household Survey, and concerns raised through the Your Voice process.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 9th February 2016 the Health Social Care and Well-being Scrutiny Committee endorsed proposals to undertake an informal consultation on various provisions which may be included in a Public Spaces Protection Order relating to Dog Control, some of which replace existing powers whilst others are new.
- 2.3 The overview of the consultation responses (summary report) is attached at **Appendix 2**. The informal public consultation provided support for action against irresponsible dog owners even though the majority of responses received were from dog owners themselves. There was strong agreement with all of the proposals put forward, with exception of excluding dogs from sports pitches where opinion was more divided.
- 2.4 The views of Health Social Care and Well-being Scrutiny Committee are sought in relation to the content of the proposed draft Public Spaces Protection Order prior to seeking Cabinet approval to commence the statutory consultation process.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The prevention of dog fouling contributes to the Healthier and Greener themes of the single integrated plan, Caerphilly Delivers. Responsible dog ownership supports the Council's Medium Term Priority to promote the benefits of an active and healthy lifestyle.
- 3.2 The report seeks to highlight that the promotion and encouragement of good dog ownership can achieve the following well-being goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015:
- A sustainable Wales;
 - A prosperous Wales;
 - A more equal Wales;
 - A Wales of more cohesive communities;
 - Globally responsible Wales.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Public Spaces Protection Orders were introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act) and can be used to regulate activities in particular public places, to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. Whilst the Act allows local authorities to regulate activities in public places, the legislation specifies certain requirements which must be considered prior to making an Order.
- 4.2 A local authority may make a Public Spaces Protection Order if it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met. The first condition is that activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality or it is likely that the activities will be carried on in a public place and that they will have such an effect. The second condition is that the effect or likely effect is likely to be of a persistent or continuing nature, is likely to be such as to make the activity unreasonable and justifies the restriction imposed by the Order.
- 4.3 Members will recall that in advance of proceeding to make a draft Order under the Act the Committee endorsed proposals to undertake an informal public consultation exercise to seek residents' and stakeholders' views on the following proposals:
- Excluding dogs from all enclosed children's play and multi-use games areas;
 - Additional requirements for putting dogs on leads at all times in certain areas;
 - Requiring dogs to be kept on leads in enclosed memorial gardens;
 - Requiring dog owners to remove dog faeces in public places;
 - Requiring dog owners to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dogs produce (that is to always have the means to pick their dog faeces);
 - Requiring dog owners to put their dogs on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer on any public land where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing harm or distress to prevent a nuisance;
 - Excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches.
- 4.4 The consultation was open to residents and stakeholders for a period of 12 weeks from 1st April to 24th June 2016 and was preceded by wide scale communication via the local press and the Council's website, social media accounts and newsletter "Newslines". Communication continued through a variety of media throughout the consultation period with a view to raising awareness of the consultation and increasing the response rate.
- 4.5 The key consultation tool was a questionnaire (**Appendix 1**). This was made available bilingually to residents for online completion via the Council's Website and shared on social media. The survey was also provided in paper format at some key Council venues and paper and alternative formats were available on request.

- 4.6 Stakeholder groups were contacted directly via e-mail or in writing and invited to respond to the survey. Those contacted include the Kennel Club, Dogs Trust, RSPCA, Farmers Unions, Horse Society, Open Spaces Society, Ramblers, Parent Network, and Welsh Language groups, Voluntary Sector, Community Safety networks and all Head Teachers for the attention of parents. Members of the Youth and Junior Forums as well as young people at Youth Clubs from across the county borough were supported in completing the survey in a workshop setting.
- 4.7 A total of 456 questionnaires were completed online. Eighty-two young people aged 9-11 attended the Junior Forum meeting and eighty-nine 11-20 year olds completed the survey. A number of additional written responses were received from individuals and stakeholders. Of those who responded to the survey, 92% identified themselves as residents. An Assembly Member, a small number of elected members, business people and those representing a charity or organisation plus those who visit the county borough also completed the survey. 65% of those who responded were dog owners.
- 4.8 The full (*redacted*) consultation responses are included at Appendix 3 with a summary at Appendix 2. Set out below is an overview of responses received in respect of each proposal with recommendations in relation to the proposed content of the draft Order for members' consideration.

4.9 **Excluding dogs from Children's Play Areas and Multi Use Games Areas**

- 4.9.1 The consultation covered all enclosed children's playing area and multi use games areas within the County Borough. 88% of survey respondents agreed with this proposal as did most members of the Youth Forum and Junior Forum. The health and safety of the children and families using these facilities was the underlying issue within the responses received. Of those who disagreed, there were a number of comments about ensuring enforcement of legislation and educating irresponsible dog owners.

The Council currently excludes dogs from all enclosed children's play areas and multi use games areas (MUGAs) within the County Borough under existing Dog Control Orders and is proposing to continue with thin the proposed draft Order. A list of all the enclosed children's play areas /MUGAs are in Appendix 4.

Proposal

It is recommended that a draft Order is progressed to include a provision which makes it an offence to allow dogs onto all enclosed children's play areas and multi-use games areas within the County Borough. We believe that this is a proportionate response required to protect young children.

4.10 **Dogs on Leads in Enclosed Memorial Gardens**

- 4.10.1 The proposal to require that dogs are put on leads at all times in enclosed memorial gardens was supported by 91% of survey respondents. Responses emphasised the need for respect. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal. Of the few objections concern was expressed that the actions of a few were affecting responsible dog owners.

Proposal

It is recommended that a draft Order is progressed to include a provision requiring dogs to be put on leads at all times in enclosed memorial gardens in the County. We believe that this is proportionate response. The memorial gardens included in this proposal are listed in Appendix 4.

4.11 **Dog Fouling**

- 4.11.1 Currently the issue of dog fouling is addressed through the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, however the offence under this Act only covers certain designated land and therefore does not apply universally to all public land in the County Borough. PSPO's provide for a more wide ranging application of controls it may introduce such as dog fouling and may apply to all public places in the County Borough. This means a place to which the public or any section of the public have access on payment or otherwise as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.
- 4.11.2 The consultation outcome showed that 98% of those who responded to the survey agreed with the proposal to continue existing powers that makes it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to clean up its faeces. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.
- 4.11.3 It therefore remains evident from the consultation outcome that the failure to "pick up" after a dog has fouled is an important issue in the local environment generally, which has detrimental effect on the quality of life. The problem is likely to continue in nature unless the issue is addressed.

Proposal

It is recommended that a draft Order is progressed to include a provision requiring people to clean up after their dogs on all public land in the county, which is justified and is a proportionate and balanced response to the dog fouling problems in the county.

4.12 **Carrying an Appropriate Receptacle**

- 4.12.1 The consultation resulted in 92% of respondents agreeing with the proposal to introduce a new offence that would require dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog or dogs produce. RSPCA Cymru believed it would help to improve responsible dog ownership. Again, Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.
- 4.12.3 Whilst there was general overall agreement, a number of respondents felt that this would be difficult to enforce and that more dog waste bins would be required or that bins would need to be emptied more regularly. It was also felt that this proposal would need to be part of an effective communication campaign to ensure responsible dog owners are reminded to carry a supply of appropriate receptacles with them.
- 4.12.4 The Kennel Club raised concerns over this issue. They expressed the view that it would be perfectly plausible that this proposal would perversely incentivise dog walkers not to pick up. The example given was of an individual who witnessed their dog fouling and realising they were down to their final bag. A decision would result to retain their means to pick up and avoid being caught for not having a receptacle if approached or to pick up. They also raised the example of dog owners who would tie a bag to the lead without any intention of ever using it. Dog owners are expected to pick up after their dogs and it is reasonable to expect that when out with their dog they would have the means to be able to do so.

In consultation with Legal Services consideration can be given to including a definition of "appropriate receptacle" within the Order so as to minimise the potential for legal challenges in future.

Proposal

It is recommended that a draft order is progressed to include a provision to require a person in charge of a dog to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog or

dogs produce, within the County Borough. We believe that this is proportionate response and will help improve responsible dog ownership.

4.13 **Dogs on Leads by Direction**

- 4.13.1 Of those who responded to the survey, 92% agreed with the proposal to make it an offence to fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress or to prevent a nuisance. It would allow responsible dog owners who had their dogs under control to exercise their dogs whilst allowing the local authority powers to restrict those not under control. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.

Proposal

Due to the consistent consultation response it is recommended that a draft order is progressed to include a County-wide provision requiring dogs to be placed on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer of no more than two meters in length where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress or to prevent a nuisance. This is a fair, proportionate and balanced means of dealing with dog control issues as they occur, whilst allowing people to exercise their dogs off a lead provided that they are under control and not causing a nuisance.

4.14 **Additional requirements for putting dogs on leads at all times in certain areas.**

- 4.14.1 Of those who responded to the survey only 43% believed that other areas should be included. Examples included all public spaces, paths alongside public highways, canal tow paths and cycle ways. On review it is considered that of the areas highlighted, the provision in respect of dog fouling and putting dogs on leads by direction will address those concerns.

Proposal

It is therefore proposed to rely on the “dog fouling” and “dogs on lead by direction” provisions proposed above to address any dog fouling problems and dogs not properly controlled. We will be able to monitor to see how well they work, and to gather evidence to support the need for any further restrictions. If necessary, further PSPOs could be made in the future to address any ongoing problems.

4.15 **Excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches**

- 4.15.1 Of those who completed the survey 54% agreed with the proposal to introduce a new requirement that makes it an offence to allow dogs onto all marked sports playing pitches owned by Caerphilly CBC, with 46% of respondents against. The proposal was supported by local sports clubs. Youth Forum views agreed with the proposal to introduce the requirement. Amongst those in disagreement with the proposal, a number of issues were raised including the lack of an alternative open space for dogs to run off leads, and difficulty enforcing the proposal.
- 4.15.2 A number of older and disabled people disagreed with the proposal and cited age and mobility as reason. It was suggested that these are some of the few areas they can access easily and safely. In areas where park and sports fields share the same boundaries it would be quite easy for their dog to stray across the line of a marked playing field thus leaving them open to action.

The Kennel Club did not support proposals to introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open space as dog owners are required to provide their dogs with daily exercise and ask the authority to consider a seasonal restriction to allow dogs to exercise on playing fields when they are not in use. The Kennel Club also noted that compliance with such an order can be difficult for a dog walker if there are no boundaries around the playing field as when exercising their dogs off lead, dogs will not recognise the difference between playing

fields and other grassed areas. RSPCA Cymru would like to see proper enforcement, using the other powers contained within this PSPO, to target and tackle the dog fouling in these areas and to encourage better dog ownership of offenders.

The Kennel club also raised the point that dog owners are required under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to provide for the welfare needs of their animals and this includes providing the necessary amount of exercise each day. Their ability to meet this requirement would be greatly affected by the amount of publicly accessible parks and other public spaces in the area where dogs could be exercised without restrictions. It was highlighted that this part of the Animal Welfare Act was included in the statutory guidance produced on the use of PSPOs.

Owners may feel the need to keep dogs on leads simply to avoid the risk of them inadvertently straying onto pitches or they may avoid the adjoining open space areas all together.

- 4.15.3 The presence of dog faeces on sports pitches is a potential health hazard to all members of the public using those pitches. However one of the difficulties introducing exclusions that apply to marked sports pitches is that many of them are not enclosed. The positions of the pitches within a park can change during the year or from one year to the next, and pitch markings are not maintained all year round. During the closed season, the posts on football fields are removed and these areas revert to being public open spaces. Officers within Public Services have advised that rugby and football pitches would be deemed to be marked from the first Saturday in August to the last Sunday in May. Cricket pitches first week in May to the second Sunday in September. As such any proposed restrictions would be seasonal according to the type of pitch being used.

Participating in sport on a pitch where dog fouling is present is unpleasant and unhygienic. Dog fouling is a health hazard and can lead to toxocariasis in humans. Toxocariasis is caused by a parasite that can live in dogs' digestive systems. Eggs are released in the faeces of infected animals and contaminated soil. If someone ingests infected material, the eggs may hatch into larvae and can lead to toxocariasis. A list of the council owned sports pitches by reference to rugby football and cricket pitches are listed in appendix 4.

Proposal

It is recommended that a draft order is progressed to exclude dogs from marked sports pitches within the County Borough on a seasonal basis according to the specific uses identified above.

4.16 **Conclusion**

Based on the information set out above Members are asked to consider and recommend to Cabinet that it is recommended that a public space protection order is drafted to include the following provisions and taken on to the formal statutory process (including formal consultation).

- Excluding dogs from enclosed children's plays and multi-use game areas as defined in Appendix 4;
- A requirement to place dogs on a lead in all enclosed memorial gardens within the county Borough as defined in Appendix 4;
- A requirement to pick up after their dogs on all public land within the County Borough;
- A requirement for dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog/s produce within the County Borough;
- A requirement to place a dog on a lead by direction of no more than 2 meters in length when directed to do so by authorised officer, which could include local authority officers, police officers and/or PCSOs;
- An order excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches on a seasonal basis according to use as defined in Appendix 4.

It is considered that the above proposals are a fair, balanced and proportionate response to the current problems and addresses the views of the consultees. We believe that they are necessary and proportionate in terms of the controls that they impose, whilst recognising the right of dog owners and their needs for areas where they can exercise their dogs off lead for animal welfare reasons.

Appropriate signage will need to be erected to inform members of the public and dog owners if there is a PSPO in place in the area in relation to all the proposals outlined in the report. If there is evidence that the above orders are not adequate to deal with the current problems, the Council will be able to make further PSPOs at that stage to address any continuing problems.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

5.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act became law in April 2015. The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It will make public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. It will have a significant impact on all Council policies and priorities and has the potential to significantly affect the way we plan and deliver services and how we engage with individuals and communities within the Caerphilly county borough.

5.2 This proposals contribute to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above, as follows:

- Resilient. The proposals will contribute to a cleaner, safer environment by removing the likelihood of dog faeces and associated environmental issues;
- Healthier. The proposals are intended to minimise the public to the exposure to risk including the prevention of spread of disease from dog faeces and preventing injury from dog bites or the fear of walking in areas where dogs are being exercised without due control by their owners. It would also allow person to exercise with or without their animals in a safer more controlled environment;
- More equal. The exemptions included will allow for all groups to be involved;
- Cohesive communities – The consultation process has allowed all persons to be involved and will allow communities to be involved in making the proposals sustainable;
- Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language – The underlying objective is to enable people to participate safely in sport and recreation;
- Globally responsible –The proposals are intended to improve the environment within parks and all areas within the county Borough.

5.3 The proposals are consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle:

- Involvement - The proposals have been out to consultation where the views of the public have been sort on all the proposals. The proposals are intended to improve the area and make it safer for individuals to go about their daily routines without added risk. The involvement of the public as a whole from the outset will create ownership and participation to allow the orders to have a meaningful outcome. This would include actively encouraging individuals to report issues and incidents;
- Collaboration - Outside stake holders including sports clubs, the RSPCA, Kennel Club have also been involved and their views have been included in the considerations to allow the proposals to be subsequently sustainable;
- Long Term - The proposals look to reduce the public to both short term and long term risks relating to dog ownership and will seek to improve the living environment;
- Integration. The proposals contribute to health objectives through disease prevention. They also contribute to resilient objectives by promoting and ensure a clean safe environment;

- Prevention - The proposals are intended to minimise the public to the exposure to risk including the prevention of spread of disease from dog faeces and preventing injury from dog bites or the fear of walking in areas where dogs are being exercised without due control by their owners etc.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Dog Control Order and dog fouling legislation provides exemptions in particular cases for registered blind people, deaf people and for other members of the public with disabilities who make use of trained assistance dogs. Consideration will need to be given to the application of these exemptions across the different proposals.

An equalities impact assessment has been undertaken and used to inform the proposals resulting from the consultation.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The cost of producing and erecting new signage in the designated areas is estimated to be £20,000 which can be met from service reserves.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Temporary increase in workload to conduct the consultation and to develop the PSPOs. Any additional restrictions imposed may increase the potential for staff to be placed in confrontational situations. It would be important to ensure that the necessary training and procedures are in place so that staffs are able to assist with the expectations in relation to enforcement of these proposals. Increased workload for follow up enforcement requirement when orders are introduced.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 This report has been sent to the consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is recommended that members:-
- 10.2 Note the outcome of the informal consultation relating to dog control findings from the informal dog control order consultation.
- 10.3 Endorse the proposed restrictions to be included in a draft order at paragraph 4.16 of the report and recommend to Cabinet that the statutory order making process (including formal consultation) is commenced in relation to these restrictions with the outcome reported back to Cabinet for consideration.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To protect public health whilst providing suitable amenity for dog owners and to ensure that the council is compliant with its statutory obligations.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.
The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014.

Author: Lyndon Ross, Senior Environmental Health Officer
Consultees: Councillor Nigel George, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Councillor Lyn Ackerman, Chair of Health, Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Patricia Cook, Vice Chair, Health, Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Dave Street, Corporate Director, Social Services
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Ceri Edwards, Environmental health Manager
Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Lisa Lane, Solicitor
Anwen Rees Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
Shaun Watkins, Human Resources Manager
Mark S. Williams, Head of Community & Leisure Services
Mike Headington, Acting Parks Manager
Liz Sharma, Research Officer

Background Papers:

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Statutory guidance for frontline professionals.

Home Office

2014 DEFRA Practitioners guide on dealing with irresponsible dog ownership.

DEFRA

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 4 Consultation Questionnaire
Appendix 2 4 Summary Report
Appendix 3 4 Full [redacted] Consultation Responses
Appendix 4 4 List of enclosed children's playing areas, multi-use games areas, enclosed memorial gardens and council owned sports pitches.

Have your say on plans to introduce a public space protection order relating to dog control

Caerphilly county borough council has a number of existing powers which makes it an offence to allow a dog onto children's playgrounds and for a person in charge of a dog to fail to clean up its faeces. The Council is proposing to strengthen and extend these powers through introducing a Public Space Protection Order relating to dog control. Caerphilly county borough council wants to know your views on the proposed changes to dog control powers, particularly on the introduction of new dog control offences.

It is recommended that you read the background information before completing this questionnaire.

I am completing this survey as

- As resident of the County Borough Representing a charity or organisation
 As a business person Other
 As an elected member

Please give details below

Are you a dog owner?

- Yes No

What is your postcode?

Dog Fouling

The Council is proposing the continuation of the existing powers that make it an offence if a person in charge of a dog fails to clean up its faeces. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal? (Please tick one)

- Agree Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

Page 24

The Council is proposing to introduce a new offence which would require dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog/s produce. This would require dog walkers to carry a poop bag or other means for clearing up after their pet at all times. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal? (please tick one)

Agree

Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

Dog Exclusion in Specified Areas

The council is proposing to continue existing power that make it an offence to allow dogs onto all enclosed children's play areas and multi use games areas within the County Borough. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal? (tick one)

Agree

Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

The council is proposing to introduce a new requirement that makes it an offence to allow dogs onto all marked sports playing pitches owned by Caerphilly CBC. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal? (tick one)

Agree

Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

Dogs on Leads

The Council is proposing a new offence for failing to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress or to prevent a nuisance. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal?

Agree

Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

The Council is proposing the introduction of a new requirement for putting dogs on leads at all times in enclosed memorial gardens? Do you agree or disagree with this proposal? (please tick one)

Agree

Disagree

Please give reasons for your answer in the box below:

Are there any other areas that you feel the Council should introduce a requirement for dogs to be kept on a lead?

Yes

No

Please use the box below to make any suggestions as to the locations where it would be appropriate to require dogs to be kept on a lead and to explain your reasons for your suggested locations.

If you feel that any of these proposals will affect you as an individual because of any of the following (age, disability, ethnic origin, gender, gender reassignment, marital status, religious belief or non-belief, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality or responsibility for any dependents) please give details below.

Please use the box below to make any additional comments you may have relating to the above proposals:

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Please return your survey to any of the main council offices or your nearest library, leisure centre or customer first centre. If you prefer, you can also return the survey in the post to Public Engagement Officer, Communications Unit, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Penallta House, Tredomen park, Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7PG

Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control) Consultation

Summary Report

Introduction

Public Space Protection Orders can be used to regulate activities in particular public places, to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. A report, presented to the Health Social Care and Well-being Scrutiny Committee on 9th February 2016, outlined proposals to undertake an informal consultation relating to the making of a Public Spaces Protection Order relating to Dog Control.

Health Social Care and Well-being Scrutiny Committee agreed that a 12 week informal consultation would take place to seek residents' views on the following:

- Excluding dogs from all enclosed children's play areas
- Additional requirements for putting dogs on leads at all times in certain areas
- Requiring dogs to be kept on leads in enclosed memorial gardens
- Requiring dog owners to remove dog faeces in public places
- Require dog owners to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dogs produce (that is to always have the means to pick their dog faeces)
- Requiring dog owners to put their dogs on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer on any public land where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing harm or distress to prevent a nuisance
- Excluding dogs from all council owned marked sports/playing pitches.

Method

The consultation was open to residents and stakeholders for a period of 12 weeks from 1st April to 24th June 2016.

The consultation period was preceded by wide scale communication via the local press and the Council's website, social media accounts and newsletter "Newline". Communication continued through a variety of media throughout the consultation period with a view to raising awareness of the consultation and increasing the response rate.

The key consultation tool was a questionnaire (**Appendix 1**). This was made available bilingually to residents for online completion via the Council's Website and shared on social media. The survey was also provided in paper format at some key Council venues and paper and alternative formats were available on request.

Stakeholder groups were contacted directly via e-mail or in writing and invited to respond to the survey. Those contacted include the Kennel Club, Dogs Trust, RSPCA, Farmers Unions, Horse Society, Open Spaces Society, Ramblers,

Countryside Alliance, Keep Wales Tidy, all sports clubs and societies, Town and Community Councils, the Caerphilly County Borough Viewpoint Panel, 50+ Forum, Parent Network, Welsh speakers, Voluntary Sector, Community Safety Networks and all Head Teachers for the attention of parents. Members of the Youth and Junior Forums as well as young people at Youth Clubs from across the county borough were supported in completing the survey in a workshop setting.

Key Findings

A total of 456 questionnaires were completed online. Eighty-two young people aged 9-11 attended the Junior Forum meeting and eighty-nine 11-20 year olds completed the survey. A number of additional written responses were received from individuals and stakeholders.

Of those who responded to the survey, 92% identified themselves as residents. An Assembly member, a small number of elected members, business people and those representing a charity or organisation plus those who visit the county borough also completed the survey.

65% of those who responded were dog owners.

Dog Fouling

Ninety eight percent of those who responded to the survey agreed with the proposal to continue existing powers that makes it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to clean up its faeces. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.

"All responsible dog owners are already picking up after their dogs, those who do not need to be punished"

"As A Dog Owner I Totally Agree With This, I'm Fed up of other people's dogs fouling outside my house where I clean up after my dog."

Carrying an Appropriate Receptacle

Ninety two percent of respondents agreed with the proposal to introduce a new offence that would require dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle for dealing with the waste that their dog/s produce. Again, Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal. Whilst there was overall agreement, a number felt that this would be difficult to enforce and that more dog waste bins would be required or that bins would need to be emptied more regularly.

"AGREE - However, this will be very difficult to police and/or notice whether they are carrying the bags etc."

"As a dog owner I always carry poop bags for my dog and always have a few spare if others need it. However I think more bins need to be installed within the area and the existing bins need to be cleaned more regularly to encourage people"

Dog Exclusion in Specified Areas

Children's Play Areas

The council is proposing to continue existing power that make it an offence to allow dogs onto all enclosed children's play areas and multi-use games areas within the County Borough. Eighty eight percent of survey respondents agreed with this proposal as did most members of the Youth Forum and Junior Forum.

"it is a children's area, they should be free to run unafraid of dogs or their mess!"

"Not only the hazard of dog mess - some children are scared of dogs and causes distress."

Of those who disagreed, there were a number of comments about ensuring enforcement of legislation and educating irresponsible dog owners.

Sports Pitches

Fifty four percent of those who completed the survey agreed with the proposal to introduce a new requirement that makes it an offence to allow dogs onto all marked sports playing pitches owned by Caerphilly CBC. The proposal was supported by local sports clubs. Youth Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal. The only group where more people disagreed with the proposal than agreed was the Youth Forum.

"A health issue whereby dog faeces on a pitch is dangerous. Dogs and people running, playing sport are not a good mix."

"These sports areas are used by children and adults alike and when using these areas can get their hands or faces in this mess. Have seen dog mess on rugby fields etc!"

"As a local rugby coach for children it's an ongoing problem, not just with dog mess but nuisance dog running into playing/training pitch which can be worrying for both children and parents."

Amongst those in disagreement with the proposal, a number of issues were raised including the lack on an alternative open space for dogs to run off leads, and difficulty enforcing the proposal. The Kennel Club will not support proposals to introduce blanket restriction on dog walkers accessing public open space as dog owners are required to provide their dogs with daily exercise and ask the authority to consider a seasonal restriction to allow dogs to exercise on playing fields when they are not in use. The KC also noted that compliance with such an order can be difficult for a dog walker if there are no boundaries around the playing field as when exercising their dogs off lead, dogs will not recognise the difference between playing fields and other grassed areas. RSPCA Cymru would like to see proper enforcement, using the other powers contained within this PSPO, to target and tackle the dog fouling in these areas and to encourage better dog ownership of offenders.

"Dogs enjoy and require off lead exercise and this would reduce the amount of safe places to do this. With the other measures introduced and controlled properly there should not be any incident of dog fouling on these pitches"

"Rather than punish responsible people that obey rules and care for their animals and the environment, you should concentrate on catching the offenders."

"Most of the enclosed parks where dogs can run free within the town centre also have parts of the ground marked off for sport. It is difficult to stop a dog running onto these areas when off lead."

"If dogs are prohibited from local playing fields, I believe it will cause a substantial breakdown in the community spirit."

Dogs on Leads

Of those who responded to the survey, 92% agreed with the proposal to make it an offence to fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer where the dog is considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress or to prevent a nuisance. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.

"Agree as even dog is friendly it can be over excited and children can be knocked over"

"All dogs should be under the control of owners wherever they are"

"How is this to be controlled? Are you going to propose hiring sufficient dog wardens to cover the whole county? if not the law will fail and be unenforceable."

Memorial Gardens

The Council's proposal to make it a requirement that dogs are put on leads at all times in enclosed memorial gardens was supported by 91% of survey respondents. Youth and Junior Forum views reflected those of the wider public in relation to this proposal.

"Cannot understand why an owner would be offended by this, seems a responsible thing to do."

"It would be disrespectful to do anything else but have you dog leashed"

Other comments

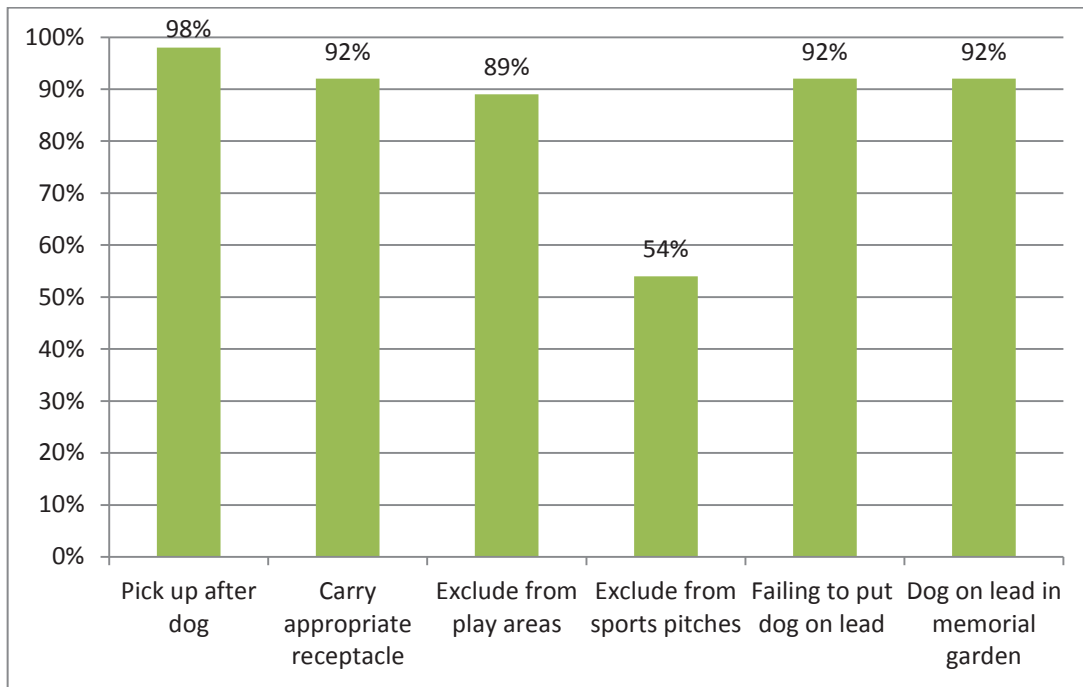
Just over 180 people suggested further areas where they felt the Council should introduce a requirement for dogs to be kept on a lead. A number suggested that areas close to schools, town centres and along canal towpaths should be considered.

Those with physical disabilities and older people with mobility issues raised concerns over restricting their ability to exercise dogs if dogs were not allowed off leads in local parks.

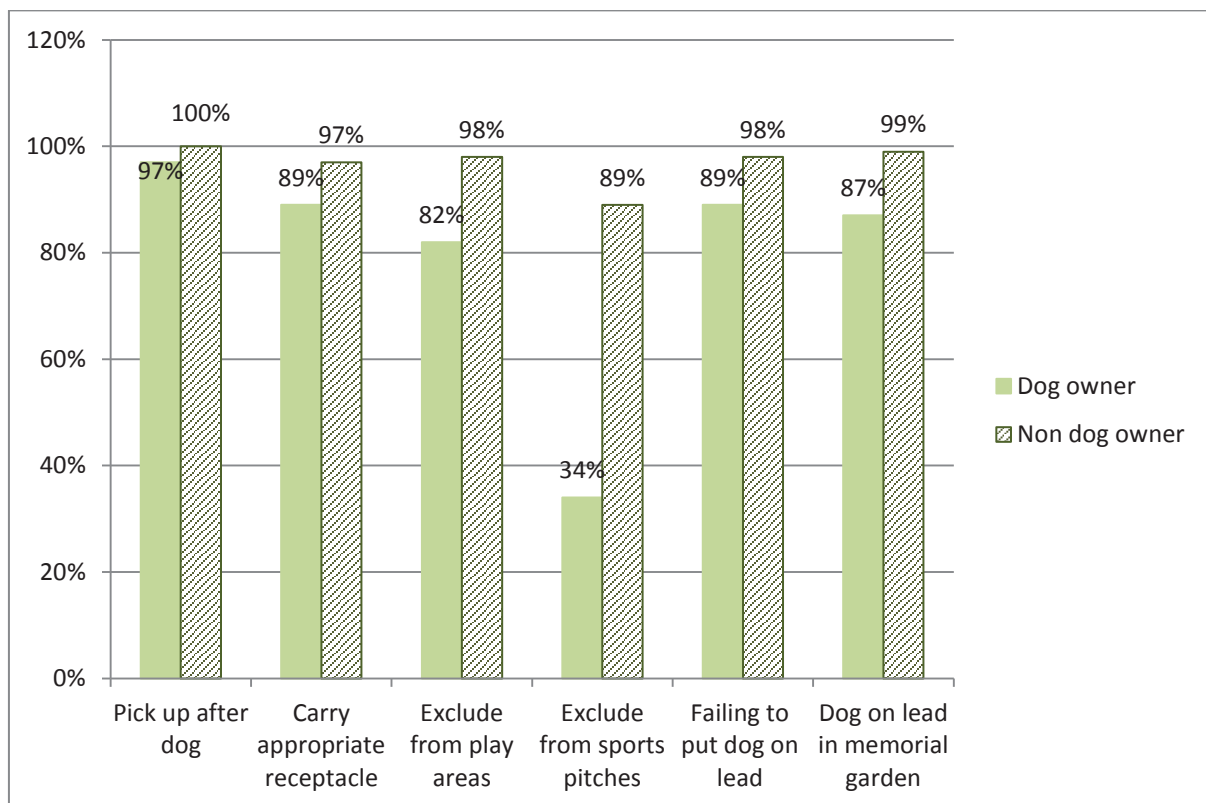
"These proposals do not affect me as such, but could be considered discriminatory against various groups with reduced mobility issues due to placing undue restrictions on where dogs can be exercised."

Summary

There was strong agreement with all of the proposals put forward, with exception of excluding dogs from sports pitches where opinion was divided. Where there was agreement, concerns were raised over resources available for enforcement, without which, any changes to the law could become meaningless.



As highlighted in the graph below, there was a significant difference in the response of dog owners and those who do not own dogs, particularly in relation to excluding dogs from sports pitches.



PSPO Consultation April 2016 Frequency Tables

I am competing this survey as

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	As resident of the County Borough	419	91.9	92.3	92.3
	As a business person	5	1.1	1.1	93.4
	As an elected member	4	.9	.9	94.3
	Representing a charity or organisation	6	1.3	1.3	95.6
	Other	20	4.4	4.4	100.0
	Total	454	99.6	100.0	
Missing	System	2	.4		
Total		456	100.0		

Are you a dog owner?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	289	63.4	64.7	64.7
	No	158	34.6	35.3	100.0
	Total	447	98.0	100.0	
Missing	System	9	2.0		
Total		456	100.0		

Pick up after dog

The Council is proposing the continuation of the existing...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	442	96.9	98.2	98.2
	Disagree	8	1.8	1.8	100.0
	Total	450	98.7	100.0	
Missing	System	6	1.3		
Total		456	100.0		

Part of the responsibility of owning a dog is to ensure faeces are picked up whenever the dog fouls.
A responsible person does this. Perhaps the council should use a PSPO to make residents and their children clean up litter at bus stops, green spaces and events. Especially nappies etc.
Absolute nuisance small minority of irresponsible owners give the rest of us a bad name. More needs to be done to stop these owners
Absolutely agree that dog owners should carry the means to pick up their dog faeces, it should also be an offence to leave the bags on the ground.
Absolutely correct but needs officers to patrol dog walking areas on a regular basis
Agree 100% with this - the streets, parks, sports pitched etc. should be free from dog mess!
all dog fouling should be cleaned up. As a responsible dog owner i do that.
All dog owners need to be the responsible and pick up after their dog.
All dog owners need to take response
All dog owners should be responsible for picking up after their dogs , not just the responsible owners. If they don't then they should be fined
All dog owners should clean up dog mess
All dog owners should pick it up as its not nice when a child steps in it. The dog could be poorly e.g. parvo which is highly contagious and a high risk of death to other dogs. You can't enjoy a walk without constantly watching the floor so you miss dog poo.
All faeces should be picked up. More bins are needed or emptied regularly.
All messes made (whether dog related or not) should be the responsibility of the person who caused them and should be cleaned up by them.
All owners should clean up after their dog. I frequently pick up other's mess when my dogs do theirs alongside it. However I have also been harassed by non-dog owners who seem to think I am not equipped to pick up (i.e. when I have bags in by pocket) seeming to believe that I need to have a shovel & a bucket in order to do so. Some residents are extremely ignorant about & far too quick to point the finger.
All responsible dog owners are already picking up after their dogs, those who do not need to be punished
All responsible dog owners should have the means to pick up after their dogs, and do so every time. However, the council should also ensure there are plenty of dog litter bins provided in dog walking areas.
All responsible dog owners would already do this.
All responsible owners carry bags to pick up the faeces
all responsible owners will clean up after their dogs
Although I have recently moved to Rogerstone, I spend a lot of time in Risca and the amount of dog faeces I see is considerable.
Ant sensible owner will do this. However there are too many stupid ones. These types of people largely have inappropriate dogs. The best solution is reintroduction of licences.
Any dog owner who fails to be responsible should be made to understand the potential risk they cause to children, animals and residents in the county. It is not hard to pick up after your dog.
As a dog owner for more than 50 years this is more than reasonable.
As a dog owner I always pick up after my dogs. I want walking my dog to be pleasurable. It is good manners and helps to keep our environment clean and tidy. My reply would be exactly the same for litter dropping - the latter taking away the pleasure from walking my dog.
As a dog owner I am committed to cleaning up after him. I too, hate faeces left for one to tread in.
As a dog owner I feel that all dog owners should be responsible and pick up any mess that their dog produces. I think it is the responsible thing to do when you have a dog. I hate stepping in dog mess and therefore always ensure I have multiple poo bags on me on every walk.
As A Dog Owner I Totally Agree With This, I'm Fed up of other people's dogs fouling outside my house where I clean up after my dog.

As a regular walker in the park it is obvious that people are not adhering to the rules, also along the pavement where I live.
As a responsible dog owner I feel it is unfair that people let their dog run off a lead and don't bother picking up after their dogs. There should be more officers patrolling and issuing fines.
As a responsible Dog owner, it is only right that this is expected
As I am someone that walks the Senghenydd cycle track there are I'm afraid dog owners that do not clean up after their dogs and you have to constantly look at where you are walking or end up with mess on your shoes!
..... I live en route towards the masonic hall in Blackwood and in the location of all the shopping area towards Asda where dog owners leave faeces. The whole of these areas is a very favourite walking area for people walking their dogs and leaving faeces.
Aside from the health risk, it's simply disgusting to have to look at/smell & avoid dog mess
Because it is a health hazard leaving dog poo. However the Council need to put more dog bins around, especially at Pen y Fan pond where people leave the full bags as litter!
because I am sick and tired of some dog owners who do not clean up after there dogs especially on land where children play.
Because I walk grandchildren to and from school and sometimes dog faeces is an issue', Also we sometimes have dog faeces on the pavement outside our home.
Because it is unhygienic
Because it's about taking pride in the environment we live in, aswell as a health issue.
Because none of us likes taking walks and play dodge the stinking pile. We all find it disgusting - whether you have a dog or not.
Because not only is it unpleasant for children and local walkers to tread in, it puts children at risk of eye problems - toxicaria?
Because of the harm it causes, the disgusting smell and mess that uncaring dog owners leave on our pavements, roads, paths, playing fields and walking spaces.
Because some of them do not pick up the mess they make....
Being a member of the local rugby club, we have to carry out a thorough search of the playing fields before every game to check for dog mess, and we regularly have to clean it away before the game can be played.
But it won't stop people due to lack of bins
Charged with an offence will help in their educational and social inability.
Children stepping in dog faeces is unpleasant and unhealthy to the individual.
Cleaner streets, owners should know their responsibilities.
Cleaning up after a dog must be done - it is the owners responsibility
Cleaning up after your dog must be expected of every dog owner
Cleaning up makes areas much more pleasant for everyone.
Clearly not doing so leaves a potential health risk to anyone who has the misfortune (children especially) of accidentally touching or handling such excrement (such as when playing etc).
Danger to children playing on grassed areas. It is sometimes awkward to avoid on footpaths in busy areas, and it is unpleasant when litter picking even with gloves on.
Danger to health Gets on shoes, buggy wheels, shopping trolley wheels, so it transported everywhere
Disagree, most owners are responsible and the Council want to penalise us for the people who are not responsible dog owners. Many of us are seniors and can't exercise dogs other than public spaces.
Dog faeces are a health hazard
Dog faeces Carey's a disease that can blind a person if they come in contact with dogs that have not been wormed
Dog faeces is unhygienic.
Dog faeces present a real health hazard to other residents and children.
Dog faeces spoil days out in the park, walks along the canal towpath and are dangerous for people playing on sports fields.
Dog foul is unsightly and dangerous. It is a dog owners responsibility to clean up after a dog.
Dog fouling carries known deceases and must be controlled even eradicated
Dog fouling continues to be one of the major issues that adversely affects my street and neighbourhood.

Dog fouling has no place in a modern society. Dog are accountable for their behaviour and fouling
dog fouling is a major problem on public footpaths, as my husband is registered blind this causes major problems for him
Dog fouling is a massive problem in this area and can pose a significant health hazard as well as being antisocial
Dog Fouling is a nuisance and a public health hazard. Failure to enforce leads to hot spots where some dog owners think it is acceptable to foul, e.g. back alleys.
Dog fouling is a problem/issue for all residents. Responsible owners will (and do) pick up! There needs to be more enforcement for irresponsible owners who do not pick up. Is issuing 35 FPN's in a year acceptable?
Dog fouling is anti social and a serious health risk
Dog fouling is disgusting and hazardous, responsible dog owners should clean up after their dogs or be punished otherwise
Dog fouling is harmful
Dog fouling is not only a nuisance but a health hazard, especially where young children play. This is particularly an issue in the lanes near and around my home and my parents and in Bargoed Park. More dog wardens or controls need to be in place to identify irresponsible dog owners who allow their dogs to freely foul where children play.
Dog fouling is still a problem
Dog fouling on pavements or playing fields is disgusting and unhygienic.
Dog fouling ruins public spaces
Dog fouling where I live is huge problem
Dog mess in public areas is an annoyance that can easily and quickly be reduced by the imposition of maximum fines which should cover the staffing costs. When costs exceed fines the battle may have been won and staff levels reduced accordingly.
Dog mess is a real issue in the borough and if anything getting worse This is particularly pre elect on playing areas and pitches In Machen ... have to pick up faeces before every game and training session
Dog mess is a real problem in our area; in the grass if the memorial garden in Cwmcarn and the surrounding pavements. Our front door opens directly onto the pavement and often has dog mess outside the door. As the mother of a young child this is totally unacceptable for this to literally be on our doorstep on a regular basis.
Dog mess is unsightly and unhygienic. It takes 2 seconds to pick it up and a roll of poo bags cost £1 or less. There really is no excuse not to clean up after your dog. In the six years of me owning my dog, I have never left his mess. I have always cleaned up after him.
Dog mess spreads disease as well as making the area look and smell unpleasant. Responsible dog owners already clean up after their pets.
Dog owners must be made to be responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.
Dog owners must take the responsibility of cleaning up after their dogs.
Dog owners need to be responsible for cleaning up.
Dog owners should always remove their dogs faeces from public areas. It is a health hazard.
Dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up after their animal
Dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up their dog's faeces
Dog owners should be responsible for their actions if they don't pick up dog mess and should be an offence as I think it is worse than litter dropping.
Dog owners should be responsible for their animals as it can transmit disease if left in public places where children may come into contact with it.
Dog owners should be responsible for their animals, also it can be very dangerous.
Dog owners should be responsible for their dogs mess
Dog owners should pick up after their dogs.
Dog ownership is a choice made by the owner and cleaning up after your dog must be considered when making that choice. One persons choice to own a dog should not be allowed to have a negative impact on others.
Dog poop is a major problem in Caerphilly, especially the back lanes through Churchill park

Dogs are a nuisance and even when on a lead they are rarely under control. They are intimidating to my young granddaughters even when so called responsible owners say 'they are being playful '. They usually mess at will and few people clean up after them. In the local parks they are a damn pest. Chasing after a ball when the kids are playing. Either give dog owner a dog only area or confine them to the gardens of the people who own them I am equally appalled by eateries allowing dogs in.
Elderly people may not be able to bend down to do so and some dogs who may never take such action while out may do so occasionally while quite out of character when the owner is not prepared.
every day I witness dog mess on blackwood showfield. Dog owners are oblivious to the dogs fouling as they are not on leads and busy talking to other dog owners. I am continuously using a shovel from this mess and placing it on the path so everyone can see what is going on. Also while kicking a football on the showfield or running on the path many times are certain dogs not on lead are aggressively disrupting the enjoyment.
Every RESPONSIBLE owner will always pick up after their dog because we enjoy the areas we walk and exercise our pets, it annoys us more than others when the areas we walk are covered in faeces left by owners who have never cleaned up after their pets and never will... its all well and good making an offence but as there are limited staff in place to enforce these rules and they are never around at the times most people walk their dogs the likelihood of catching anyone is remote.
Every responsible dog owner should clean up after their pet.
Everybody should pick up. There is far too much mess of all sorts left in public places.
everyone has to take responsibility.
Everyone needs to clean up behind their dog. Come down heavy on people that don't. Have a zero tolerance policy and a site where we can upload photos or videos of people who don't clean up
Everyone should clean up after their dog (I have three dogs). If they did the Council would not have this problem and I would not be filling in this form!
Everyone should pick up their dog mess
Failing to pick up your dog's faeces ultimately means you are not responsible enough to have a dog.
Fed up of seeing dog faeces on pavements in Senghenydd.
fed up of the dog mess around the village
Fed up with dog poo on public paths and parks and where children play.
Fine them heavily to teach them.
Fouling is a threat to health, any measures to enforce matters to arrest this situation has my full support. I am having to clean up mess frequently on the pavement outside my house.
Fully agree. Those people who fail to clean up after their pets are putting the health and wellbeing of the community at risk, not to mention the aesthetic issues caused by pavements and fields splattered and smeared in faeces.
Health and safety Aesthetic objections
Health and safety of children and welfare of all.
Health and safety. Reduce danger of contamination caused by dog mess.
Health hazard. Unsightly and smelly. Cost to tax payer for clearing and sterilizing
Health hazards ... Dog mess - the amount on public paths is so dangerous and disgusting.
Health hazards, also unsightly.
health reasons
However, I believe a reasonable attempt to clean up should not be an offence if the faeces cannot be entirely dealt with due to its consistency. The move would be counter productive if reasonable dog owners become criminalised where as those who make no effort to clean after their animals are not dealt with effectively because they ignore enforcement.
Hygiene reasons
Hygiene, to be fair to other people who walk pavements, parks etc
i agree ,we need more dog wardens as i have seen dog owners not pick up and have been told to f**k off when i have said excuse me your dog has just made a mess
I agree because it stops your own pet from picking up any diseases and also it is not nice to see any dog foul on the ground

I agree but more bins and emptying services are required. Litter needs to be cracked down on too as walking my dog in some areas puts her at risk.
I agree in principle. It is not always easy to pick up every time, as (apologies if this is graphic, but as a dog walker myself I've had these problems) sometimes a dog will have diarrhoea, which is almost impossible to clean up well, or the dog will relieve itself in a spot that is difficult or even dangerous for a person to try and reach - the edge of a drop or canal, for example. However, I believe reasonable effort should always be made by the dog walker, even if this means using a stick or similar to push the faeces away to somewhere where nobody can step in it.
I AGREE SIMPLY BECAUSE IT RE-ENFORCES THE NEED FOR OWNERS TO BE RESPONSIBLE OWNERS FOR THE WELFARE HEALTH AND ACTIONS OF THIER PETS
I agree strongly as a dog owner who always cleans up after their dog. It doesn't take a few seconds and helps keep the area cleaner.
I agree with this but I also think the council should provide more bins for dog faeces only.
I agree with this point, however, littering throughout the Borough needs to be addressed. Additionally, there is an issue with cat fouling which is being blamed on dog owners. Not all cats will bury their mess, most people seeing cat mess will then assume that a dog has left it. A recent study has found that Toxicara is five times more prevalent in cat faeces than dog faeces. Are proposals in place to enable dog owners to report irresponsible owners who fail to clean up?
I agree with this statement because children will stand in it, also it looks horrible when you are walking down the street and you have to see it. Dog owners will also let their dog/dogs poo in front of your someones house!
I agree. I have also witnessed dog owners cleaning up the mess but leaving the bag full of mess on the ground! This should also be an offence.
I also think a much higher penalty should be enforced. I am so sick of disrespectful people spoiling our streets, countryside etc. I literally have to steer my children away from a horrendous amount of dog poo on our route home from school, its an obstacle course! Why are you letting these people continually get away with this, its so disgusting & would never be allowed in other countries.
I am a volunteer for ... rugby team in Risca and each season I pick up approx 30 lots of dog excrement so that the children can play rugby without getting covered in faeces. In addition to this, 2 players have been bitten by dogs and 1 has been knocked over and trampled by a dog that was out of the control of the handler. Dog owners are hostile if you ask them to keep dogs off a pitch. a rugby pitch where dogs are allowed to roam and the area is used as a toilet for dogs - most owners pick up, but some don't sadly. In addition to this, whenever I go for walks along the canal/on forest paths, there's always dog excrement that you need to avoid. It's disgusting.
I am a responsible dog owner and do not wish to be prosecuted by CCBC.
I am a responsible dog owner and if I can pick up after my dog, then so can others.
I am a responsible dog owner, there are already enough restrictions on where we can take our dogs to play, this is another piece of legislation that will have little or no effect on this that you intend to target. Perhaps you should police the areas that the problems occur and provide on the spot fine for things like dog fouling and not waste your money on this inappropriate piece of legislation.
I am a responsible pet owner and this pet is walked regularly in the area. There is nothing more obnoxious than having to avoid mess left by irresponsible owners.
I am a secretary of a football club. We use one of the CCBC playing fields. Before every game we play we have to pick dog faeces. It is a risk to people's health
I am fed up of picking up other dog owner's mess!!
I am fed up with trying to dodge dogs mess on the pavements and lanes and more annoying dog owners allow their dogs to foul in my garden (which has a public right of way through it) leaving me to pick it up, disgusting!!

I am sick of finding dog faeces up from outside my front & back of my house and in the road. I am partially sighted and have stepped in it taking it into my house & my car and then had to clean it up. If you want a dog you should be responsible and clean it up. People can change their babies nappies, but not pick up after their dogs. However, how do you propose for a person to deal with a dog with liquid diarrhoea as that cant be cleaned up. There must be some sort of exclusion to this as well.
I am sure no-one even dog owners want to see dog faeces on pavements or in park areas
I am. Concerned about the fouling of dog faeces in the community particularly the fact that young children could be blinded and it makes the borough look unkempt.
I believe that any dog owner or the person in charge of the dog(s) should at all times clean up any faeces made by that dog(s), they should be in control of them at all times when in a public place.
I believe these specific powers are necessary in the interests of public health.
I clean up after my dog & think others should too, however I do think humans need to clean up after themselves, more rubbish than dog fouling along the walks.
I clean up after my dog has gone to the toilet. I am also involved with a rugby team, and before the game myself and others have to check the field.
I completely agree with this, dog fouling is a major issue where I live and it's unacceptable that people continuously fail to clean up dog faeces around Tir-y-berth Park and especially the playing fields.
I do believe that dog owners should pick up dog faeces wherever there dog goes. As it can be dangerous if a young child picks it up and its not very nice to step in dog faeces or see it in your own street, or any other street. So I do believe dog owners that fail to pick up there own dog faeces should be fined.
I do not want to walk in it or walk it into my house. Also its a danger to public health, if they are irresponsible not to worm their dog.
I don't think children's health should be put at risk when playing in the open, children are more important than dogs!
I don't to see lovely parks with dog poo left on park area's. And don't want to step onto it either.
I feel all responsible dog owners should clean up after their dogs. I am a dog owner, but also a grandfather to a young boy who should not be put at risk from fouling dogs.
I have 3 small dogs and wouldn't dream of going out with them without a pocket full of bags. There is nothing worse than walking along a road and stepping in dogs mess. Its bad for people with poor eye sight and small children.
I have gone through lanes behind my house, the lane has dog faeces on a lot of it. I have run through it with my push chair, and ended up on my hands and knees cleaning it off.
I have irresponsible dog owners allowing their dogs to poo in my front garden. It is very unpleasant to walk on grass and to tread in dog excrement. Also how unpleasant it must be for council workers who have to cut the grass which is covered in dog excrement.
I have no objection to this as dog fouling is antisocial ,and very unsightly and also a danger to health
I have owned dogs for over twenty years and have always picked up after my dogs. I am fed up of having to clean up after other dog owners.
..... Longbridge field, Risca. A lot of dog owners do not clean up, they drive and park in the car park and let the dogs run on the football and rugby field.
..... churchill park caerphilly, there is regularly dog mess in my street, even.at the top of my drive, my son has almost fallen in and stepped in on more than one occassion, its dirty and a health hazard for my children.
..... Waunfawr Park I regularly see dog walkers, especially early mornings when there are very few people around not picking up their dog faeces. The fouling also happens on the sports pitches in the park and while some do pick up a certain amount is left on the grass.
..... Showfield. I think it is terrible for people to have dogs and not pick up after them. It is not a hard task to do and if you carry bags with you always it is easy to clean up any mess. It is also very ignorant of the fact that people walk and children play in the field that allowing their dogs to foul without not picking up is not on. Also it gives dogs a bad name when it is not their fault.

I never leave dog mess when out but seem to walk in everyone else's I am also embarrassed at the mess on the risca canal. we have visitors for all over the country and they are greeted with piles of poo
I pit down im a dog owner but its my daughters dog i moslty take out. I think there should be higher fines
I see a vast amount of dog fouling within the area I live. A dog owner regularly leaves its dog faeces in the land and outside doors. If it gets onto shoes its then carried in the home no-one wants that.
.....walk regularly around Caerphilly and up Caerphilly mountain. of dog faeces along the walking paths. At the start of the walk opposite the mountain cafe, the bin where you dispose of dog waste was completely overflowing with dog faeces, the bin had clearly not been emptied for a long time and people were just piling dog waste on top of the bin, it was not a pretty site! Also, people are still not clearing dog faeces up as there was so much of it along the walking path but it does not help if facilities are not emptied.
I think all dog owners should be more respectful of other users.
I think everyone should clean after their dog.
I think everyone should pick up after their dog as I do not like seeing it left myself
I think it is excessive
I think it is very important that dog owners pick up their own dogs mess.
I think it's every responsible dog owner to ensure that dog faeces is picked up and disposed in the bins provided.
I think it's only right that dog owners be made to clean up after their dogs.
I think stronger laws should be introduced fir people who totally disregard the law
I think that all dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up after their dogs. I personally have a problem where I live, of dogs fouling in the lane directly outside my back door.
I totally agree everyone should be accountable for their dogs there is no excuse to not pick up.
I totally agree that all dog owners should be required to clean up dog faeces under existing provisions. However, I strongly object to any further provisions that would have a negative impact on responsible dog owners ability to properly exercise their dogs in public parks and other open spaces.
If you have a dog you should clean up after it. Why should other people have to clean up dog mess, that can cause blindness, walk into your home, car and stink. Also you can slip on it. It can be very dangerous
in our village Llanfach, Abercarn it is a major ongoing problem
In the interests of Health and Wellbeing of the public I totally agreed with the existing powers.
It can be argued that irresponsible ownership of a K-9 is a minority group, but if this was so then Caerphilly streets would not be covered in dog excrement to its current volume it also shows the Current DCO in place is not working AND THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EMPLOYEE'S AND PATROLS IN THE BOROUGH TO ENFORCE THIS ORDER, Often the excrement can be riddled with Tapeworm or Roundworm also that can be passed onto humans via contact (cleaning the poo off your shoes or trainers with a stick is enough to transmit Worms to yourself). For the proposals to work, There needs to more Enforcment agents on the ground whilst I agree with the new proposals, I only do so if there is adequate numbers on the ground to enforce the proposals ALL OVER THE COUNTY and not just the Town centers and parks where easy picking for fines and revenue can be generated, while little area's such as cefn fforest, Pengam, Fleur De Lis, Upper Trelyn, Bargoed, Gellihaf, Ynysddu, Maesycwmmmer, Pontllanfraith, Pentllan, The Bryn Pontllanfraith, Bedwelty, Markham, Blackwood Appollo way, wheatly Place, and the showfield are all neglected to be enforced due to constraints and cut backs. CCBC would also need to keep ontop of the emptying of current dog waste bins in the borough (you only need to consult to your own face book page to see a large number of people complaining that the dog waste bins or not emptied often enough and are over flowing periodically).
It is a health hazard, especially around Cwrt Rawlin primary school, and around play areas in castle view
it is a health problem
It is an environmental health issue and they should be fined heavily to correct their appalling behavior.

It is dirty and dangerous to leave dog mess about. The cost of clearing this up is not fair on the Council and Council Tax payers. I do think dog bins should be regularly emptied as I often see them overflowing. Another issue is the flinging of dog baggies in bushes. They are very unsightly and will take ages to biodegrade. I realise this is impossible to police however. Education is key here.
It is disgusting to see and dangerous for young children. It is part of being a responsible dog owner to clean up after your dog.
It is disgusting to walk around local streets and find piles of dog mess everywhere
It is only right that a dog owner cleans up after their dog, as all responsible dog owners do.
It is perfectly reasonable to expect a dog owner to dispose of faeces accordingly
It is the dog owners responsibility to dispose of its dogs faeces - there are too many who think its not necessary or important. Its a culture everyone will have to get used to - its getting there slowly
It is the owner's responsibility to clean up after their dog.
It is the responsibility of owners to clean up after their dogs.
It is the responsibility of the dog owner to clean up after his/her dog.
It is unacceptable and anti social not to clean up after your dog when the dangers of contamination and disease posed to humans from dog faeces are well understood.
It is unclean on any person or child it can carry germs and can cause blindness
It is unhygienic and untidy and many dog walkers show complete disregard of their community and the health harm to people especially children.
It is unthinkable that a dog owner would not clean up their dog's mess - I support this wholeheartedly.
it's a basic necessity
It's a real issue. We've had repeated incidents of dog fouling on the lane outside our house. I have a toddler and it worries me that there's so much on footpaths but also around grassed areas and parks. It's all well and good having enforcement powers but someone actually needs to catch these people.
It's a responsibility of owners, nobody not even owners like stepping in it and above all its very hazardous to health.
It's disgusting and a health hazard not to do so
It's the right thing to do, clean up after your dog, if they haven't got a bag they have no intention of clearing up.
Its disgusting especially when (a) someone walks in it and it gets into your car or home (dirty carpets etc) (b) where are the dog wardens to enforce the bylaws
Just lasy on dog owners not to clean up their dog mess
Keep street cleaner
Large amount of dog fouling in my area
Many areas around my post code used by dog walker as a toilet area especially the footpath behind my property I find it very offensive and could be dangerous to small children
More needs to be done to bring accountability to irresponsible and arrogant dog owners who let their animals run free in public places and foul footpaths, playing fields etc. with total disregard for public health and the nuisance they cause.
More powers are needed. I see everyday people walking their dogs , groups of people standing around talking whilst their dogs run free. They have no idea what their dogs are up to and what mess they are making. Dog owners regularly walk in front of their dogs, often more than one dog per person, they have no idea or just don't care that the dogs are fouling. Walk off leaving the mess behind.
Most dog owners act responsibly in this regard, but the few spoil it for the majority.
no one likes stepping in dog mess. responsible dog owners will always pick it up
not only dog fouling but sheep fouling horse fouling should also be included!!! and also on common land I have not once seen the hunt with poo bags picking it up! I always clean up after my dogs it is unfair to leave it to be stepped in.
Not picking up after dogs is a health and safety hazard
Obvious reasons, dangerous and obnoxious
Of course people should be responsible for their dogs mess.

Over the top reaction and being used as a revenue to generate money. You should be ashamed of yourselves.
Owners should ALWAYS clean up after their dog(s)
Part of responsible dog ownership is to clean up their faeces
People have to pick up their litter or face a fine so dog owners should have to clear up their mess.
People pass my fence at the front of my house and dogs poo and it is not cleaned up. Prams go over it and people step in it. It is often all along the street.
People should be responsible for picking up their own mess. Dog faeces are a health hazard and unpleasant for everyone.
people still do not clear up after their dogs even though they know it is an offence & if you say anything to the person they are quite rude. People also make their children take the dog for a walk knowing that the child will not pick up after their dog.
Proposal to be a responsible dog owner.
Public health
Responsible dog owners already do
Responsible dog owners will always pick up after their dog. Its the irresponsible owners who make things bad for other dog owners.
Responsible dog ownership Comes as part of owning and looking after a dog
Responsible dog ownership. Not wanting to leave mess on our streets. I get very angry when I see other dog mess left on the streets, especially when I think of young children who could come into contact through no fault of their own (especially being a parent to 2 young boys myself)
Responsible owners always do. Those who don't deserve to be fined.
Responsible owners will happily comply with this whether it is a legal requirement or not
Seems a good idea
Should be an offence as its dangerous to children.
Should be an offence, its dangerous to children who use the field for activities.
Some dog owners do clean up after their dogs. some dog owners pickup and throw the contents into the bushes. But a lot of owners just do not bother.
Stepping in faeces is unpleasant, messy and a health hazard. If you choose to have a dog, responsible owners will take care of it which includes cleaning up after it. Irresponsible, lazy disgusting owners need to be prosecuted and then perhaps the rest of us and our dogs won't be penalised because of them.
Still see dog faeces on public walkways, also garden dog owners not cleaning up if no one looking early morning and late night walkers.
Strongly agree
The amount of dog faeces on pavements
The amount of dog mess left is disgusting, I am a dog walker so see so many people who don't pick up.
The amount of dog mess on the street is totally unacceptable and a field near where i live is full of it and children play there
The council don't have enough resources to carry out this proposal.
The effects of failure to remove this mess are well documented. Perhaps the fines should be increased not only to cover Councils increased costs but also act as an expensive deterrent .
The extent of dog fouling in the area which I live is a disgrace!
The faeces are the owners responsibility
The majority of dog owners are responsible and do clean up after their dogs but as a keen walker I find it annoying to see dogs mess on pathways.
the pavements are narrow & people walk in the faeces and carry it into their homes or shops or work place. It is very unpleasant to find dog faeces outside your front door or around your car
The responsible dog owners always pick up their dogs faeces. It's the dog owners who don't care is the problem, even the one's who have been caught before still refuse to pick it up.
The same when someone has rubbish, dog mess needs to be picked up and placed in the bins provided by the dog owner.

There is a risk to people involved that many people just don't understand
There is far too much dog faeces on public footpaths. The current position should be applied more strictly.
There is no excuse for not cleaning up after your dog. We chose to keep them as pets so we have a duty to make sure they do not foul public areas.
There is no reason that a dog walker can't pick up after their dog. I walk my dog along the cycle path in Abertridwr and it is always full of dog droppings.
There is still a lot of dog fouling in public areas in Caerphilly and this can be a big problem where children play and where sport takes place, I find that even with notices and bins there are still dog poo on paths and grass areas and a big problem is dog poo left in the bags on the floor and hanging in trees. I welcome stricter rules to try make public places cleaner and safer
There should be more effective enforcement of the existing regulations.
There should be stronger penalties for this. An increased presence of dog wardens enforcing this would set the right message.
They own the dog and it comes with ownership
They should be fined or prosecuted. It might make them think twice. If they don't clean up their animal's mess a fine would make a dent in their purses!!
think all dog owners should pick up after their dog due to mess and health risks.
This is a classic case of the person issuing the notice being judge jury and executioner. What is going to happen if I dispute that the faeces came from my dog?
This is a common occurrence - but how do you police this matter - we do not have the staff.
This is a huge problem in the area and I would love to see more fines given out as it will soon make the minority of irresponsible dog owners think again.
This is already in place and is reasonable and accepted
This is still a Major issue, Throughout the County, And the Council's Proposal show's how committed it is to the problem
This is very important to keep our environment safe and clean
This should continue as the amount of dog faeces on the street is disgusting.
To keep our area clean.
To keep the county clean and safe
To make the environment, more pleasant and visually less disgusting
Too many selfish people who do not consider others
Unfortunately not all dog owners are good dog owners and it gives us good dog owners a bad name. We agree that those people who do not clean up after their dog should be fined.
Very few dog owners take responsibility for their dog fouling public areas.
We have many football teams of various ages good and on a weekly basis we have to clean up the football pitches before games, it is not acceptable and needs to be controlled.
We have some beautiful walks around the area which are spoiled by all the dog mess, the owners have no shame
We have turned our parks and playing fields into a toilet for dogs.
We should all want a cleaner place to walk, play, live and enjoy without having to walk over or through dog muck or other animal mess.
Yes - I would like to see more enforcement officers out dealing with dog waste.
Yes I agree dog owners should pick up their dog mess
Yes I agree fining people if they don't pick up their dog feces but the same should be said for horse riders horses make a lot more mess on the streets
Yes I totally agree I have two dogs and always pick it up but then you got others who don't and they should be named and shamed

Dog walkers to carry an appropriate receptacle

The Council is proposing to introduce a new offence which...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	415	91.0	92.0	92.0
	Disagree	36	7.9	8.0	100.0
	Total	451	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	5	1.1		
Total		456	100.0		

A dog owner can have no reason not to pick up dog mess if they have bags and maybe it would prompt them to remember them.
A dog owner could either forget, or have already used the receptacles to clean up. It would be unfair to prosecute in this case, as long as the dog walker is able to dispose of the waste responsibly. It should NOT be an offence to fail to carry a bag.
A pack of 100 dog poo bags cost 79p from Home Bargains/Pound land or equivalent shops. If a person can afford to keep a dog, they can afford to buy a packet of poo bags. 4 or 5 bags in your pocket take up no space at all when going out for a walk.
A perfectly reasonable requirement as long as sufficient receptacles are at hand. I deplore the current trend of bagging and throwing into trees by a minority!
a responsible owner may already have used and properly disposed of the waste. They may have had a spare receptacle and used it to pick up a second time, or to pick up after a less responsible owner. Owners who have never ever offended may be unfairly penalised.
Again some dog owners just let the dogs out to do the business and then call them back in, they don't want the mess in they're home or garden but it is ok for the dog to do it anywhere else for other people to clean it up
Again the person issuing the summons is going to be judge jury and executioner. What happens if I carry say 3 bags but my dog has the trots and I have used all my bags? What happens (as has happened to me on occasions) I've run out of bags but have gone home got more and then gone back out and cleared up the mess?
Again totally agree.
Again, as a responsible dog owner one should always have bags available however I would also urge dog bins to be maintained for disposal of the bags.
Again, who will you police this, you don't have enough funding to appropriately man your stations, how will you afford to ensure that this piece of legislation will be adhered. It will make no difference to the individuals you want to target!
Agree - dog owners should be ashamed of themselves if they let their dogs foul public places.
AGREE - However, this will be very difficult to police and/or notice whether they are carrying the bags etc.
Agree as I am a responsible dog owner
Agree, but not many use the bags and people who use the bags often leave the bag laying around.
Agree, but people can forget. Personally, every jacket and bag I own has at least one bag. I can see a problem for older and disabled people who may benefit from exercising gently with their dog but have problems bending down to pick it up.
Agree, but some do not carry the bags so leave the faeces on the playing field.
All dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up after their pet
All dog owners should be responsible for their animals. Also some people carry bags put faeces in bag and sling it in people's gardens - disgraceful.
All dog owners should carry enough bags to be able to clear up after their pets.
All faeces should be picked up. Some people although they pick up the dog waste and put into bags for some reason they throw the bags away some landing in trees and bushes so that should be an offence.
All responsible dog owners are already picking up after their dogs, those who do not need to be punished

All responsible dog owners should already be doing this, so it should not worry them if it becomes an offence if not carrying a poop bag when required.
Also these poop bags should be put in a convenient bin, not left on the pathway.
Although responsible owners will carry sufficient bags for their own use they will also often offer spare bags to other, less responsible owners. Fear of being caught without a bag could well prevent them from doing this. If after having exercised my dogs, cleaned up after them and disposed of the bags if I am asked to produce bags by an official it is likely that I would not have any more with me. I should not be penalised for having complied with the requirements at an earlier point
always should, totally necessary.
Any responsible dog owner should not have any issue with this. Those that do should not be allowed to keep pets.
Any responsible owner that I know, already carry appropriate receptacles. It tends to be the minority who do not.
Anyone not carrying a means to deal with waste is a clear indication they have no inclination to clear up after their dog.
As a dog owner I always carry poop bags for my dog and always have a few spare if others need it. However I think more bins need to be installed within the area and the existing bins need to be cleaned more regularly to encourage people
As a dog owner of 2, i agree all people should pick up after their dogs. But there need to be more bins around estates so people can dispose of waste
as a responsible dog owner i already do this
As above
As above - unless done with real intention to 'clean up' it becomes no more than a token gesture. Nevertheless a step in the right direction.
As above, but how are you going to implement this?
As above, if a receptacle is present it is more likely to be used,
As above. Responsible dog owners do this anyway without question.
As above. Lots of dog mess is left on pavements.
As above. Only the morons with inappropriate dogs wouldn't do this. Or possibly old people who view their dogs as blameless in any circumstance
As before, I always clean up after my dog. There is no excuse to leave it there, I ensure I have a sufficient number with me, others should to.
As children are incapable and not aware of the long term harm of this action perhaps the ban or being in control of a dog also be applied to children.
As long as this is appropriately enforced, this would at least give dog owners no excuse for not being able to pick up their dogs' mess.
Some form of clearing up would be required.
Bags are cheap and take up very little room in a pocket. I think you should always carry more than you are expecting to use just in case. As dog owners we know our dogs and can predict where and when they are likely to toilet.
because current rules aren't working
Because people who don't carry these bags around shouldn't own a dog! We need to clean up after them because they can't do it for themselves and especially seen as no one wants to step in dog mess or any child to come in contact with it
Being a dog owner i carry poop bags in every coat i own, doesn't mean i am going to pick up dog mess wherever i go. Anyone can carry a poop bag, doesn't mean they use it.
But how will this be enforced? I doubt many dog walkers will be checked so its a bit pointless.
But may carry bag ,don't always bother if no one about.
But need to stress that dog waste must be placed in appropriate bin not hung on trees etc. Too many owners pick up dog waste then leave plastic bags on ground or hang it on trees or fences

BUT, I do NOT think it appropriate or acceptable that the enforcement power bestowed on Quasi Police Officers, i.e. poorly trained employees of the local authorities by these proposals should extend to giving them the power to start in train a process which has the potential to criminalise an entire section of our communities. The fact that these proposals have the potential to create much conflict between entire groups in a community, by the obscene political process of some senior elected member giving spress statements about someone who may have fallen foul of one off the poorly trained Council employees actions in an attempt to gain political support. The Caerphilly Council have an opportunity to bring in new proposals to work WITH dog owners, and not to introduce criminaliastion prospect. These proposals, if introduced in their current form, will cause conflict and possible long term harm to what little is left of public cooperation and confidence in the Caerphilly County Borough Council's role in bring together communities and driving factions in communities apart.

Carrying of a receptacle shows intent to clean up after their dog.

Cleaning up after your dog must be expected of every dog owner

Common sense

Constant re-purchasing of such equipment can be costly. The council is here to maintain the land. Don't the people of the county already contribute enough money to the council rather than now being penalised for something else.

Dog owners must carry poop bags etc., how else could they clean up after their dog?

Dog owners must ensure they carry an appropriate receptacle. It is their responsibility to clean up after their dog - dog mess is a serious hazard particularly to children.

Dog owners need to take responsibility for their dog fouling public areas, however there are many who use the poop bags but then hang them from trees or just leave them on the roadside.

Dog owners should carry a suitable receptacle

Dog walkers should be responsible for their dogs mess as there is nothing worse than it being on bottom of shoes when you get home.

East to carry a plastic bag for this purpose

Enforcement must be about improving the environment not a form of income for the council. E.G. Clearly it would be ridiculous to charge a dog walker with this offence if the receptical/bag had just been used and disposed of in the act of dealing with waste. The council also need to improve the location and maintenance of the appropriate waste bins (as well as other litter!)

Even though it's difficult to police

Every coat I own has bags in the pockets whether I have my dog or not. They are not heavy or bulky to carry so no excuse for not having them.

Every person owning a dog should clean up the mess

Excellent idea to at least ensure intent to clear dog waste

Failure to carry a receptacle while inferring intent, is not actually guilty of fouling. It will be unenforceable and very intrusive to police. The Failure to clean up powers is sufficient to cover this. This offence would likely lead to no prosecutions, only warnings - which can be given in a less official and more rational way.

First excuse is always they don't have a bag

For irresponsible dog owners

Good idea! However, you can run out! I am new to owning a dog - 2.5 years - but have never seen or been approached by a dog warden and/or enforcement officer re this issue or dog fouling. The council needs to be able to enforce this!

got to be prepared

great proposal and I hope to see this policed asap.

Hopefully it will create a sense of respect for others in the area who find fouling a nuisance.

Hopefully it will promote usage.

How can people claim to clean up after their dog if they have no means to do so.

How else can you remove the mess if you dont have the proper means. However it should be taken into account that this should be for re-offending, as occasionally people can forget to "fill up their pockets" with bags or put the wrong coat on if the weather changes.

How else do you pick up?
How else is a dog owner going to remove the waste?
How many bags do you expect an owner to carry, this is open to interpretation from the PRO everyone had accidents
how would they pick up the waste without a receptacle
However should be aware responsible dog owners may have already used their poo bags on the walk
However there should be considerations. For example if someone is stopped on a return from a dog walk, having used the dog poo bags they took with them (from experience dogs only poo once, possibly twice during a walk), or if they have shared their bags with another dog walker who had forgotten/used theirs.
However, sometimes, I have gone out with maybe 5 bags for my dog and if they have had the runs and I have used all 5 bags, I do not think that I should then be considered to be breaching any laws.
However, there is rumour that having used the bags someone can still be fined for not having a bag, after they've run out, on the way home, without there being mess to clean up. I think this would be very unhelpful & counter productive, making dog lovers feel alienated & losing good-will.
Hygiene reasons
I understood that this was already in place. When we had a dog many years ago we were approached by the dog warden checking for bags.
I agree because dog walkers go places where there are no bins. They should always carry poo bags with them or and other means of clearing up after their dogs
I agree because then the dog walker would have no excuse not to pick up the waste.
I agree but my concerns are also for some of the waste left behind.
I agree but there should also be regular and appropriate emptying of waste bins. Many times, particularly Machen Rec, bins are overflowing with poop bags and they are left on top of the bin and on floor. People using the fields for recreational purposes are filling them with normal rubbish. Has to be responsibility of council as well as dog owners to make this work.
I agree but why the hell has the council taken all the dog waste bins away? There was one at the end of my street, disappeared overnight!!
I agree but would also suggest that the council also provide free poop bags in big dog walking areas as they do in Pembrokeshire just before entering beaches e.g. Tenby
I agree if you have no poo bags or paper roll how can you remove it
I agree in principle with this suggestion. The message needs to go out that people need to have the means to pick up although enforcing with a £100 FPN may be considered excessive. If continually found to have no means to pick up then a fine should be considered, although not for one off occasions.
I Agree only one thing I suggest maybe giving that person benefit of the doubt if they have ran out of dog bags as their dog may have gone more than usual due to having a bad stomach etc. Obviously your office could issue a warning about needing more bags in future and take their details so if they haven't brought enough the next time they are stopped then u should enforce as one warning has already been issued.
I Agree that a responsible dog owner should be able to demonstrate that they can clean up after their pet, But as fines are distributed for dog fouling and implies that they should have something with them to pick up waste anyway, this doesn't deter owners because there is a lack of enforcement and officers to effectively carryout patrols in the area's like above mentioned. CCBC would also need to keep ontop of the emptying of current dog waste bins in the borough you only need to consult to your own face book page to see a large number of people complaining that the dog waste bins or not emptied often enough and are over flowing periodically to see that you too also need to pull your fingers out have regular patrols on the these waste bins to ensure that they do not overflow and pose a health and safety risk to people. ENFORCING such an order would be a logistical nightmare to yourselves, you also do not have stop and search powers to CHECK for such, Also the public has no obligation to stop or communicate with any council officer or enforcement agency. Increase the amount of fines and increase the workforce to enforce the fines then this would be a no brainer to dog owners that they would need something to pick up after their pet.

I agree that dog walkers should always be prepared to pick up their dog's mess. There are many bag carriers that can be attached to a belt or dog lead, and as such we should never be without means to clean up.
I agree that owners should carry these however where is the line drawn? How practical is it? how many bags are we meant to keep about our person? What about in the instances where the bags taken have already been used?
I agree with this because if they want the dog then they have to be responsible for them.
I agree with this to a certain point, I know that my dogs will more than likely go to toilet when we are out as that is what they usually do, I could take four bags with me and use all four (if they were unwell) and it would be very unlikely that they would go again, I deposit these in the correct bin then get stopped by a pointless officer who may then want charge me for not having a bag. as I stated I agree with this in principle but this would need further consultation.
I agree with this, owners should always clear up their dogs mess, as I always do, however I do not believe Caerphilly council provide enough waste bins in areas where dogs are walked, for example Parc Penelta, I have walked many routes here and have only seen one bin which is next to the car park. When walking two dogs who go to the toilet several times it gets a bit difficult when carrying a handful of full poo bags. I previously lived within Torfaen and you would only have to walk a few yards from bin to bin, a much better system. People may be more willing to pick up after their dogs if there are more facilities to dispose of it. I have spoken with many dog walkers in the area who all agree that there simply is not enough waste bins in the area.
I already do.
I always carry bags with me whether it is in a field, path or town. It becomes like always having to wear your seatbelt!!!!!!!
I always carry dog owners and a think all owners should
I always got bags on me when i am out with the dogs but where I go there are no dog bins in the lane behind my house at all and there are quite a few people who walk their dogs up there
I am a responsible dog owner and many times I have given people bags because they haven't any. so I agree because if I hadn't given them a bag the mess would have been left.
I dislike the idea of ordinary walkers having to empty their pockets in the presence of a copper or a parkie unless arrested
I do that now, responsible dog owners do so.
I do think it takes much to carry poop bags in your pocket or your own bag, I always keep poop bags on me and I do think all other dog owners should do th same, they don't cost much either.
I don't agree that people should clean up after thier dogs but am not happy at being presumed guilty then have to prove your innocence. I always carry multiple bags but I think it's policing going to far, just because a person has a bag on them it's not to say they will pick up after thier dog. It should only be an offence not to pick after your dog.
I have seen people use leaves and other natural materials to pick up dog poop when they have clearly forgotten a bag. To be punished for forgetting a bag or for not carrying more than you need (if you're on your way home for example and have already disposed of your dog poop) seems harsh and unnecessary.
I hope that this will work, but some dog owners are disrespectful of any law
I really hope this will happen
I regard myself as conciencious in cleaning up after my dogs but have occasionally forgotten to top up my bag supply and then had to go in search of a bag. A big problem is people who bag their dog waste but then abandon the bag.
I think it is excessive
I totally agree with the proposed new offence. If dog owners do not carry a receptacle on their person, then this indicates they have no intention of picking up after their dogs.
I totally agree with this. You will find all responsible owners carry them.
I totally agree. If a dog walker has no bags on their person at all times, they have no intention of clearing up after their dog, they should carry several if responsible owners.

I walk my dog and pick up its faeces, but sometimes because of my busy life, I forget to replace the poop bags in my pocket. I would suggest that it would be unfair to prosecute someone for an event such as this. I keep a number of bags in my pocket at one time, but with difficulty with short term memory perhaps once every 2 or 3 years I end up on a journey and realise I have forgotten to replace my pocket full of bags or have rushed out with a different coat. These situations are unintentional and I manage to clean up the mess by asking someone for a bag/ or using some large leaves/ or returning home to get a bag.
If a dog owner is not carrying a poop bag this suggests that they have no intention of cleaning up after their dog. In fact they should always have more than one poop bag, I think.
If a person is not carrying a receptacle then they have no intention of cleaning up after their dog
If a person isn't carrying bags they've no intention of picking it up
If a person with a dog does not have a bag to collect faeces then there is obviously no intent to pick up the faeces.
If dog walkers do not have with them a means of clearing up their dog's mess then inevitably they will leave mess in public places.
If not carrying appropriate receptacle it is obvious dog walker has no intention of cleaning up dog mess
If someone takes a dog out without a bag it would seem that they have no intention of picking up after the dog
If someone with a dog is stopped and hasn't got a bag then it is for sure they would have no intention of picking up after their dog.
If they carried bags then they might pick up after their dog.
If they don't carry one it gives the owners an excuse for not picking up the waste.
If they have no bag then they cannot pick up faeces. It may be that they do not intend to.
If they have no means to pick up any faeces then it's pretty unlikely they will pick up if the dog fouled at any time.
If they have poop bags then there is no excuse that they can't pick it up
If you are a dog owner, it is your responsibility to pick up after your dog to help keep people and places healthy and welcoming.
If you are a responsible dog owner you would already have the means to clear up after your dog.
If you are a responsible owner this should be something you do already
If you are going out in your car you would pick up your keys. If you are going out with your dogs pick up your poo bags!
If you are walking your dog you should be able to clean up after it
If you don't carry a bag, you aren't prepared to clean up and fall into the irresponsible group identified above.
if you have a dog it makes sense to carry a bag even if your dog has been before his walk
Improved chances of them cleaning up the mess
In order to pick you need a receptacle and a poop bag is no bother.
It can be disposed in the bins and keep the parks and streets clean
It cost very little so if you can afford to keep a dog you can afford to carry poo bags
It is essential that all dog owners are educated about dog faeces. I believe large fines are needed.
It is the correct thing to do.
It is the dog owners responsibility.
It makes sense to have to carry something to remove the waste, without something how is the waste going to be removed.
It should be a local by-law that dog owners should be seen carrying an appropriate receptacle
It should be a mandatory requirement although I frequently see discarded 'poop' bags.
It should be up to the dog walker to clean up after their dogs
It would encourage dog owners to behave more responsibly and actually clear poop up.
If you're not carrying bags etc then you are planning not to pick up
It's a responsibility that all dog owners should undertake.
It's a responsibility that is part of being a dog owner.
It's too easy to say I have just used my last bag, although most of the time I get told to mind my own business
It's common sense and responsible of the owner.
It's irresponsible for them not to. If you have a dog, clean up after yourself
It's not the responsibility of the council to clean up after dog owners

Its the obvious answer to fouling problems
Its their animals so they should provide they're own poop bags. They choose to have pets, take responsibility for them.
Large amount of dog fouling in my area
Level of fine to be same as that for failing to clean up.
Mae'n anghymesur ac annheg It is disproportionate and unfair
More than reasonable
Necessary to clean up
Never leave without a pocket full of bags
Not if u are going to fine a genuine person who has just forgotten or run out of poo bags. I've done this myself and then found a crisp bag to use to clear up my dog poo. I've also driven home, got a bag, come back to park to collect dog poo. I was responsible -- but whether an official WOULD GIVE ME THE TIME to do this ---- I don't think so. I would be fined. Not happy about proposing this as a new offence.
Not necessary, a responsible dog owner should already have the required equipment for cleaning up after thier dog in order to comply with the current policy on or fouling.
of course, we should all have a poo bag to clean after our dog
Often see people in Morgan jones park pretending they havent seen their dog messing, also in grassland behind my house there are residents who open their back gate to let fog mess in field and dont pick up, this is a space children play ball.
Only takes a couple of minutes to clean up after your dog.
Owners cannot predict when their dogs will need to relieve themselves so how can they be sure that they have the means to collect the dogs mess, unless they have appropriate receptacle for picking it up.
Owners responsibility
Owners should have means to clean after their dogs
People should be responsible for ensuring they have a poo bag, if they don' have one on them, they probably don't intend on picking up the mess.
Perhaps the council wants stop and search powers also. May be they can PSPO the under age drinking and litter at the footbridge over Court Road. Caerphilly
Please see notes at end of survey. Having used an appropriate receptacle it should be an offence to throw the bag into trees or vegetation which is a common occurrence.
Quite right too.
Responsible dog owners already carry such receptacles. Those who aren't prepared to clear up after their dog shouldn't walk them in public spaces.
RESPONSIBLE dog owners already do this and the dogs provide companionship and a means of exercise to their owners. Those who are irresponsible should be challenged to be more responsible.
Responsible dog owners always carry poop bags to clean up after their dog/s. Owners who leave home without a means of cleaning up have no intention of doing so.
Responsible dog owners always carry them
Responsible dog owners would do this
Responsible dog ownership Comes as part of owning and looking after a dog
... I feel that if someone has something with them they are more likely to pick up
.....This field also has young boys of age of 8.
Should always be prepared.
Shows respect
So what you are saying is as a responsible owner. For instance if I go out with poo bags and use them and dispose of them in the bins you never empty and then get stopped. I get fined as I have used my bags already?
Some dogs do not toilet outside their own garden, and so it is pointless to carry something with you.

Some times I walk my dogs and have enough bags to clean up, then I put the bags in the appropriate bin. Not very often, but some times I don't have extra bags on me but I have cleaned up after my dogs. I don't think I, or anyone else should be penalised for tat/
Spot checks on dog walkers on dog walkers/owners is a great idea as long as you have the staff to police it.
Strongly agree
Strongly agree, and to carry extra bags to encourage other dog walkers
That should be common sense to all dog owners.
The current legislation is sufficient.
The dog waste left next to my hedge and car park and on sports playing pitches
The only way to pick up dog waste is with a poop bag, so these should be carried at all times.
The same reason as above.
There is no excuse as dog bags are not much to buy but i did run out one day and thought there were some in my van but there wasnt but i had a mc donalds coffee cup in the van and i picked up the mess in that
There may be occasions where a person needs to walk their dog from one place to another as a means of transport rather than for exercise and they may not have a receptacle available. By this I mean someone who does not have access to a car and needs to get from one place to another and happens to have their dog with them, in an emergency situation. They should not be penalised as the walk may not be long and they make sure their per does not foul on the trip.
There should be no reason why individuals don't clean up after their dogs. By making it an offence not to carry poo bags, this would help reinforce there is no excuse for not picking up after dogs.
They are inexpensive to buy and any old plastic bag can be used to dispose of faeces.
They are not going to use their hands so fine them.
They could have just used the bag and therefore cannot produce it afterwards.
They need to clean up their mess.
They need to pick up their disgusting mess.
They would not be able to clean up without one????
They would not then have any excuse for not picking up the dogs mess.
This doesn't mean that people will use the bags though. I've confronted many people who have then taken a bag out if their pocket but was not originally going to clean up.
This doesn't neccesarly mean they will use them, look how many people put their poo in a bag & dump the bag on the floor or even tie it to a tree!! I don't feel this will help very much.
This goes without saying.
This is a great idea and put more responsibility on dog owners
This is common sense, why should they be allowed to walk their animals in public without having the means to pick up their faeces?
This is common sense.
This is discrimination. Litter is an issue throughout the borough. Isolating dog owners is discrimination. All residents should be encouraged to dispose of litter responsibly
This is essential to fulfil the requirements of the previous question i.e. an offence is an owner fails to clean up after their dog
This is part of being a responsible dog owner.
This is plain common sense, if a dog owner does not have a suitable 'receptacle' he or she cannot pick up after their dog
This is reasonable and acceptable and linked to existing requirements to clean up after dogs
This new proposal will get home the message, If you walk your dog, Go & Be Prepared for the clean up ahead.
This offence discriminates against dog owners. As stated above, there is a huge problem with littering throughout the Borough which needs to be addressed. Broken glass bottles scattered around are a greater danger to the public than dog faeces. Are proposals in place to require everyone to carry a receptacle for their litter, or are dog owners being discriminated against?
This proposal would go some way towards ensuring dog walkers are serious in their intentions of complying with dog fouling laws

This should be a requirement otherwise the owners would not be able to clean up after their dogs.
This should just be standard for all dog owners
This shows the authority they have intention of cleaning the dogs mess.
This would ensure that all dog owners should have the means to remove dog faeces, leaving no excuse for the fouling of our streets or open spaces.
This would indicate that they have the intention to clean up after their dogs, however, I very often see the bags containing the mess either thrown into the bushes or even hanging on the branches of trees!!
Thought this was already in place. All dogs owners should carry poop bags.
To encourage them to pick it up immediately
To keep out area clean.
To make dog walkers more responsible and prevent the spread of disease
To pick up their poo after them, it is a necessity.
To reduce risk of health hazards to public caused by dog mess.
To a certain extent. Occasionally I've used all bags so there has been a point in the walk where I've not had a bag (and didn't need one).
Too many owners "have forgotten" to pick up their bags etc. This cannot be allowed as an excuse not to comply with byelaws
totally agree but some owners will still not pick it up as they don't see their dog while not on the lead. The only way is too ensure ALL dogs are kept on leads at all times while in public areas. it is totally unacceptable.
UNLESS, ----- THE COUCIL PROPERLY IDENTIFY WHO OR WHAT " an authorised officer " IS. WHO WILL THEY BE RECOGNISED AS SUCH.
We carry a poop bag holder with bags in it, on our dog lead.
We have a poop bag dispenser attached to our dog's lead at all times. There is no excuse for not carrying a poop bag as they are so compact and portable.
What if a person has cleaned up and correctly disposed their last poop bag. Are they now an offender..?
What if I have used a poo bag to clean up after my dog and then I'm asked to show I have one? does this mean that dog owners need to carry multiple bags? If so how many!?! What if I've gone out with my dog and have taken 5 bags with me. However due to my dogs medical condition they maybe prone to diarrhea and so I've used all 5 bags. I then get stopped and asked to show I have a suitable bag with me. This would not be fair.
Whilst agreeing with the sentiment, it will be difficult to police and enforce. However, the message it sends out is clear - dog owners are expected to clean up after their pets.
Whilst I agree in principle dogs sometime go more than once a owner has a good idea about their dogs habits, what's going to happen to those owners have used all their bags and are then asked to produce one knowing that the dog has already done his business
Whilst walking around the paths on Caerphilly mountain there were also lots of dog faeces in bags but owners had just disposed of them on the grass and in ditches. Perhaps more bins can be placed around the paths on the mountain itself but they will need to be emptied regularly. Also how would you monitor the above proposal?
Whilst walking into Penallta Park the other week, the amount of dog faeces that were alongside the paths leading from the new car park down into Parc Penallta was disgusting. It is a well used area for dog walking even when the top gates are locked, as many cars park outside the gates after they are closed by CCBC.
why not put a metal holder on the poo bins so members of the public can voluntarily put in an unused spare waste bag just incase a fellow dog walker loses his bags or the bag breaks etc just an idea
Why would you walk your dog without one if you're a responsible owner
Without an appropriate receptacle, this is clear evidence that there is no intention to pick up the dog mess
Without the appropriate bags being carried then it's obvious that the person has no intention to clean up after their pet.
Yes - People should carry bags with them or other objects to temporarily hold dog waste to safely dispose of it later.

Yes anyone walking their dog in public areas should be required to demonstrate that they have the means to properly clean up their dog's faeces.
Yes I agree, the woodland walks are spoiled by dogs mess, owners think that it doesn't matter because it's in the woods.
Yes this is just common sense all responsible dog owners already do this
Yes to comply with the previous question.
you can buy 50 bags for a pound there is no excuse.
You have a responsibility as a dog owner to pick your dogs waste up

Children's Play Areas

The council is proposing to continue existing power that ...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	394	86.4	87.8	87.8
	Disagree	55	12.1	12.2	100.0
	Total	449	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	7	1.5		
Total		456	100.0		

A dog has no place in a children's play area unless they are a trained assistance dog. Children are vulnerable to dog attacks, as we have seen from recent news reports of an out of control dog running amok in a play area resulting in several nasty bites. A dog may react badly to the noises of children at play and misunderstand their body language and nip or bite an excited child.
A dog in a children's play area will inevitably befoul it. This is not only unpleasant but also carries a health risk which can sometimes be dangerous. Children sit on and place their hands on the ground.
A list needs to be available for dog owners to see.
A recent incident in a Children's playground in England. Make's this proposal Essential.
absolutely agree but is it possible to include a dog play area where users could use at their own risk.
Accessing such areas is common place with parents and children whilst out walking their dogs. The mandatory requirement to carry poop bags would hopefully encourage people to clean up the mess as they go. No parent wants their child to step or fall into dog mess.
Actually - not sure Families with young children and dogs may not be able to use play areas if they can't take their dogs.
Again fouling in areas where children play and games are held poses a serious health risk.
Again there are potential health risks in dogs being allowed in. It is not always possible to stop a dog defeating. I agree with this proposal provided that they are all enclosed.
Again, the risk of infection to children and the nuisance caused by dogs to children at play.
Agree for hygiene purposes
Agree given that there are places provided for dog walking
agreed provided this refers to enclosed areas only
All dogs can be unpredictable
All enclosed i.e. fenced play/games areas should not allow dogs even when they are taken in there by children!
Although this policy is often ignored by dog owners.
Any areas where children play should be protected from the potential hazards caused by dog mess.
Any dog is a risk to children and young people, in addition to this there is a clear risk to all people should dog excrement be left on the grass which could seriously harm a Child's eyesight and health.
Any where children are constantly playing dogs should be banned.
As a parent I feel this is essential for kids safety
As a responsible dog owner I always clean up after my dog. I also work and pay council tax to you so I do not agree that I can not use public areas that my tax helps to maintain
As dog fouling where children play is totally unacceptable and not all dogs are kept under control
As previously stated, i believe it is extremely unhygienic to allow dogs onto the sports pitches where they can excrete.
As well as the public health issue associated with faeces, dogs may also pose a threat to young children playing. They may become excitable or distressed by the noisy environment and bite or snarl.
Because dig faeces can cause infection if touched particularly if it can't be seen

Because it should be safe for people to take their children.
Because these areas where children play should be protected.
Bedwas dol y Pandy little park ,has no sign to keep dogs out, would like one there.
Better playing surface
But this applies to parents with dogs too. I've seen numerous occasions where dogs and kids play in these areas
Caerphilly County Borough Council have an outstanding amount of sports clubs playing sports on a regular basis from 6 years of age up to seniors. Lots of clubs, families and individuals use these areas to train, keep fit and use as leisure time. I have witnessed on regular occasions irresponsible dog owners letting their dogs foul in the area and also allow children to be chased by their dogs. When challenged the owners say "the dog would not hurt him/her". It will only be a matter of time when a child/adult is bitten.
Can't argue with that
cbbc need to remember that dogs are animals and need exercise. If you prevent them going into fields then CCBC need to be responsible and set up a dog area where they can be let off leash to run and exercise.
Child safety
Child safety and hygiene
Children can be too overpowering for dogs and measures should be in place to prevent dogs, strange to children, from potentially harming.
Children fall over in play areas and if there is dogs mess there it can blind or make them very ill. Its just common sense.
Children must have clean play areas
Children need areas where they can play safe without too much attention.
Children need to be able to play in a clean environment
children playareas need to be kept clean and there is no need for dogs to enter these areas
children should be able to play in clean areas
Children should be free of nuisance dogs and their poo.
Children should be protected from potentially harmful faeces.
Children should have a safe place to play which can guarantee no dog mess.
children's areas are for children NOT dogs
Children's areas should be clear of dogs. If owners not picking up after their dogs probably not worming them either.
Children's play areas - family dog could be kept on a lead with clean up of faeces still applicable possibly same for games areas
Children's play areas are enclosed areas that already restrict dogs. However opposing dogs on multi use games areas is wrong. For example people who own service dogs because of a disability need to exercise their pet by law, getting to out of the way areas with their animal would be virtually impossible for some. Access to a multi use games area may be the only means available. I totally disagree with this proposal.
Children's play areas are for children. I have seen many people take their dogs into the play areas and children playing and screaming unsettles the dogs which shouldn't be there and can cause dogs to bite.
Children's play areas are not always safe, and not everybody sticks to the rules of no dogs.
Children's play areas should certainly be dog free zones as long as they are clearly fenced off and designated through clear signage
Children's play areas YES Games areas NO
childrens areas should be child friendly.
Childrens play areas must be kept clean and safe.
Childrens play areas should be fenced off but, multi use games areas are just that, open space for a variety of uses. Many families enjoy use of open space for children the family dog to play with a ball, run around etc.
Clean area for children
Common sense
Dog excrement can be harmful to children so it is a no brainer

Dog faeces on playing areas whether grass or artificial presents a health hazard to all participants using these areas. Dog owners should not be exercising their dogs on these playing areas.
Dog faeces on sporting areas in a problem. The health implications far outweigh the inconvenience of dog owners.
Dog fouling hazard Some children are scared of dogs Dogs hamper games if join in uninvited
Dog mess a dangerous health risk to children plus the dog itself could be a danger
Dog muck is toxic
Dogs and children don't mix - risk of bites. Dog waste is a significant health hazard.
dogs are a menace in children play areas. as a local resident I have witnessed many times situations where dogs have gone for kids and their playing balls and scared them. Also while running on paths dogs have been aggressive. No dogs should be allowed to not be on lead
dogs can be very dangerous to children
Dogs can get over excited when children are around and also it may be difficult to clean dog faeces off the substance that children's play areas are made from. So for the safety of the children they should be excluded from these enclosed areas.
Dogs frighten the children. Walking through Morgan jones park there are regularly dogs running off the lead and have been dogs running through park area.
Dogs have pissed on my child's pushchair on two occasions.
Dogs in an area where children are playing is a huge danger. Children quite rightly run and make a noise. Dogs become startled and can attack.
Dogs need exercise, I pay my council tax and don't see why I should be prevented from exercising my dog when there are no matches being played
Dogs need to have exercise
Dogs on lead and with their owners. You won't stop stray dogs
Dogs run free in Morgan Jones Park on football pitches and grass areas.
Dogs should not be allowed in any children's pay areas or multi use games areas. These places are made for children not dogs
Dogs should not be allowed in areas which children play due to the health risk from dog faeces, and also the risk of dogs possibly attacking children
Dogs should not be allowed in the fenced children's areas
Dogs should not be allowed into children's play area
Dogs spread disease.
Due to some irresponsible owners, not only for lack of picking up but also for dogs out of control, I agree that dogs should not be allowed into children's areas. Dogs can be very excitable around youngsters playing.
Enclosed children's play areas agree, other areas of any park are in use for a very short period of any week, and as a rate payer I am contributing to the cleansing and maintenance to said areas
Enclosed play areas not to remain safe for younger children to play in
Enclosed play areas should be dog free to avoid harm to dogs and people.
For safety
For the health and safety of our children, I fully support the existing power.
For the safety of children (and dogs) this should stay. Not all dog owners are responsible and not all dogs are socialised / trained.
For those who don't clean up after their dogs. They are putting our children's health at risk.
Health and safety
Health and Safety reasons
Health and safety.
Health of children and safety for children playing in these areas.
How about you worry about anti-social behaviour instead?

<p>How can this be possible for people who are on their own and have both a child as well as a dog. As if your child wants to use one of these areas, what are they then supposed to do with themselves and the dog as the dog won't be allowed within the area. So you would then have to stay with the dog so that it doesn't run off resulting in your child then being at a great risk of harm as they would be in there on their own due to your rule banning dogs.</p>
<p>However, I have seen a number of occasions where young parents take their dogs into the play parks with their children and tie them up while the children play.</p>
<p>I agree absolutely, animals should not be allowed to be in the same area as children and also adults who do not want to have animals running around whilst out walking.</p>
<p>I agree because I'm sick to death of trying to avoid it when in the park, it's a health hazard, I wish the law to include Abercarn cemetery, as dog owners let them run riot and defecate on the grave stones, (seen it for myself 2 weeks ago) it is a solemn and respectful place and dogs in there is not on</p>
<p>I agree dogs should not be in play parks but should have an area with park dogs can sit with owner to be able to watch over your children as they play</p>
<p>I agree in enclosed areas set aside for children and any areas that are fenced off there is no need for dogs to enter and it would be fair to keep them out</p>
<p>I agree that dogs should not be allowed into enclosed play areas as there is nothing worse.</p>
<p>I agree that dogs should not be allowed on pitches where teams play, however these should be fenced off appropriately. As for multi-use areas then no this should be for dogs and owners. Dogs are family members and this would restrict activities (healthy) for all the family. Totally unreasonable</p>
<p>I agree that they should not be allowed in the play areas with swings however not on parks and open spaces that are occasionally used for football etc.</p>
<p>I agree that we shouldn't let the dogs onto enclosed children's play areas</p>
<p>I agree with enclosed children play areas but not multi use games areas that are not enclosed as we all know these venues are not used all the time, responsible dog walkers only exercise their dogs on these fields when they are not in use and pick up after them. Also these venues are usually located within public parks e.g. Morgan Jones park Caerphilly, this would theoretically mean that dog walkers would be excluded from the whole of the park, their dogs would not be able to be exercised or learn social skills by interacting with other dogs. Introducing this measure would not alleviate dogs mess on streets, I think it could potentially add to that problem. Also how on earth would this be policed?</p>
<p>I agree with children areas such as parks however I live in Nelson and my pup loves going down to the Wern park and running like crazy on the pitch next to the park, he has never defecated and if he did I would always clean it up but to get to the cycle track you have to go past the pitch and I regularly see dogs there running around on the pitch as it's a obviously large patch of grass and the dogs enjoy it</p>
<p>I agree with Only enclosed children's areas as multi use games areas are open to abuse by the public who do not have dogs for example when there is a football match, the splash park is open in the summer and there is excessive litter.</p>
<p>I agree with this because it is not fair on the children to have to play and look out of dog mess while playing. Also a younger child could pick it up and eat it thinking it's a toy.</p>
<p>I agree, as dog faeces can cause blindness in children.</p>
<p>I agree, even though some parents do take their dog in.</p>
<p>I agree. Dogs can foul in these places. But they can also get excited and accidentally bite a child or adult. In places like these they should always be controlled or disallowed.</p>
<p>I am appalled by this proposal. Clearly all dog owners are being penalised for the minority who do not clear up after their dog. Please refer to Ystrad Mynach Park on a Saturday or Sunday morning to view the vast amount of broken glass and discarded food packaging left by children the day/evening before. Can we therefore have a blanket ban on children as well as dogs?? Can we not target the repeat offenders as opposed to implementing such bans??</p>
<p>I believe dogs shouldn't be allowed in child playing areas, as if a dog decides to poop or urinate against or on the play areas this is very dangerous and unhygienic.</p>

I believe it would be dangerous to allow this to happen as well as the risk of dog faeces in these areas.
I disagree with this as long as owners pick up their dog mess why shouldn't dogs be allowed in parks, during the summer when people go on family outings such as for a picnic then to the park majority of people do want to take their dog however I recon dogs should be muzzled in all public places
I don't think dog and children a good mix in these circumstances as children running and playing could start a dog attack
I don't see a problem here if dog on lead and you pick up after them. How will this be policed? Do you have the resources? Yes I can see the dangers from dog mess being left.
I don't think dogs should be allowed in areas that are specifically designed for children to play in.
I have four kids and a dog and although it's a pain to not be able to play with the kids and dog at the same time, it is definitely safer as I do not trust all dogs and all owners.
I have no objection whatsoever in keeping my dog away from children's and sports play areas
I have seen a child who has been playing on a grassed area and has been smeared with dog faeces - to the point where the child's mother has had to shower the child in my bathroom before returning home in their car.
I have witnessed and experienced a dog attack.
I mostly disagree. If the dogs were on leads and kept away from areas where they may trip the children it could work to allow them into these areas. Not allowing this may prevent parents with dogs from taking their children to parks and play areas, which could mean their children miss out on that activity.
I quite often see owners letting their dogs run free across the park and adjoining rugby / football fields around the Ystrad Mynach Park / Penallta Rugby field area.
..... parks at Risca and Crosskeys. The grounds are well looked after but I see dog faeces on the pitch and grounds where children and adults play football, rugby and other games associated with the colleges. Would you want your child playing in that?
I think dogs should be allowed. Parents with young children may wish to take them to the park but need to take their dog with them. Dogs in this instance should be kept leashed.
I think it is a logical and legitimate requirement
I Think They Should Be Allowed On The Condition All Dogs Are Kept On Leads and That The Dog Fouling Rules Are Still Obeyed.
I totally agree. Some children and parents are nervous around strange dogs. The children's play area should be a safe place for kids to play, not every dog is nice like many owners like to think, like their favourite saying "he won't hurt you".
I use local park where I see on a regular basis dog fouling where young people play games
I wouldn't trust children around my dog and would be concerned for my dog's well-being with children around.
I'm not sure what or where there are any multi use games areas but children's play areas must be kept dog free.
If a dog is on a lead in these areas I do not see a problem. As a parent of a 4 year old and a dog owner it is now impossible to combine a park visit with a dog walk. I always clean up after my dog and keep her on a lead where appropriate, I don't see why responsible dog owners should suffer because of the minority irresponsible owners.
If children fall over they could land in the mess. Children could be afraid.
If it's enclosed that's fine
If people always pick up there would be no need.
If people can read and are responsible they do not do this. Perhaps the council should use a PSPO on teenagers and young adults who abuse the facilities and wreck them
If they were allowed to have dogs in childrens parks, irresponsible people wouldn't bother picking it up. I certainly don't want my or any other child to get it in themselves. whe
If this is just a continuation of not being allowed in the play areas then yes.
In my opinion a blanket ban on all childrens play area's, canals and reserivours would be more appropriate, And a large fine for contravention of such ban such as £150.00 and a risk of imprisonment for repeat offenders.
it is a children's area, they should be free to run unafraid of dogs or their mess!

It is a health hazard for our children to play where dogs are allowed off leads and where their owners are leaving dogs mess.
Unfair that dogs dominate a child area and the children can't be free to play
It is a playing field, not a dogs field.
It is potentially dangerous for dogs to be allowed in to enclosed children's play areas - many dogs get boisterous in confined spaces and scare or hurt children without intending to.
It is sensible to avoid dogs using areas intensively used by people.
It is unhealthy and also some children are afraid of dogs and some dogs are loose and can be vicious.
It safe for people and kids to play and not allowing dogs entering these areas
It should be extended to all playing fields where players health are put at risk.
It the area is enclosed then that's OK as the area is clearly marked
It would be at least unpleasant and possibly dangerous.
It would help to prevent any diseases arising from dog fouling affecting the children within these areas and also reduce dog attacks on both parents and children
It's important to keep some spaces just for children.
It's obvious and sensible
Just common sense
kids not used to dogs could be frightened and kept away by dogs in play areas; have seen teenagers/ young adults using play areas for hanging out with dog/s- defin. off-putting, even without the dog/s
Large numbers of children in enclosed spaces can be overwhelming for dogs, this could only lead to problems. Keeping both parties separate in this situation is better for everyone
Let our children play without worrying about stepping in dog mess
Morgan Jones park is small. A lot of people walk their dogs there, it's a social aspect of being a dog owner to meet people, if it wasn't for the field no-one would go there to exercise their dogs. It also helps elderly people or those with depression etc who have a dog becoming more sociable
Multi games areas covers too wide a spectrum.
My answer depends on the definition of 'enclosed children's play area'. If this refers to a relatively large and entirely public area (e.g. a park), it would be unreasonable to introduce such an offence.
My child should be safe in a park.
No dogs should be allowed in play areas.
No I believe as long as a dog is on a lead then it's not a problem
No need for dogs in play grounds
No one is picking up wet poo or urine and what about nasty untrained dogs
Not all dogs are friendly and not all children like dogs, my daughter has been bitten by a dog so this has had a negative impact on how she feels around dogs and affects where she plays outside.
Not all dogs mix well with children so they should be excluded from children's play areas. Also when sports are taking place dogs off leads tend to interfere with the games etc.
Not everyone wants other people's dogs near them and no dog should be allowed in play areas with small children
Not everyone will comply with these measures so at least we can keep play areas dog muck free if they can't go on there at all
Not only is it disgusting to allow your dog to foul in a children's play area it is also dangerous to allow dogs to roam when children are running around and are excited.
Not only is this important for children who may come in contact with dog mess, but dogs who are let off their leads, off a lead the dog is not under control and could harm a child, even the friendliest of dogs could turn.
Not only the hazard of dog mess - some children are scared of dogs and causes distress.
Nothing worse than see dog mess around child's play areas.
Of course dogs be excluded from such areas.
Of course. Running children are at risk from dogs.

Only if they have swings and other play apparatus for the children to use, if its a large enclosed field, then we should have the right to take our dogs in there.
Pathetic proposal, totally goes against promoting healthy living in the borough. The kids don't play in majority of the parks as the play areas are disgusting, smashed glass everywhere!
People with children and dogs will have to either leave their dogs at home whilst they take their children to play, or stay outside with their dogs.
Playing fields where I live used for dogs to foul on walks always
Please see notes at end of survey
Reduce the risk of dog attacks on public and reduce the risk of health problems caused by dog mess.
Safeguarding children
Safety - Too many aggressive dogs - not controlled Health - Dog waste Again - Difficult to police
Safety and health
Safety reasons. Some dogs may have a good temperament but may also snap
Sensible for children's play areas.
Shouldn't be anywhere near to a play area.
Small play areas are not a place for dogs
Some children are afraid of dogs and should be able to play without that fear.
Some children are afraid of dogs, also it can be very dangerous if children got dog faeces on them.
Some children are frightened of dogs anyway, and this ensures there is no risk of them coming into contact with dogs mess.
Some children are frightened of dogs.
Some dog owner let their dogs free just to scare the kids. Also it's not right if a child falls over and gets covered in dog mess.
Some dogs can be aggressive around children whose safety should always be top priority. It would be wrong for dogs to interrupt sporting matches too.
Some people have dogs & children, so this is difficult especially if the child is young. Some people like to take their dogs with them and watch games. By doing this you are making "Family" activities difficult and I dont think this should be the case. You should work on the people who dont pick up their dog foul, not persecute families with family pets.
Some pets are not totally reliable when faced with excited children.
Sometimes it is difficult to take your dog and child out together. I would not be able to leave my child at home alone to walk my dog and therefore allowing them (if kept on a lead) into these spaces would be of a great help.
Specifically where smaller children play - important to have 'clean' spaces. Further dangers however are exposing our children to accidents as a great deal of litter/glass is also left which also needs enforcing that it does not happen.
sports fields yes bur leisure and recreation areas i do not agree with , as these areas are meeting places for dog walkers and the elderly
Strongly agree as a kids playground is no place for a dog, as you hear more and more about attacks on kids by dogs
Strongly agree, the field is for playing and you cannot due to the dog walkers that do not clean up after their dogs. Its dangerous to children's wellbeing.
Strongly agree!
Strongly agree.
The areas are for children not dogs.
The dirty animals should be no where near children's play areas causing a nuisance and health issues to children.
The diseases that may be spread without trying to avoid .
The grandchildren have had incidents in the past when they have had "mess" on their clothes. We all know the consequences (health wise) of this.
The health and safety hazard. Up to 10 dogs with their owners, can be seen on a Sunday morning in the Blackwood showfield playing area. Children also use this showfield playing area for different kinds of sports throughout the week.

The local park that I use has an area the same as above with signs stating the above law, but you will see owners taking the dog in there whilst their children are playing, this is totally out of order.
The obvious issue of dog waste. Also excitable children and dogs are not a wise mix, it only takes a second for a potentially life changing incident to happen
The people who allow their dogs to foul in these areas and not clean it up, would be quick enough to make a complaint if they or their children were to land in it.
The reason I disagree with this is because there is a lack of public green areas within the borough. If you look at the areas of ystrad mynach and Llanbradach for example, the only safe open spaces for me as a female to walk my dog are parks and multi use play areas. Ystrad mynach park has an excluded play area (understandable) 2 rugby pitches and a secluded woodland path...where am I be able to walk safely? It seems that the council is continuing its limits to the areas to walk dogs (will penallta park be next I wonder?) which is a fantastic form of exercise and relaxation time and I'm sure many others in a socially deprived area with a population ridden with health and obesity issues. Yes I agree that some areas should be excluded because of the minority or irresponsible dog owners, but you could also solve many problems (including health, safety and wellbeing) by introducing dog friendly areas.
The rise in dog attacks on people and children
There are not enough large spaces for dogs in certain areas of the borough
There is no guarantee that all of the potentially harmful bacteria would be removed even if the owner did clean up after their dog.
There is no need to be there
There is no reason for a dog to be in a children's play area, there are alternative areas to exercise your pet.
There is plenty of space outside of such exclusion areas for dog owners to walk and this keeps kids safe
There will eventually be no access to green areas for people with dogs. What happened to human rights and freedom
These are children play areas keep them clean. Will the council be charging people who drop litter?
These are for children to play without coming into contact with dog poo but it would also be a good thing if the council could provide a place for where dogs are allowed to go e.g dog parks with plenty of dog poop bins
These areas are for children and not dogs.
They have no place mixing with children when they are not under control. Many breeds of dog are simply far too strong for children to have any influence over if the start biting.
They should be allowed so long as they are kept on a lead and under control.
This again comes back to the question of health. It is important to protect the children from potential risk.
This ensures extra protection for children playing.
This I feel very strongly about all dogs should always be kept on a lead at all times. The Showfield is like a dog's toilet now you very rarely see children playing. I myself find it very difficult to use the field when there are no dogs running around and have had numerous DISCUSSIONS with dog owners who allow their dogs to run up to children. SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS DANGER OF LOOSE DOGS ESPECIALLY THE SHOWFIELD SHOULD BE GIVEN BACK TO THE CHILDREN
This is essential for children's health and enjoyment of the outdoors , it's disgusting when I had children playing football and they ended up with dog poo on them
This is fair enough. It's only sensible for children to have their own areas to play safely. While penned in there they can't goad or tease dogs while their negligent parents ignore their anti-social behaviour
This is selective and discriminatory: you are basing your argument on bias and a minority. You should focus you efforts on enforcement of existing legislation and changing behaviours through education and enforcement rather than descrimination against those who ALWAYS clean up after their dogs. You do not enforce existing legislation on a daily bases so there is no "teeth" in your argument. How are you going to fund the enforcement of additional legislation when you can not afford to fund the enforcement of current legislation.

<p>This places are for ALL users, even people with dogs. Many families have dogs & children, but need to have both under control at the same time. Also you shouldn't be looking to EXCLUDE dogs, unless you take appropriate action to make places that are EXCLUSIVELY for dog walkers & their families to enjoy. Lewisham council fences off area with large notices that says the area is a dog walking area. All people can use it, but with the knowledge that there dogs in that particular area. You could extend it with a small children's park that people with dogs can safely use with their children together.</p>
<p>This prevents fouling of these areas and keeps children safe from dogs</p>
<p>This should also be extended to include any school grounds (even if on a lead) and cemeteries.</p>
<p>This stops us good dog owners from walking our dogs</p>
<p>This will help keep our existing games areas and parks mess free.</p>
<p>This will limit the chances of dogs fouling these areas.</p>
<p>to keep the place safe for kids and adults</p>
<p>To make dog walkers more responsible and prevent the spread of disease</p>
<p>To make it safer for children</p>
<p>Totally agree. Children should be free to play in these areas without having to worry about being bothered by dogs or their mess. Also in hot weather dogs have a tendency to act out of character.</p>
<p>Totally agree children's play area and sports fields should be a ban on dogs</p>
<p>Understand that there needs to be areas that are not for dogs but the council does have to take into consideration that dog owners are also parents/families and so should not find that they are excluded from family events and activities because they own a dog.</p>
<p>We all want our grandchildren and children to be able to play in a safe and clean environment.</p>
<p>We are not all irresponsible. Most owners keep their dogs on the lead and clean up behind them. It is difficult if you have children with you and need to to supervise the children and the dog if the dof is not allowed in. The minority spoil it for the majority.it should be a restriction to dogs on a lead only and owners to clean up behind them.</p>
<p>We have grandchildren who are part of a dog family, this is responsible behaviour.</p>
<p>We regularly arrive at Oakdale Recreation Ground and have to clean up or cover dog faeces.</p>
<p>Whilst I agree that dogs should not be allowed within enclosed children's play areas and some multi game areas, I would not support the exclusion of dog walkers from sports fields.</p>
<p>Whilst I agree with the ban of children's play areas, I believe the multi use courts can be useful as an enclosed space for owners to teach the dogs recall. this in turn will help to reduce the number of dogs causing issues to other public space users as it will allow people to practice safely. the alternative would be some appropriate dog areas in some local spaces. also I think it is important for there to be appropriate seating near to children's play grounds so that parents with dogs are able to watch their children whilst having the dog outside of the area</p>
<p>Whilst most dogs are harmless, even the nicest can sometimes be a bit boisterous and excitable around children, which could unintentionally cause harm.</p>
<p>With children running around dogs can get excited and then jump on or bite the children.</p>
<p>Yes - Dogs should not be allowed in children parks as they could defecate and urinate on items where children would come into contact with.</p>
<p>Yes because some dogs can get over excited by children and act out of character or pierce balls.</p>
<p>Yes but needs to be inforced and it's not fair if someone who has a small dog which is a danger to public not to be told.</p>
<p>Yes where children play no dogs should be in there</p>
<p>Yes, Children not familiar with dogs are intimidated.</p>
<p>Yes, once spring and summer is here children sit on play areas and dog waste can cause severe infections if picked up on their hands.</p>
<p>You could make each decision on a case by case basis. A blanket decision may prove injurious to dogs, owners, and communities. Dogs need space and freedom to run if / where appropriate.</p>

Exclusion from Sports Pitches

The council is proposing to introduce a new requirement t...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	244	53.5	54.3	54.3
	Disagree	205	45.0	45.7	100.0
	Total	449	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	7	1.5		
Total		456	100.0		

1 .I have a heart condition and the local football pitch is within walking distance for me to run my dog.
2 .I have a dog that needs to run off lead, walking on lead is simply not sufficient exercise.
3. As a rate payer of many years, where will I find provision to exercise my dog locally?
4. As 40% of the public agree with this proposal, does this mean that 60% disagree along with me?
A dog off a lead may accidentally stray onto a pitch. The main thing is to ensure the waste if any is removed
A health issue whereby dog faeces on a pitch is dangerous. Dogs and people running, playing sport are not a good mix.
A lot of fields are mainly used by dog walkers so removing them would leave a pointless field or pitch. Great Britain is supposedly a free country so why should people have their right to move around freely incroached upon in such a way?
absolutely.
Again for those who do not clean up after their dogs. These sports areas are used by children and adults alike and when using these areas can get their hands or faces in this mess. Have seen dog mess on rugby fields etc!
Again if a person falls over while playing football, rugby etc it can cause terrible problems.
Again if dog parks where provided with plenty of dog bins then you may not have so much bother with the kids parks
again totally agree, how can it be acceptable for kids to play football, cricket or just playing and step or fall in dog mess. This is such a big problem and a daily ooccurrence
Again, common sense of dog owners should prevail
agree that dogs shouldn't go onto a playing field in case those playing fall and land in left over remains of faeces but around the perimeter of a playing field can't see a problem with that. as this is usually the only places where dogs can have chance to exercise when pitches not in use.
Agreed, but if the field has access to another route or walkway, dogs should be allowed as long as they are on a lead.
Allowing pets of responsible owners to have a good run on the sports field helps the pets to relate to each other.
Are the council provided specific areas for dogs to play? Where are they supposed to go to run around?
As a family we are fed up of continually cleaning football boots of dogs mess. Falling onto the ground during a tackle only to be covered in dogs mess is nobodys idea of a paradise
As a local rugby coach for children it's an ongoing problem, not just with dog mess but nuisance dog running into playing/training pitch which can be worrying for both children and parents.
As a member of a local sports team we have found a huge increase in the amount of dog mess that is being left on the sports pitches we use. We have had to throw away sports kit because players have fallen in dog mess.
sports teams players have been chased, barked at and snapped at by dogs - teams pay for the use of the fields, and they should have a duty of care to ensure that dog owners know that this is an offence. I realised that the council cannot stop all dogs but this will send a message out to local communities that if dogs stray and cause a nuisance they will be fined. In a time of budget constraints this may alleviate some of the issues faced by Dog patrol/pest control officers.
if they are on a lead and you have bags to pick up the mess then it shouldn't be a problem
there are sufficient areas within CCBC for exercising dogs.

<p>these areas are in infrequent use throughout daylight hours and if the dog is on a lead then no need to infringe playing areas but should be allowed to run free and enjoy their exercise as are the people using these playing areas, again payed for by UK taxpayers local rate payers and various extortionate license fee's which increased by 25% this year. !!!!</p>
<p>I have referred on numerous occasions when it has been necessary to 'clean up' or halt games due to dogs running on the pitch. Rather than punish responsible people that obey rules and care for their animals and the environment , you should concentrate on catching the offenders. There are numerous dogs allowed to roam the streets without supervision and are the ones that make the mess.</p>
<p>As I said earlier I see on a regular basis dog fouling where young people are playing sports</p>
<p>As I say above these areas are only used for a small percentage of the time , not a very efficient use of the resource. Why can't these playing areas be transfered to local authority schools, they are not used on weekends or evenings so would be ideal. An example is the newly built welsh language medium school on pontywindy road caerphilly, they have state of the art rugby, football, hockey, cricket and netball facilities that could be utilised by the community as a whole not just by school children</p>
<p>As if dogs are allowed once again as above but also players could get infection from dogs. Notices should also be put in place.</p>
<p>As long as any mess is picked up and no one is using the pitch I don't see why this would be an issue.</p>
<p>As long as my dog has already messed and I've cleaned up after him I like to give him the full run of the field which includes the rugby/football pitch, I also keep an eye just in case he goes again but I also know that some dog owners don't care, these people usually walk their dog in the evening when dark. My son plays rugby so it is a concern for me, Just wish others would consider this you need someone to patrol these fields in the evening, I doubt very few have bags with them.</p>
<p>As long as owners are forced to pick up mess after their dogs there shouldn't be a problem. Most of the enclosed parks where dogs can run free within the town centre also have parts of the ground marked off for sport. It is difficult to stop a dog running onto these areas when off lead. The alternative would be to drive the dog out of the town centre to the mountain areas causing more traffic and pollution especially if the mountain development goes ahead.</p>
<p>As long as people clean up after the dog this should not be a problem.</p>
<p>As long as the pitches are not in use, owners clean up after their dog, the dog can be controlled by means of re-call and are not a threat to the public, I do not see this as being an issue.</p>
<p>As long as the sports pitch is not in use and people clean up after their dogs then it is an ideal space for dogs to run and play. I have never found any faeces on the field in MJ park and I am consistent in clearing up after my dog. I walk my dog there every day, and it would really impact on my life and my dogs life if I wasn't able to excersise him there.</p>
<p>As long as their no being used and waste is picked up can't see a problem. I also take my dogs to watch son plat footy...maybe keep on leash?</p>
<p>As long as there is no sports being played in the sports field, then I think it is a good exercise area for dogs as usually, the fields are larger than what is required for use by the sports user. As long as dog owners are responsible and ensure that any mess is cleaned up, then where else can you exercise your dog to?</p>
<p>As long as they dont take all the use of fields away from people to walk dogs.</p>
<p>As long as you enforce it</p>
<p>As the parent of a child who regularly plays football on CCBC sports pitches, I am all too familiar with the disgusting and distressing results caused by children coming into contact with dog mess.</p>
<p>Because there are owners that certainly do not clean up after their dog(s).</p>
<p>Because this would include the main dog playing areas in Morgan Jones Park</p>
<p>Being a member of the local rugby club, we have to carry out a thorough search of the playing fields before every game to check for dog mess, and we regularly have to clean it away before the game can be played.</p>
<p>Building of houses is taking away some existing locations for dog walking. Dogs need places to walk, run and play. Dog owners like us also pay our council tax just like parents. What about parents who want to play with their children and pet dog in an open space. The ruling needs to follow that of the seaside - some beaches are dog friendly while others are not. Thus some areas would be dog friendly while others would just be for human beings.</p>
<p>But not out of season only when the veils is marked for sport</p>

CCBC needs to provide small areas for dog toilet purposes - no need to spend a lot of money - just something simple (enclosed) and with e.g. sand
Children and teams should be able to play without the worry of dogs mess.
Children can be affected by the mess dogs make and sport fields are for children not dogs.
Children play on these areas & we should not fear them falling into dog faeces
Children playing sports may fall and land where a dog has fouled and pick up germs.
Children should be able to play safely
Definitely not. This would take away the privilege of walking your dog on most grassed areas in the Caerphilly area. This discriminates against dog owners where this is the only form of exercise and social interaction.
depends on the definition of marked pitches as there are a number of pitches which are regular walking sites with no appropriate replacements locally, for example the pitches in Morgan Jones park and where the big cheese is held
Disagree - dog owners are also families and should not be excluded from areas
Dog faeces a health hazard. Impossible to keep these areas dog poo free - some members of public ignore all notices.
Dog fouling is a significant health hazard to sports players.
Dog mess on Morgan Jones sports field my son has stepped in. Dogs running free off leads, my son was scared for a long time as on more than one occasion a dog had bounded towards him and jumped up licking him nearly knocked him over and muddied his coat etc. Owners either didn't say anything or said it's ok their friendly, that doesn't mean I want them jumping at my son who was scared, or for him to be covered in mud, and what if the dog wasn't friendly. I have also had a dog barking trying to nibble my ankles. I am a previous dog owner before I had children but we always kept them on a lead.
Dog walkers use the proposed areas more often than they are used for sports/activities! It is more often than not the dog walkers that clean these areas on weekends too. During winter months I have not seen any sports played on these areas.
Dog walking in these areas increase the community spirit. In some areas of Caerphilly, rarely used football pitches are the only safe areas to walk dogs, as the area is becoming overly populated, with limited green space available. As long as dog owners clean up after their dog, I do not see a problem with using these areas for dog walking. And from experience there is much more rubbish left by weekend football/ rugby games than the ample number of dog walkers that use the field on a daily basis. Also, people feel they are being pushed into walking their dogs locally since the parking charge was applied to popular local dog walking areas, such as Pen-y-fan pond. If dogs are prohibited from local playing fields, I believe it will cause a substantial breakdown in the community spirit.
Dogs enjoy and require off lead exercise and this would reduce the amount of safe places to do this. With the other measures introduced and controlled properly there should not be any incident of dog fouling on these pitches
Dogs need a lot of exercise and room to run around freely, which cannot be done in the street. They need areas such as playing fields in which to do this.
Dogs need exercise and can't get that on main roads etc
Dogs need exercise and therefore owners also get the health benefits of exercise. Caerphilly Borough should not be discouraging this activity. Why are the majority of responsible dog owners being penalised for the disgusting few. A suggestion, put CCTV on every pitch and add irresponsible behaviour on social media. Identify, shame and when named send a FPN. The FPN will pay towards the cost of the cameras.
Dogs need exercise, I pay my council tax and don't see why I should be prevented from exercising my dog when there are no matches being played. This is discrimination against responsible dog owners and I am disgusted by the council's attitude with regard to this matter
Dogs need space to run and play. Target irresponsible dog owners not everyone else
Dogs need walking areas, but not on sports fields where irresponsible owners do not pick up, which can spread toxocar, which can blind people.
Dogs on leads under control of their owners should be allowed - they are part of the family and no different to taking a young child along surely?
Dogs should be kept on a lead at all times whilst out in the public domain.

Dogs should not be allowed on all marked sports and playing fields, pitches owned by CCBC because someone will have to clean up after them and its not safe for people if they leave poo
Dogs should not be allowed to enter sporting areas where young people and adults use for recreational purposes. This poses risks to health and injury
Don't agree with this as long as any mess is collected there is no harm in a dog going on pitches. Dogs need space to run/exercise if this proposal is put in place there will be limited places for dogs in the borough. Besides I think the mess that is left on these pitches by youngsters e.g cans, bottles etc is more of a problem
Don't understand. If this means rugby playing sports then no. Dogs are part of the family who attend and the one's I've seen are well behaved and just like being with their folk, no problem. Their on the lead just lying down most of the time. What's the problem/issue I'd like to know---more info please as to what the supposed problem is, please.
Enforce the law re picking up waste with the minority of dog owners that don't clean up waste. There is far greater amount of general rubbish left (particularly after matches) than dog mess. It is sensible not to let the dogs on the pitched whilst matches are playing or in between specified times (but not all day/weekend). I often walk my dog whilst my children are playing football matches etc but keep the dog on a lead. With the number of safe places to walk a dog rapidly decreasing in the area, and as a lone dog walker at times, I would be very concerned if this was to become enforceable. This penalises those responsible owners who often pick up other dogs mess as well as their own if seen. Tackle the offenders instead.
Even if owners pick up faeces a small amount remains behind to contaminate soil. Also dog urine cannot be controlled otherwise
Even if the faeces are picked up, there is always some residue. We have plenty of places where people can walk their dogs without using sports pitches.
Even if they do pick it dog excrement, I don't want to play sports with my children in the remnants of dog excrement and dog urine, it is fundamentally wrong.
Evidence on media has shown the dangerous effects of the parasites of dog mess.
Existing restrictions are sufficient. Additional sanctions will limit well being of dogs and dog walkers. Green areas are already being taken away for residential and industrial purposes. Do not disadvantage us more.
Fair Enough Really As There Shouldn't Be Any Reason For A Dog To Be On A Sports Field Unless The Dog Got On There by Accident like by slipping of its lead etc.
Families participate in sporting activities and dogs are part of the family. Responsible owners either won't allow their dogs to foul on the sports field or will pick up. Why penalise everyone for irresponsible owners - need to be able to enforce the issue. Sometimes this is then only safe place to exercise a dog off lead.
Football and rugby tennis and running track pitches are NOT appropriate for dogs to foul on when children and adults use them to train on on a weekly basis and thus in contact with Excrement and urine on a regular basis that pose a health risk to contracting worms, weills disease, and virus's.
For dogs to be happy and healthy they must be exercised properly. Stopping owners from using these open spaces, that are already few and far between, would have a huge adverse effect on all dogs in the area. This would also lead to frustration in the dogs, increasing the chances of excessive barking during the day. I would also effect how much socialising dogs get, increasing the chances of aggressive events towards people and other animals.
For safety
For sound medical reasons.
For the same reasons as above
for the same reasons as the last question
Given the extortionate rates of council tax we work damned hard to pay, with little in return, as far as I can tell, the least we are entitled to is somewhere for our dogs to enjoy a good run off the lead. There are so many places for children to play - why take the few places that dog owners have for their dogs to play away from them? I'm disgusted that the council is even considering this, especially when you still have the audacity to increase our council tax every year.

Great news I cannot wait , as we have 6 or 7 kids teams playing on our pitch and there is always someone letting their dogs run around the field and the kids in particular could pick up something very nasty,
Grey area here. What about the freedom of the dogs? Where can they go? If banned who will police this?
Having been involved with under elevens football at Morgan Jones Park I have experienced dogs faeces on pitch
Having brought up 3 boys who all played rugby at mini and junior level (and they still play as adults) I think it is disgusting that officials and coaches have to walk the pitch prior to a game to ensure it is clear of dogs mess.
Having witnessed football players from the Club I am involved with getting dog faeces on their playing kit and regularly also having to clear dog mess from a pitch before the game I would support this proposal.
Health and safety hazard!
Health and safety Most unpleasant to tread or fall on dog poo
Health and safety.
Hopefully this will apply to the pitches alongside Crescent Rd Caerphilly.
Hopefully this will prevent irresponsible dog owners allowing their dogs to foul in the area. The shared areas are not cared for by some irresponsible dog owners.
I actually partially agree, and partially disagree. Dog owners need somewhere to walk their dogs. I believe that if the above proposals are all put into motion, then picking up on the playing fields etc would not longer be an issue. However, not all people do pick up, so there is obviously an issue. If the Council can ensure there are areas that the public CAN walk their dogs - away from playing fields etc, then perhaps the dog owning public may be more accepting of this proposal.
I agree and disagree has long has the owner picks it all up then I don't see a problem with dogs going on sports playing pitches
I agree for the same reasons as above.
I agree providing the county council ensures that there are sufficient dog walking spaces in any area
I agree that dog mess on playing fields is not healthy for the environment. However the amount of open space is in decline and there needs to be space for dog owners to walk their dogs. The mess left on pitches after matches should be looked into by the Council.
I agree wholeheartedly and although I use the showfield to exercise my dog, I will find a rough area somewhere where he can use. Also picking up his mess.
I agree with the proposal but with the one exception - when spectating. I used to take our dog to watch the boys both train and play rugby. We regularly took part in and supplied waste bags for the clearing of pitches of other peoples dog mess. Remember, it's not the dog, it's the owner.
I agree with this because everyone used the grounds and should not have to put up with other owners dog mess.
I agree with this proposal, although even though I'm not a dog owner, I can see why some dog owners may object to this. I feel consideration would need to be given in designating certain open areas as places where people can legally exercise their dogs.
I allow my dog to have 5-10minutes over our local field that's the only place I feel he's safe! Obviously I don't allow it when there are children playing or a match!
I also think that dogs in parks as a general rule should be kept on leads at all times. This is beneficial to cyclists, pedestrians and children as large dogs in particular can knock people over and frighten children with their barking.
I am a responsible dog owner and always pick up any waste. I fail to see how the Council could police this proposed measure in these austere times, where services and budgets are being cut. Many playing fields are not fenced and make this virtually impossible to enforce, please do not penalise the majority for the actions of the minority. In many instances, responsible dog walkers act as eyes and ears for the council when they are walking in municipal parks.
I am constantly fed up of my son getting dog muck on himself at showfield, Blackwood on the playing field. Please ban dogs from showfield. Make it a dog free zone.
I believe a policy forcing clean up after fouling is sufficient. I enjoy walking my dogs whilst watching sport and can be trusted to clean up my dogs mess.
I can only comment about myself but I often walk around the outside of the pitch and often watch a game with my dog there doesn't seem to be a problem on our pitch, most incidents I've seen are people with dogs from outside the area.

I can understand why they are thinking along these lines but it is limiting the areas where dogs can run free (but still under control). Digs need more than a walk on a lead. They are also very often enclosed areas so good training grounds for puppies.
I can't agree with this. If there is a rugby pitch e.g. and it's when it's empty, the dogs should be let to play as long as the owner cleans up after them. Otherwise we won't have any places where the dogs could get exercise. Not everyone has a car to be able to go with them to the forest e.g. I think as long as the owner takes responsibility and cleans up after their dog and there are no kids on the pitch, the dogs should be allowed there.
I certainly agree but how can all these proposals be monitored?
I coach children's football and cricket and every week you can guarantee I need to clean up dog waste prior to running sessions with children at Machen Welfare
I disagree as dog owners do not walk their dog on the field when a match is being played. It is a pity that no park keeper is there to pick the mess left by spectators.
I disagree as some people only have access to these areas so the long short of it is behaviour problems and dogs being abandoned
I disagree the pitch I walk my dog on is kept clean by dog owners but is filled with waste by the people playing sports
I disagree with this as you are discriminating against dog owners in favour of sports clubs. After a weekend's football match in ynysdu/cwmfelinfach, there is a substantial amount of rubbish (bottles, tape etc) littering the field. I hope you will look in to banning sports teams for this reason if you ban dogs from fields. The sensible approach is to provide better facilities for dog owners.
I disagree with this on a number of reasons. Dogs need green spaces to run on and owners need to have easy access to these areas. Within Caerphilly town there are no other easily accessible areas to allow dogs to have a free run off-lead. This unfairly prejudices those who are unable to walk to or drive to the mountain to exercise their dogs. Without any other green areas being set aside for dogs to have free-running exercise, this is an unacceptable proposal. I would also point out that the state these sports pitches are left in after games is a disgrace. Pop bottles, cans, sweet wrappers etc are all left lying around after games. Litter as a whole needs to be addressed, not an unfair focus on dog owners.
I disagree, with the enforcement to pick up faeces etc and adequate poo bin provision, this shouldn't be necessary, if pitches aren't in use by others what really is the harm of walking a dog across it, allowing dogs to be exercised appropriately has many mental and physical positives for dogs and owners
I do not feel that these pitches are used often enough to do this, as dogs are walked numerous times a day and it would be a shame to propose this.
I don't want to play sports or have a picnic in dog poo and pee.
I find the roads/pavement can be quite unsafe at times as they are often covered with broken glass or litter. On hot days the pavements can be too hot for a dog to walk on so having access to a grassy area is beneficial. I think that as long as a dog is under control in these areas (will come back when called if allowed off lead, or on lead) and the owner is responsible enough to pick up after them, there should be no harm in allowing dogs in these areas.
I had a terrible experience in Morgan Jones Park. Running around the sports pitches on the grass a dog started chasing me aggressively and nipping at me. I asked the owner to put their dog on a lead and he refused. I continued my exercise and again the dog chased me. I felt very frightened. The owner after asking again to put the dog on a lead, refused and told me to "run somewhere else"! I explained this was a recreation ground and there were children playing football here too so he was endangering them too. He physically pushed me in the body as I reiterated that he must put his dog on a lead. Two more dog owners sided with him and I ran off home shaken up.
..... Croespenmaen pitch which has suffered for years with dog fouling.
I have long campaigned for dogs not to be allowed on sport playing pitches. Anyone who has taken part in the pre-match chore of 'walking the pitch' with a bucket and shovel will testify to the amount of faeces that is deposited. On a microbe level, not all of the faeces can be removed leaving a residue which can cause disease. Sport is supposed to be a healthy pastime, however, all too often sportsmen and women and children are playing on what is effectively a dog's toilet.

I have seen 10 or more dogs on the sports pitches in the Longbridge field, the same people do it more than once a day plus dogs fighting on pitches
I have ticked disagree as I need some more clarity, Are you saying that Dogs are not allowed to cross over the white line onto a pitch? Or are you saying Dogs will not be allowed into Morgan Jones park for example, as there are pitches within that park? Will Dogs be allowed on the pitch where the Big Cheese is held? I have lots of questions about this proposal.
..... Machen playing fields and would suggest rather than ban dogs from that area altogether, allow dogs to be walked around the fields on leads. It would be very inconvenient for me and other regular dog owners who are responsible to walk our dogs elsewhere. Indeed on the occasions I have witnessed dog mess, it can either be from a minority of dog owners or visitors who bring their dogs to watch games being played.
I need to exercise my dog
I only partly disagree. Obviously letting a dog do it's business on a pitch is as bad as in a play area but I can't see a problem with walking along the outer areas. Obviously any mess would need to be removed, but that is covered by other legislation.
I REGULARLY ALLOW MY DOG TO GO ON ONE OF THE COUNCIL'S SPORTS PITCHES AND I THROW A BALL FOR HIM. NOT ONCE HAS HE EVER POOED ON THE PITCH AND IF HE DID, I WOULD ENSURE THAT I PICKED IT UP (AND THE GRASS AS WELL IF NECESSARY). IF MY DOG IS EXCLUDED FROM SUCH AREAS, THEN I WILL SIMPLY NOT BE PAYING MY COUNCIL TAX AS THIS IS THE ONLY SERVICE I USE (APART FROM BIN COLLECTIONS WHICH I AM QUITE AMENABLE TO DISPOSING OF MY WASTE MYSELF). I ALSO TAKE MY DOG TO PONT CIVIC AND HAROLD FINCH PARK. AS THE COUNCIL IS NOW GOING TO TARMAK ALL OF THIS BY ALLOWING HOUSES TO BE BUILT, WHERE ELSE CAN I TAKE HIM.
I regularly exercise my dog in Morgan Jones Park and meet with a large number of other dog owners. The dogs get on fantastically well and without exception, the owners ALL pick up after their dogs. I feel that we are being tarred with the same brush as the very small minority of owners who do not pick up after their pets. The park is a very well used social meeting ground for dogs and owners alike and I would oppose the proposal to ban dogs from the areas outlined. I always try to keep my dog off the football pitch and exercise her on the other areas of the park. I hope that this initial proposal is not the thin end of the wedge whereby various groups of individuals are banned/stopped from activities in the parks resulting in the parks being underused and subsequently sold off for development
I strongly agree with this proposal. At the park in Bargoed we often have to check the playing surface for dog faeces before games. Notwithstanding this is a very unpleasant task, it presents a very real health hazard to all using the pitches. These pitches are not only used by senior teams but also by youngsters from age 7 upwards. Dog faeces can cause problems with youngsters eye through a worm infection carried by dogs. No dogs should be exercised on marked playing pitches owned by the council.
I strongly disagree with this proposal. There're a number of problems with this proposal. What is considered a 'marked sports pitch'? Morgan Jones Park has a large cricket and football pitch. If both are considered 'marked sports pitches' then there will be very little room for dogs to exercise. This area of Caerphilly town has less available land for dogs to exercise and I'm concerned that the Animal Welfare Act (2006) may be contravened if excessive action is taken to restrict dog access. Two well attended meetings have taken place in Caerphilly town to oppose this particular part of the order. There's a strong feeling that enforcement action needs to be taken on those irresponsible owners (the small minority) but this part of the order discriminates against the vast majority of dog owners and responsible owners and should be withdrawn from the order. There needs to be an acknowledgment there's geographical differences in Caerphilly Borough and the Morgan Jones Ward is more urban with less free open space.
I take my dog to watch my children play rugby and football at the weekend and would like to continue to do so. My dog is always kept on a lead during these games.
I think as long as the pitches are vacant at the time and are used safely, responsibly, not causing any disruption/discomfort to anyone else, and all dog mess is picked up then it should be ok for owners to use the space to exercise your dog off the lead/play ball. Dogs need to be exercised off the lead for a certain amount of time each day. my concern is there are less and less places where we are able to do this. It's not fair to the responsible dog owners and their dogs - not everyone is a dog lover, but dogs should have just as much right to enjoy their lives, activities and go about their day and live in our communities.

I think it is excessive
I think that this proposal is absolutely stupid, as I often take my dog to Morgan Jones Park and most of the areas are playing fields and my dog loves her freedom off the lead. If we are unable to allow our dogs to roam free how else are we going to let our dogs get the exercise they need. If you do not want dogs on the playing fields then put wire mesh fencing around the area.
I walk my dog in the playing fields in Moorland Road every day I always clean up after him and never walk him when football/rugby training is going on. There is nowhere else I walk him off the lead and I certainly don't take him up the mountain. There is a massive problem with farmers letting sheep/cows down from the farms into the fields every year and the mess they make far outweigh any dog mess that irresponsible dog owners leave behind. To allow this to continue and ban dogs from there would be highly hypocritical. Only part of the playing fields are marked and they are not marked at all for some of the year so how could this be policed. The Council do not seem able to stop people on quad bikes and scramblers from ripping up the grass there so why penalise me for being a responsible dog owner?
i would agree if it is only the actual pitch but not if it is the surrounding grass areas. I also find that a lot of playing fields have a lot of plastic bottles and rubbish left by the players and spectators after being used which should be addressed.
I would support items 1-5 but would seek an amendment to item 6. I would prefer that item 6 only be implemented following a more localised consultation within wards, with residents and councillors before implementation. Where there is a great deal of local opposition and where there is little alternative exercise areas then it should not be introduced. If there is consensus that it would be effective, then it may be introduced in some areas. The views of local councillors should be considered key in these cases. In one specific case, I would argue that it should not be introduced in Morgan Jones Park under any circumstances, given the strength of local feeling and the advice of Cllr James Pritchard.
If any tackles are made they could put their faces in the mess.
If dog owners behave in a responsible manner then there will be no reason to exclude them. By responsible I mean by clearing up after their dog and keeping it on lead if a game is on-going. If there is no game there is no reason to restrict the owners from exercising their dogs. Do not spoil the pleasure of many because of a few ignorant owners
If dogs are kept on lead when games are being played and dogs poo picked up there is not a problem. Where I live the problem is the litter the football and rugby teams leave behind.
If dogs are kept on leads and their owners clean up if their dog defecates on sports pitches, they couldn't cause much trouble. Obviously, if a sport is being played at the time there should be no dogs on the pitch at all.
If dogs are not allowed on the playing fields where will we be able to go to exercise our dogs? It is very important for people to be able to exercise their dogs in the park or on the fields, for the welfare of the dogs and also considering the beneficial effects of dog walking for people, including physical exercise and socialising. Many people do not have cars and need to take their dogs somewhere local. This activity is as important in my opinion as organised forms of sport. Most dog owners are responsible owners and clean up after their dogs and should not be penalised because of an irresponsible minority.
If parks , playing fields etc were "policed", as in dog walkers being watched to make sure people were abiding by the law and made to clean up after their dogs, there should be no banning on any pitch unless there was a game being played. All council parks should be able to fine a dog walker who doesn't dispose of waste, but this means supplying more bins around caerphilly
If the area is not constantly in use and you implement the first two proposals this shouldn't be a problem.
If the pitch is not being used and owners pick up there is not a problem
If the pitches are for sport they should be safe and clean to be able to play sport!
If there is no sports taking place and you clear up after your dog what is the harm? Should this only be enforceable when the field is in use?
If you always clean up and area is not in use at the time it's a great place to exercise dogs safely
Illogical
In my area there are not many places I can let my dog off the lead safely. The football pitch is enclosed and I can see far enough to clip my dog back on if another person were to arrive. If you ban the use of fields for dogs then you must provide safe places where dog owners can let their dogs run without a lead.

In my general area, there are not many open spaces that are not council owned playing fields so I would have to walk a fair distance or drive to allow my dog to have a bit of freedom off the lead.
In some areas, the main greenfield sites are dominated by sports pitches. Whilst it is possible to walk around them in many, I am not sure this is the case everywhere. If all pitches had other adequate walking space close by then I would agree.
It is ESSENTIAL for dogs to get plenty of off-the-lead exercise, and quite often the only areas large enough for dogs to run around properly are where there are sports pitches. As long as owners are responsible as above and pick up and mess from their dogs (ideally prevent them from fouling on pitches to begin with), I don't see a problem. This would be a reckless proposal which, if went through, would have a negative impact on dog health and enjoyment for both dogs and dog owners.
It is not possible to fully ensure that animals will not wander onto pitches unless they are fenced off. In addition some pitches are not physically separated from areas which are not pitches. It would be better to fence off pitches or use pitches such as those at Y Gwyndy in Pontygwindy Road. The pitches there are fenced do not allow animals and are not used at weekends.
It is to play sport not for dogs to crap on.
It is unclear what is a marked playing pitch. There are a number of fields that are currently used for football / rugby that are also part of wider green areas. Are you proposing dogs are banned from all of these sites when they are not in use for sports? Where would dog owners go to run their dogs as there are no designated dog walking parks in Caerphilly as far as I'm aware.
It is widely known of the benefits of participating in sporting activities and there is currently a burgeoning obesity crises of both young and old. Irresponsible dog owners continue to walk their dogs on spaces designated for sport. These fields are often used by schools and sports teams who have to pick up and avoid dog faeces before use. Very often the faeces is missed and football and rugby teams and spectators often are affected by faeces contamination on shoes, kits and skin. The potential negative health implications are well published and known. Sports fields are not dog exercising spaces. Dogs can be walked on non maintained land that is not designated for sporting activities any reasonable, responsible dog owner would consider others and not walk their dogs there. They may claim to pick up the faeces but may miss bits and the ground is contaminated.
It reduces the likelihood of fouling on the playing pitches (no pun intended!).
It should be extended to all playing fields where players health are put at risk.
It should not be a problem if people pick up their dog foul and dispose of it sensibly. Fields are left unused for the majority of the time & should be used by everyone, not just for a couple of hours for 14 kids to kick a ball around a couple of times a week.
It's discrimination against responsible dog owners. For many these areas are the main places their dogs are walked and most pick up after their dogs. It's unfair to ban all dogs because of a few irresponsible owners. We are residents of the county too and deserve to be able to use community spaces. Dogs are part of the family for many people who enjoy using the sports fields as a family.
It's not fair that people who run sports groups have to clean the field before playing.
its a very good idea
Just common sense
Limited spaces in the area where dogs can run freely and have exercise. My local park (penyrheol park) is a convenient place for dog owners to walk and socialise their dogs. I have never seen any issues with regards to owners not picking up their dogs mess. All dog owners who use these fields are responsible and decent people. It would be unfair to penalise us for for the fact that other dog owners in other communities in the are fail to pick up their mess.. Penyrheol park has other, far more important issues which need to be addressed such as alcohol being consumed by youths in the park at night, drug taking and anti social behaviour.
Many of the pitches in the borough are blighted by dog mess, this both dangerous and inconvenient. Many people exercise their dogs in open places such as sports pitches and may not notice that the dog has fouled the area, therefore not cleaning up after it, so the only solution is to forbid the exercising of dogs on sports pitches (good luck enforcing the rules)
Many sports fields are the only opportunity to train dogs or let them run freely. Also may dog obedience shows and agility shows are run on these, As long as folk clear up any mess abd don't run their dogs whilst a game is going on surely there can't be a problem.
Marked sports playing pitches etc need to be kept clear of faeces and disruption - slight worry i.e. would rule to keep dog on lead suffice and faeces rule

Morgan Jones park is there for the community, dog owners in the area should be allowed to walk their dogs in there.
my dog is an active dig and needs to have good excersise every day, i use the local parks to achive this. i always clean any mess up that my dog produces
My dog needs plenty of exercise and this needs to be a safe area away from roads, sports fields are easily accessable and i always ensure mess is cleaned up.
This would be a WRONG move I feel by the council.
My Son used to play rugby on the pitches in Bargoed Park and we regularly had to pick up dog mess before they could play
Need places to walk our dogs
Need to ensure that there are still places dogs can be walked
Neither agree one disagree. I don't see the problem with the area outside or around the sports pitches when they are not being used. Particularly if fouling protocols are followed. Furthermore, if these green spaces are to exclude dogs then open green spaces for the exercising of animals will need to be provided by the council.
No I disagree with this dogs should be able to have a place in which they can run about to burn their energy the same as children providing people pick up their dog mess and as I said in a previous comment dogs should have a mussel on in public areas
nobody wants dogs mess when they play a game
Not all dog owners are bad, and they pick up their dogs mess.
Not all sports fields are used regularly and it offers an opportunity for my dog to run around (not just lead walking) in a controlled area of which I can always see my dog and therefore, Any fouling is picked up and if the fields were being used for sport or wanted to be, we would not use them at that point or move on.
Not enforceable by the council...too many fields are in open parks nit like playgrounds which are enclosed.
Not quite sure about this one as if dog fouling is made a PSPO offence, then its the owners responsibility to ensure that in the interests of hygiene to the enact safe practice
Nothing worse than playing games and falling to the floor in dog faeces.
Number 7 on dog consultation I'm in total bemusement and angry that you want to stop dogs on parks playing fields. I don't agree that this should happen because 1) Old people and disabled people who can't drive can only walk dogs around parks, playing fields. 2) Dog fouling it is the minority who do not pick up and dispose of dog mess in bins provided, Why don't you enforce the law and fine people instead you want to ban the majority of people who play by the rules. This is so wrong!!! 3) Go walk through packs and fields look at the rubbish broken glass condoms, condom packages. Nothing get said about this. To me you just want to blame dogs for everything I'm a responsible dog owner and want to be able to walk my dog in parks and playing fields so please don't ban them from parks or fields.
Obvious reason ,playing a sport football e.g. you don't want to be running around in dog poo.
Obviously. Principle same as child's play areas.
Parks are one of the few areas dog owners can take their dogs to run freely across the grassed area. It would be draconian to prevent dog owners doing so
People play sports on the pitches and shouldn't have to worry that they are going to get covered in dog muck
People using sports grounds can catch certain diseases from faeces that have not been picked up.
pitches need to be kept free of fouling
Pitches, if not multi use should remain safe areas for sport recreation.
Playing fields exist for all of the community. Dog walking is a valuable form of exercise
Playing fields in parks/recreation areas are sometimes the only large areas of space people have access to, to allow dogs to have a really good run out & exercise which is vital to their health & well being
Please consider parks/gardens/grounds of historic properties esp Caerffili castle
Please see notes at end of survey The fact that dog owners allow their pets to do this reflects badly on them, it is common sense not to allow this.
PROPER MANAGEMENT BY THE COUNCIL AND PET OWNERS SHOULD DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE. AND NOT THE CLOSING OFF OF WALKING AND PLAYING FACILITIES.

Provide suitable enclosures for sports fields to prevent dogs running onto the pitch however as above if supporting a team with family the dog is part of that. You wouldn't ask a parent to leave a child at home while the rest of you went out.
Respect others
responsible dog owners should be allowed onto these areas. I have many friends who own dogs which would not cause a problem and as a user of these facilities it is fine. the problem is the small number of irresponsible dog owners who create issues but all should not be tarred with that brush.
Safety, our son plays rugby and football and the side of a sports pitch is NOT the place for a dog.
Same reasoning as above, plus where else are you supposed to walk a dog if the playing pitch is the only green area within a persons community e.g Argoed
See above,also it is a playing field not a dog toilet.
See above. Only on the basis that dog friendly parks/areas are introduced.
See earlier explanation. I don't understand why it's acceptable to allow dogs to defecate on grass used by children & adults to play sport. In rugby particularly, players spend considerable time on the floor rucking and tackling. Ironically, bowling greens and tennis courts are enclosed, when players don't lie on the ground, whereas fields are open and covered in mess. It is a significant health risk and stepping in faeces is awful, let alone rolling in it.
Should never happen anyway. A great proposal.
Similar to above only with adults and children
So long as the marked sports pitch is not in use while walking the dog; and dog fouling policies are adhered to, this should not cause a problem.
So long as they are cleaned up after and not allowed to dig it's unfair to exclude dogs. I often take my dog to the field in Pentwynmawr to enable my son to play football and this would lead to my dog having to be left at home which is not ideal as dogs need exercise.
So people are allowed exercise and dogs are not. A sensible person would realise that pitches in use cannot be used anyway.
Some areas are open for people to walk and these fields may only be used once or twice a week for sport. Why close them off totally
Some dog owners walk their dogs on sports fields, I see nothing wrong with this if they are picking up after their dog.
Some fields are used rarely
Some owners NEVER Pick up dog mess
Some places I understand but it has been custom and practice to excercise dogs on playing fields for many years, as long as owners clean up after their dogs I don't see a problem.
Sports and dog poo don't mix.
Sports fields are only use occasionally, dog walkers are constantly in the area. In a way, by so many dog walkers roaming through the area,, it makes the area a safer place as it is busy. If dog walkers are excluded then the area becomes less used and children become easier targets for unscrupulous people (not that all dog walkers are nice !), but it becomes more of a "lonely" place, which will attract unsavoury characters. Sometime the importance of dog walkers is forgotten and that there presence all throughout the day, make crime less likely.
Sports fields should be there for playing sports and nothing else
Sports pitches are large areas and it is not always possible to find all mess in the grass before a game starts.
Sports pitches are owned by all the people and run by CCBC on behalf of the people. The proposal would ban ratepaying dog owners from amenities that are used by a minority of residents sometimes 2/3 times a week. As such perhaps the Council should consider charging users for such a private amenity. Parks are for everyone and dogs are part of the family unit.
Sports playing areas are not dog toilets.
Strongly agree with this proposal. every home game they play we have to ensure that the football field is clear of dog mess as it is quite a problem!! (Community Centre pitch and Duffryn Field pitch). Problem is owners leave dogs off leads and then fail to clear up the mess as either they don't notice them doing it or they choose to ignore it!
Strongly agree with this sports field is for sport not to give the dog a run.

Strongly agree, as previously stated this is a continuous issue at Tiryberth playing fields.
Strongly agree. Children can play without the worry of getting dog faeces on them or an item they are playing with.
Strongly agree. Children can use the fields without having to worry about dog mess.
Strongly agree. My main area of concern is Blackwood showfield. 100's of dogs there daily. Playing fields are covered in dog mess and urine. This is disgusting, the children come first.
Take direct action against people who do not pick up
The council have not said how they will impose this. Does it mean dogs not going into the park or being kept on a lead at all times. The football teams leave rubbish and mess after a match. The dogs need to run and socialise with other dogs and this is currently allowed to happen at the present time. obviously this does not happen when a match is on. Any fouling needs to be picked up by the dog owner!!!! The dogs should be allowed to run free. Its is a social meeting place for dog owners. It provides exercise for dogs and owners. the main issue is dog fouling and this is what needs to be addressed.
The council should peruse the people who fail to pick up after their dogs
The health hazard on playing fields has a big affect on the general wellbeing of the players
The only relativly safe place to walk a dog in Rhymney is around our local park. The streets of our town are not particularly friendly, with speeding cars and underage drinkers, especially Friday nights in the summer months . Our money would be far better spent on actually giving us dog owners somewhere that we we can take our dogs, rather than trying to make it more difficult for genuine people who care about our environment ant town. Has anyone thought about designated dog areas, where you can actually allow yor dog off the lead.
The park is for all the community
The parks we use are also used for sporting and if this is done there will be nowhere in the local area suitable to walk our dog
The proposal to exclude dogs from marked sports playing pitches eg the area in Morgan Jones park penalises responsible dog owners who do clean up after their dogs. There are very few places in the area where dog owners can throw a ball for their dogs and enjoy a game with them. Also many older people who don't have transport to take their dogs elsewhere for a run use this area. This seems unfair as the area used for football etc is only used during the season and is unused during winter months. Dog owners pay Council tax and should therefore be entitled to use the amenities responsibly. Target irresponsible owners.
The reasons are obvious. However, these appear to be favoured areas for dog walkers. Who is going to police this matter? Dog walkers prefer maintained public open spaces.
The sports playing pitches are water logged from September to May and not used for sports. It would be disproportional to ban dogs all year.
There are many green spaces which are marked up as playing pitches, which only get used for a few hours on the weekend for a number of months per year. I don't allow my dog into these fields whilst they are in use. however, when they are not in use, I think it is only fair that dog owners should be able to use them. if more bins were provided around these areas, dog owners would pick up mess. It may also encourage children and their families to put all of their rubbish including bottles into bins. The basin football field is always littered with rubbish following a game or training session, which ruins the enjoyment for other users of the field. I think it should work both ways, dog mess and human Mess should all be binned. Therefore if families are not going to bin their rubbish then maybe they should not be allowed to use these fields either.
There are not a lot of open spaces to exercise your dog sufficiently. Especially around the town centre where I live. The only open large spaces are the sports fields. Unless you have access to a car.
There are not enough facilities available to walk dogs and as a resident that pays for that provision (green space) but does not use it for ball games I believe I should be allowed to use it for my personal interests which is walking and socialising my dog. I think the majority of dog owners are responsible and if there is a tournament eg, will not allow their animal to disrupt a game therefore I don't believe dog owners should be banned from the area.
There are plenty of areas in the borough where it is safe to take your dog and let them have a run around. I wouldn't see a problem with responsible dog owners taking their dogs onto pitches but the minority can't be trusted to pick up after their dog so this ensures no fouling issues.

There is a football field adjacent to St. Davids Road in Pengam which is continually covered in dog faeces. There is a high health risk for children who use this valued sports facility and it would be good if a sign was erected not to allow dogs near the area. There are a number of alternative green spaces they can use for exercising their dogs. If dogs were excluded and subsequently spotted it would be a lot easier to prosecute rather than wait to observe them potentially foul on the ground.

There is a huge litter problem on these areas anyway. Isolating dog owners is discrimination and takes away dogs right to run freely in green spaces

There is a real risk to public health and specifically to children playing rugby on the marked pitches when they fall onto dog faeces. The faeces gets onto their faces and hands and can be ingested through the mouth. This happens particularly when a child's head is pushed to the ground during tackles or scoring tries etc. Dog faeces can transmit *Toxocara canis*. Information from the NHS websites states... Ocular toxocariasis: Ocular toxocariasis occurs when *Toxocara* larvae migrate to the eye. Symptoms and signs of ocular toxocariasis include vision loss, eye inflammation or damage to the retina. Typically, only one eye is affected. Visceral toxocariasis: Visceral toxocariasis occurs when *Toxocara* larvae migrate to various body organs, such as the liver or central nervous system. Symptoms of visceral toxocariasis include fever, fatigue, coughing, wheezing, or abdominal pain. How do I prevent toxocariasis? Take your pets to the veterinarian to prevent infection with *Toxocara*. Your veterinarian can recommend a testing and treatment plan for deworming. Wash your hands with soap and water after playing with your pets or other animals, after outdoor activities, and before handling food. Teach children the importance of washing hands to prevent infection. Do not allow children to play in areas that are soiled with pet or other animal faeces. Clean your pet's living area at least once a week. Faeces should be either buried or bagged and disposed of in the trash. Wash your hands after handling pet waste. Teach children that it is dangerous to eat dirt or soil. Hydatid Disease (Echinococcosis) 1. What is hydatid disease? Hydatid disease is infection with immature tapeworms of the genus *Echinococcus* in the intermediate host (sheep or human). Echinococcosis refers to the presence of adult tapeworms in the gut of the definitive host. The species *Echinococcus granulosus* (which causes cystic echinococcosis) is found in the British Isles. The disease may take many years to develop and to produce clinical symptoms. This small tapeworm is found most commonly in the intestines of dogs (the final host) that consume the meat or viscera of infected sheep (the intermediate host). Eggs produced by the adult tapeworm, and passed in their hundreds in dog faeces, may be transmitted to humans by a number of routes. The eggs can adhere to dog fur; close contact with infective dogs creates a risk of infection. Where *E. granulosus* is present, areas where dogs defaecate may present increased risks for children or anyone in contact with the contaminated soil or grass. The egg hatches in the intestine of the intermediate host animal (or person) and the early stage of the parasite penetrates the gut wall and is carried via the blood stream to various parts of the body, especially the liver and lungs, where they slowly develop into hydatid cysts. In a person, the occurrence of symptoms depends on the location of the cyst and its size – in locations such as the abdomen, where growth of the cyst is not restricted by anatomical structures, it can grow very large and contain several litres of fluid. In a food animal, these cysts can be seen at slaughter and are recognised as round swellings in the liver and lungs of infected animals. Human concerns Hydatid disease - How do humans become infected? Humans can pick up the infection directly from infected dogs. People, especially children, become infected by ingesting eggs through hand to mouth transfer of eggs after contact with the faeces or contaminated fur of infected dogs. Eggs may also be passed when dogs lick people. It may also occur following ingestion of food, water or soil which has been contaminated by infected dog faeces. Eliminated segments of the tapeworm present in dog faeces have been reported to migrate some distance over grass or garden vegetables before expelling eggs that subsequently adhere to the vegetation. Humans are intermediate hosts; they do not play a role in the biological cycle although they may act as agents in perpetuating the infection by feeding dogs with infected meat and viscera. What are the symptoms of hydatid disease in humans? Hydatid disease in humans arises when cysts cause pathological damage in, or dysfunction of infected organs by space-occupying repression of, or displacement of tissues. Cases usually present with well-delineated primary cysts. Most cysts occur in the liver or lungs, but can occur in almost any location. Cysts can grow quite large, but clinical presentations depend on the size, site and number of cysts. Hydatid cysts develop slowly and may be tolerated until large enough to cause problems within the body.

There is little enough space for dogs to be exercised off lead as it is. This measure would have a seriously detrimental impact on the heath and well-being of the dogs resident in the area. The vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and pick up after their pet. The fouling issue is due to the minority who don't clean up. These people are hardly likely to obey any new orders, as they are clearly not obeying the existing ones. This rule would simply penalise the law abiding majority and do nothing to improve the situation or effect the minority who ignore current laws.
There is no reason for this
There is nowhere else for our dogs to play, most of the Greenland has been sold for housing, just another piece of useless legislation.
There needs to be better mangement of such areas, but to criminalise those dog owners who use them is unacceptable, they are, by definition, PUBLIC areas, owned by all citizens of the Borough, and to exclude a very large group of citizens is not an acceptable way for the council to manage these ares.
There needs to be somewhere for everyone to exercise their dogs without exception - the infirm may not be able to walk on uneven ground or be unable to access the out of town areas with their dogs.
There would not be an issue if you caught those individuals who allow their dogs to foul in these places..There are plenty of individuals who ensure their pets toilet in appropriate places and clean up.
These are often the only open areas for dogs to run and exercise in safety
These areas are often the only safe areas to let dogs off the lead as they are only used for sporting activities for a low percentage of the time. More use is made by dog walkers which encourages social interaction and healthy living for all, not just a few football team members. I am against this proposal. The council is already taking away our green wedges to build on as part of the local development plan. Where else is there to go?
These facilities are for all residents of cbcc including canines. Most families take their dogs with them when watching their children playing on these fields. Dogs require a lot of exercise and need space to be able to run you are considering removing these facilities from the majority of responsible dog owners.
These pitches are usually not enclosed so, in order to keep dogs off they will need to be kept on the lead. This will cut down the number of areas where dogs are able to be off lead. Instead of making it an offence we need to find ways to ensure that all owners pick up after their dogs. Also we need to find a way to ensure all the spectators and players using the playing pitches pick up their litter and using the bins provided before going home.
They should allow it to let dogs run around providing there are no games etc
This could negatively influence residents/communities etc. to use these areas. I would be cautious this requirement could alienate families who take the dog to watch their children play rugby etc., instead, attention should be directed to enforcing responsible owners.
This criminalizes and prevents responsible dog owners from enjoying these areas when not being used for sports.
This I disagree with as most parks where people exercise their dogs also include pitches .As a ratepayer I am entitled to use recreation facilities I have paid for ,sports users are just one group of people and parks are not set aside for their exclusive use .I understand that dog mess is a problem for them and I would be happy if they were fenced off where dogs could not enter and there would then be no reason for dogs to be exercised in those areas.
This is a policy well over due. Children and adults have suffered over the years from playing on fields designated for football and rugby yet covered in dogs mess. Not sure how this will be done on all pitches unless a type of "cattle grid" placed around such sites. Loss of sight or gangrenous limbs are too much of a price to pay for any individual.
This is long overdue why should people playing sport risk getting dog mess on them
This is often the only green space that is flat and available, particularly for the elderly or those with mobility difficulty. Clean up any fouling yes, stop access no.
This is preposterous and totally unenforceable. Bearing in mind that dogs poo everywhere anyway what difference will this make? What about cats? If this "requirement" is brought in presumably the council will fence off the "marked sports playing pitches" so that no-one can access them. Or is there something special about us dog owners?

<p>This is selective and discriminatory: you are basing your argument on bias and a minority. You should focus your efforts on enforcement of existing legislation and changing behaviours through education and enforcement rather than discrimination against those who ALWAYS clean up after their dogs. You do not enforce existing legislation on picking up after dogs on a daily bases so there is no "teeth" in your argument. You do not address the behaviour of those who use the sports fields; I have collected bottles, a screwdriver and in the last two weeks metal spikes for holding goal netting in place - a clear danger if a human or animal fell or stood on it. Equally you do not provide enough bins for the disposal of animal waste. You could instal CCTV to monitor, enforce and report minority behaviour - you don't do this now because of funding so how will you In force in the future- what other services will you reduce?</p>
<p>this is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard. Legally dog owners have to be responsible for their pets which includes providing them with sufficient exercise. When you have breeds of dogs such as spaniels or collies who require extensive exercise, then fields are extremely valuable. These fields are in use for a tiny fraction of time for sport. Most of the time, the only people on them are dog owners. Lots of parents take their dogs along to watch their children playing in matches. These spaces provide a safe environment for enjoyment for every resident on CBCC. By proposing this, you are excluding a high percentage of the county from benefiting from these green spaces. I think that CBCC also have to think about the welfare of its residents. owning dogs has been proven to help lower anxiety and mental health issues. So does being out in open green spaces and exercising. Combine all three and people with health issues, including mental health, feel a lot better. How would you even enforce this?</p>
<p>This is veering towards a total ban of dogs which is NOT a acceptable</p>
<p>This needs to be done ASAP please see earlier comment Even when mess is picked up residue is left We have had several instances of infection in cuts and grazes due to dog fouling in Machen Rec</p>
<p>This proposal is discriminatory towards me as a law abiding dog owner. It will also prevent me from providing my dog with regular opportunities to exercise which contradicts the Animal Welfare (Wales) Act 2006.</p>
<p>This proposal is long over due, The time's i've seen dog owner's walking the perimeter of a games pitch with no interest in the proceeding's taking place, And in a lot of instances leaving them of their lead.</p>
<p>This should be allowed providing the dog owner picks the mess up after them</p>
<p>THIS should have been done years ago the health risk to children is too high to ignore</p>
<p>This should have been introduced years ago!</p>
<p>This will penalise responsible dog owners by excluding them from lots of areas - penalising the majority for the action a minority. Furthermore how can this possible be controlled . For example where a marked playing field exists within a larger park and a dog is off the lead ?</p>
<p>This will restrict necessary, healthy off lead exercise for dogs.</p>
<p>This would be totally impractical and effectively exclude dog walkers from most public parks. Responsible dog owners visit public parks in order to exercise their dogs off lead. Even where adjacent and suitable dog exercise areas are available, the best trained dogs could briefly stray on to sports pitches prior to being recalled. The key to successful improvement is not further prohibition orders but proper enforcement of existing bylaws.</p>
<p>This would be unworkable. Sports pitches in Morgan Jones Park are public land and restricting this large area would mean dogs have very little space to exercise. It would be very difficult to enforce. It would discriminate against the vast majority of responsible dog owners.</p>
<p>This would stop dogs being allowed almost everywhere except by roads! Morgan Jones Park has pitches marked out and this would exclude them from there - if people are cleaning up after dogs then why exclude them. They can't run by the castle due to waterfowl etc, where is there public green space without pitches marked etc</p>
<p>To enforce this you need your officials to be present which I have not seen at all, even after complaining to the police about it, even after giving them information about the individuals concerned.</p>
<p>To the pitch but not the perimeter</p>
<p>too many owners walk their dogs on playing fields and leave the mess. If it is abundantly clear they are not allowed onto a marked area in the first instance, then policing is made easier , and owners know they have to find alternative exercise areas.</p>

Totally agree once again as players should not have to worry about contamination from dog fouling and committee members would not have to clear up after thoughtless dog owners.
Unless the designated areas are fenced off, then in parks such as Penyrheol dogs would be precluded from effectively exercising on the main grassed area. These areas are used by structured sports activities for only a few hours a week, and not at all in the summer season. Parks are multi functional, and should not be reserved for minority users, many of whom are not residents of the localities in which the parks are located - dog owners mostly local people. ALSO PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
we all like to exercise our dogs and within some areas the only flat land where a dog can run safely are local sports fields, the borough has a number of deprived wards and not everyone can jump in the car and take their pet to penallta to exercise them. Again a responsible owner will pick up after their pet and not leave it on a sports field. so you make this an offence and put up signs, very similar to the ones that state dog fouling will be fined, the ones that irresponsible owners already ignore... I do not agree with this proposal at all...
We as responsible dog owners and tax payers have as much right as anyone else to use public services. Morgan Jones park in Caerphilly , is used 365dys of the year by dog walkers the vast majority of whom clear up after their dogs. Our dogs need areas to exercise and socialize as do we people and not everyone has the capability to travel to exercise their dogs. What is needed is to reintroduce the 'parkie' of years gone by to cut down on all sorts of anti social behaviour i.e under age drinking, littering etc. As a trained health professional I am very well aware of the dangers of dogs faeces but I do not think that the majority should suffer for the actions or inactions of the irresponsible minority. Also, what will the council do if we all refuse to comply? This is something that people feel very strongly about, you may find that people ignore the order, if it does in fact come into force, then you will have to pay someone to be there to enforce it.
We do not want dogs on playing fields
We regularly walk our dog with our children on the Bryn playing fields and this has never been a problem. The field is not in use that often and it would be a shame to stop the public making use of the area to walk dogs. As long as there is enforcement of the rules regarding picking up dog mess this should therefore not be required.
We run a junior football team and have to clean the field before every game, it's awful. We have even had to top a game where someone has let their dog foul on the pitch after it has been cleaned and goals and flags are up so obviously being used. This would be great for us. My only worry is how this will be managed with there being no permanent pavilion attendants at the ground
Well behaved dogs should be allowed
What next no playing football on the football fields?
What other areas can dogs go to run?
Where a marked pitch is alongside open grass / parkland I think this is unworkable. I have every sympathy for people wanting to use the pitch for sport without picking up / slipping in mess, but I think this rule can only apply to fenced in pitches. Also, there is a distinct lack of enclosed park / field areas in the borough where a dog can be safely off-lead during training & this is an essential aspect of training. An enclosed pitch can be an idea place to practice recall & other training exercises with a dog, which longer term ensures they have good recall & are not a nuisance to people or other dogs. During such training dogs are there to learn not to empty their bowels & most of us know when our dogs will do this, e.g. at home, early into a walk etc. & can therefore use such facilities without the dog doing this. Of course there are lots of farm fields in the borough, but these often are quite inaccessible or contain livestock & are therefore not suitable for letting dogs off. Additionally, dogs need time off lead & restricting this more & more raises concerns with regard to animal rights & to animal welfare legislation for me. I think owners should responsible & offenders dealt with, not all dogs penalised & restricted unnecessarily.
Where are dogs supposed to go the uk is becoming more dog friendly as years go by.
Where are owners supposed to exercise their dogs? It's not fair on responsible owners and their dogs
Where else would I be allowed to exercise my dog? I have arthritis and since getting a dog it has helped my condition by regularly exercising and going for walks on the playing fields. Dog walking is a leisure activity enjoyed by many so why should this be taken away? We also have a right to use the parks and open spaces.

While I think this is a good proposal I cannot see it working as it would require boundaries to be put up around park pitches. I think it would disadvantage dog owners from using parks and may increase problems of fouling elsewhere. If there was a way to section off pitches like there is with children's playgrounds I would agree with the proposal, but this would mean that dogs could not be allowed off leads in open spaces.
While there are strong arguments for such a measure, most the local green land includes a designated sports playing pitch. This would consequently prohibit dogs from open areas, which would be unreasonable.
Whilst dogs shouldn't be allowed on marked sports playing pitches when they are in use, I don't agree with banning dogs from them when not in use. The issue here is about making dog owners responsible for clearing up after their dog.
Why has this not already been done! With the best will in the world, cleaning up dog mess, is not 100% effective.
Why should sports men/woman have to play on areas covered in dog excrement. I wouldn't want to be playing football and fall over right onto a pile of soft dog excrement.
would be a shame for responsible dog owners not to be allowed to play with their dog/s when not interfering with any sporting activities, partic. in winter other areas may become inaccessible for exercising dogs eg for older dog owners
Would limit area to walk dogs and also sports play areas only used at limit times
Yes - Partially. Dogs should not be allowed when children are in the area but my only personal objection to dogs being in public pitches is based on the fact most people dont clean up dog waste.
Yes but would these pitches class local rugby/football pitches or like the new one in ystrad and Lewis girls Astro turf pitch? Because in nelson where we have the wern pitch it would be impossible to keep dogs off the pitch and you have to go next to and over the pitch to get to the cycle track
yes i agree with keeping dogs from sports fields
yes not everyone is a responsible dog owner and why should children have to dodge excrement on a playing field.
Yes they should be banned. The children play football, rugby etc. They don't want to be covered in dog's poo because the owners are too lazy to pick it up. It can also cause disease and affect children's eyesight. Ban dogs from ALL public parks. A lot of children are frightened of strange dogs. If this is going to be passed there should be people checking that these new rules are being followed.
Yes totally agree, dogs are let off leads foul, and the owners turn a blind eye.
Yes. And ban bonkers (human) fathers too. From school's football matches.
Yes. Again, dog mess on football boots is gross.

Dogs on Leads

The Council is proposing a new offence for failing to put...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	414	90.8	92.4	92.4
	Disagree	34	7.5	7.6	100.0
	Total	448	98.2	100.0	
Missing	System	8	1.8		
Total		456	100.0		

A dislike at age 93 to have dogs running up to me to smell me
A dog needs to be under control at all times and if you cannot control your dog it needs to be put on a lead
A dog running loose can cause distress to other people. Dog owners should have control of their animals at all times both on the roads and in parks or recreation areas.
a dog should always be under control and on a lead where required otherwise call the limited police force.
Absolutely agree, this is common sense. Refusing to do the above when asked is very irresponsible and selfish
Absolutely agree. Owners allow dogs to run free, jump at others and/or bark saying "he won't hurt you". This is no comfort to a child or person frightened by the dog.
Absolutely! If a dog is in a public place, and out of control it should be kept on a lead. Not all dogs are accepting of other dogs, and often it is those that are ON the leads, and then someone has their cute little thing, completely out of control that goes running up to a dog on a lead which may not like other dogs too much. What's going to happen - the dog that is under control is immediately put into a dreadful situation that is going to get it into big trouble - yet not it's own fault! Dogs should be allowed off lead, but only when sensible to do so.
Again I whole heartedly agree - but with the greatest respect to the Council you will have to have many authorised officers
Again the council are acting as judge jury and executioner. What one person considers to be out of control may not be the case by another; this totally subjective and can not be standardised
Again, part of the responsibility of being a dog owner I always put my dog back on a lead if small children are running around etc until I know the children/parents are happy with a dog. Educate those repeat offenders rather than just impose punitive measures.
Again, this should be down to the owners and not all dogs are friendly.
Agree - Have you ever had that conversation with a member of the public?
Agree as even dog is friendly it can be over excited and children can be knocked over
Agree for problem dogs. However, again, responsible dog owners will already do this!
Agree. Those dog owners who repeat the same old line...'don't worry he won't bite you'...seem to forget that dogs are pack animals who often act on instinct when least expected. Sadly we have seen many people of all ages mauled and even killed by dogs whose owners claim 'wouldn't harm a fly'.
Alarm, distress or a nuisance is reason enough to order that it should be controlled
All dogs should be in control.
All dogs should be kept on a lead in all public areas.
ALL DOGS SHOULD BE ON A LEAD ALL OF THE TIME WITH ON THE SPOT FINES Some children & adults are frightened of dogs so will not walk passed them
All dogs should be on a lead and muzzled if in a public place, particularly where children are.
All dogs should be on a lead to control the animal.
All dogs should be under the control of owners wherever they are

All officers would need to wear cameras to prove this as there is room to take advantage.
All owners should have control over their dogs at all times, particularly if their behaviour is poor towards human or other dogs
An authorised officer should be complied with no objections when requesting dogs to be restrained.
An out of control dog can be alarming
And at the request by members of the Public who feel uncomfortable with a dog roaming round in their vicinity
Animals should be under control at all times.
Any breed of dog can be a danger. In public dogs should be kept under control by their owners
Any dog out of control or causing alarm should be put on a lead. Yes i agree with this proposal.
any dog out of control should be on a lead if causing a problem
Any loose dog has the potential to become unruly / uncontrolled and cause harm to innocent bystanders. It is too late after the fact. It is beter owners be in control at all times.
Any owner with a brain would already do this. This come under good citizenship. But what does an "authorised officer" look like. I've never seen one.
Any person not in control of their dog is a potential risk
Are there not already laws to cover this?
As a responsible dog owner I have enough knowledge to know if he or she is out of control or causing any alarm or being a nuisance, it appears the council is being very DISCRIMINTE against dog owners. We have enough to put up with with the glass from broken bottles used needles, used condoms etc, the vandalism in my local park is scandalous on a weekly basis
As all dogs have the potential to be dangerous
As an authority if we get the message through too residents that letting dogs roam, foul or be a general nuisance is unacceptable behaviour it may start to educate members of the public and future generations.
As long as a dog is out of control and not just being a dog and having a run about.
As long as authorised officer approaches this correctly
As long as it is for the reasons above i.e. for being out of control etc.
As long as the person of authority has guidelines rather than their own judgement completely as some dogs are just high energy but not out of control. The area should also be taken into consideration.
As over. "If directed to do so by an authorised officer ... out of control ... causing alarm or distress ... or to prevent a nuisance - 100% common sense (exactly what would be expected)
As someone whose dog is hardly ever on a lead but very well trained I hope this would not be abused.
Being unsure about dogs when they decide to bound up to you as you approach them
Better control
But it does depend on the opinion of the official, which could be affected by their personal feelings/dislikes.
But needs to be handled rightly if a dog if truly out of control I for one have spent a lot of money on doing training from an early age with my dog so he listen to my every command and is under control, but people do look at him as though he's going to do something because of his breed, but then if they see an out of control Chihuahua they think it's cute.
Cannot understand why an owner would be offended by this.
Common sense
Completely agree given my experience explained in the last question
Completely reasonable and sensible.
Could frighten a lot of children and adults.
Dangerous dogs need to be dealt with and people need to understand not all people want their dog jumping up on them or coming up to their dog. I have a 7 month old pup that whenever I'm on the cycle track and I see someone coming down I always put him on his lead. He's being trained at the minute because I don't want him acting crazy
Dangerous dogs should be on a lead and muzzled in public
Definitely the amount of out of control dogs I come across everyday is unbelievable
Dog has to be out of control or threatening to public for this to happen

Dogs are let off leads for exercise, and as responsible dog owners we know how to control our animals. Catch the other people.
Dogs are unpredictable and the owner cannot guarantee that that dog will not turn on an other door person if off the lead
Dogs can be unpredictable especially around other dogs and children. Not all people take to dogs especially if they have had a bad experience in the past. For the dog owner who has his/her dog on a lead she/he cannot control the other dog that may not be attached to a lead. The owner together with the dog is then at risk.
Dogs need to be controlled
Dogs need to be on a lead near traffic.
Dogs need to be under control, this does not necessarily mean on a lead.
Dogs off lead need to be under control.
Dogs running around can inadvertently cause problems with smaller children purely by their bulk/velocity.
Dogs should always be controlled
Dogs should always be on a lead in public places.
Dogs should always be on leads. Outside their properties.
Dogs should always remain on leads for their and everyone else's safety.
Dogs should be kept on a lead and properly controlled in all public areas, roads and footpaths.
Dogs should be kept on leads in public places.
Dogs should be on a lead at all times in public places it may be too late to act when the dog is deemed to be out of control. For safety reasons dog parks should be provided and paid for by dog owners as an area for dogs to run freely, not where they are around other members of the general public.
Dogs should be on a lead at all times.
Dogs should be under control
Dogs should be under control at all times and if this means putting on a lead then so be it.
Dogs should be under control at all times. Its not necessarily the dog owners fault or the dogs fault that something happens, but I would consider it a failing of the dog owner not to take appropriate action if their dog became out of control, causing alarm or distress or prevent a nuisance etc.
Dogs should be under control at all times. If the owner has not taken the responsibility to train their dog, then there is a need for this sort of authoritative direction.
Dogs should not be let off lead if known to cause problems
Dogs should only be allowed to run free on common land when there is no livestock present.
Dogs should only be off leads in appropriate areas
Every ones judgement is different. Any normal person would know that their dog is causing alarm and would do so. You may get an authorised officer who just doesn't like dogs and would take that opportunity to dictate to an owner on when to do this when the dog may be doing nothing wrong. People are able to use their own judgement, no need to create a Nanny state.
Every owner needs to be responsible for their dog.
Every owner should be able to put their dogs on leads.
Fair Enough I Always Have My Dog On A Lead When Out Which Is Rare These Days But Still Do Have Her On The Lead
For that very reason
Good idea, except that leads are largely useless. Especially them long retractable ones, where the dog owners says "stop running! I can't hold him!"
how is this to be controlled? are you going to propose hiring sufficient dog wardens to cover the whole county? if not the law will fail and unenforceable.
how will this be monitored? dog owners will still get away with it
However I'm concerned of what the guidelines for the above offence, and what the repercussions would be.

<p>However it would depend on who the person was, what dog behaviour training they had received in order to make that judgement. I don't believe that someone with no formal qualifications /training should be allowed to make that call. Most responsible dog owners know if their dogs can be let off the lead, or when they need to put their dog back on a lead. I therefore feel that this would be the minority of dog owners that would need to be told.</p>
<p>However, who is "an authorised officer". Never seen one in the 4 years I've lived in this village. How will this be policed.</p>
<p>I agree but all dog owners should know that their dog should be under control.</p>
<p>I agree only if it is made aware that only if your dog/s are causing a nuisance of themselves not for all dogs as they need and are entitled to freedom as much as humans</p>
<p>I agree very strongly on this proposal. I think a dog can be like a car or a gun, it can injure or even kill if not used properly. Why should other people be put at risk of being injured or losing their life because someone wants a dog in a public place. They also hurt dogs that are on leads</p>
<p>I agree with this because the officer is clearly noticing the dog could do harm to the public.</p>
<p>I agree. Our dog has to be on his lead at all times as he was a rescue dog and not recall trained. He is often followed and bothered by loose dogs whose owners are too busy on their mobile phone etc., to even notice what their pet is up to.</p>
<p>I agree. There are too many stories in the press about people being injured by uncontrolled dogs.</p>
<p>I also think it would be helpful to promote the international yellow warning system, where dogs which are not yet socialised, are nervous or potentially aggressive wear a yellow collar or coat to alert other dog owners that they are on-lead for a reason & require that other owners do not let their off-lead dog approach.</p>
<p>I am afraid of dogs as I was attacked many years ago and I avoid certain places . This causes me problems as I am a keen walker</p>
<p>I believe it is an offence for a dog to be out of control or the following of the statement, and therefore putting the dog on a lead should be the responsibility of the owner, they could be asked but not cause an offence by not doing so. My dog is always off the lead and I receive comments daily about her good behaviour but while training her I had some complaints. People need to be mindful I have also endured screaming children in a supermarket, we need to learn a degree of tolerance.</p>
<p>I do believe that dog owners should be responsible for their dogs and not to allow a dog off-lead if they can misbehave or are not good with other dogs, some owners fail to act when their dog is out of control. I think this should only take action in extreme circumstances.</p>
<p>I feel dog owners seem to think all people like or love dogs and this is not true dogs running wild could cause stress in none dog lovers</p>
<p>I feel dogs should be kept on a lead in all public places.</p>
<p>I feel that dogs should be kept on a lead in all public areas. As a member of a walking club we have dogs regularly walking and running without leads on our cycle track. The dogs have been known to jump up at our walkers. Also if off the lead the owners do not always have control over where their dogs foul.</p>
<p>I have 2 large dogs they are always on their leads where there are other people around as they can look intimidating to others but they are both big softies it's the smaller dogs that need to be watched</p>
<p>I have been personally attracted by 2 dogs when out running by owners who had dogs off leads and not bothering to control them ,one was what I would call a more dangerous breed I would welcome stricter controls</p>
<p>I have no objection to this</p>
<p>I think if your dog is a nuisance then yes</p>
<p>I think it would be hard to define what "a nuisance" is, as this may vary from person to person, but if the dog is causing distress to others then the dog should be on a lead.</p>
<p>I think people should let the dogs off the lead only if there is no one around and if they have control over the dog. The dog should come when called.</p>
<p>I totally agree that dogs should be kept on leads especially on pavements because they can cause a crash if they run on the road</p>
<p>I trust authorised officers to use their judgement. Some owners do not appreciate the fear their dogs may instil in others</p>
<p>I would consider a dog should always be on a lead in a public place or is an obvious hazard to other walkers or traffic and could cause an accident.</p>

I would like to know what qualifications and training these individuals would have in order to be able to make this decision. What if you disagree with that person? what then? I think these people have to be fully qualified dog trainers and registered with relevant governing bodies such as the ABTC?
I would like to qualify my response - what is the definition of an "authorised officer"? Will these people be trained to assess dogs' behaviour and body language, and to determine when a dog is deemed to be "out of control" or "causing a nuisance" or will they just be some council busy body with a clipboard trying to justify his / her job?
I've heard of someone letting their dog loose on purpose so it can attack other dogs or people, just for a laugh.
If a dog cannot be controlled off a lead then it should be kept on one at all times to avoid any incidents.
If a dog is deemed in need of being put on a lead by a designated officer for the reasons outlined above then it should be an offence if they fail to do so as the action is to prevent injury in others and to the dog itself. It may need to be clearer about who a designated officer would be.
if a dog is not under control by the owner it is a danger to those around
If I thought my dog was causing alarm or distress, I would not need an officer to advise me, as I would automatically put my dog on the lead.
if its out of control they should comply
If the dog is a nuisance for others this seems fair
If the dog is causing alarm or distress, however I would request that a warning is issued in the first instance especially for larger breeds of dog, people can react alarmed by just the size even when the dog has made no approach or action.
If the dog is out of control or causing distress to someone then yes but if the dog is not then no
If this is to be an offence what would the penalty be and how are the public to recognise who are authorised officers. How will it be policed and by whom..surely nt on current staff numbers
If, and only if, the dog presents a danger to another animal or person then it's only right that the handler should put it on a lead when instructed to do so, as long as this is fairly implemented.
in control of a dog safely should be the most important part of dog ownership. If you can't control your dog you shouldn't own one.
In most cases, dogs are a nuisance when off a lead. It seems that its a dog's nature to run up to strangers. I am 80 years of age and in 2 cases this year I have been knocked over by eager and youthful dogs pouncing on me for a greeting. Once on the cycle track at Blackwood and once on the canal walk, Risca. At Risca where I said to the owner "shouldn't he be on a lead?" she became verbally abusive and her defence was that "there are no lead signs showing anywhere".
In my opinion dogs should be kept on leads at all times regardless, even if a dog does everything on command it can only another dog to run over which could cause the dog to turn at least on a lead owners got control over where their animal goes
In some cultures a dog will cause alarm by simply existing.
Irresponsible owners should be prosecuted and banned from owning dogs.
It depends who considers the dog to be out of control. I'm regularly asked to put my dog on a lead by other walkers and runners etc when he is walking calmly by my side.
It does not need he council to do this. The number to use is 101 or the RSPCA
It goes without saying.
It is not a requirement for dog owners to attend dog training classes, which means that often, dog owners are unable to control their pets.
It is safer for people.
It seems to be common practice for owners to walk their dogs without a leaderboard on busy lanes.
It to make sure that your dog can be under control but it also depends on the dogs
ithink dogs should be on leads at all times except in designated areas.
Its common sense
Its logical
Just greater education required I cannot see how this will be resourced under the current financial climate.
kept on a lead at all times unless in a designated area

Lack of control by some owners
Large dogs should be muzzled at all times
Leave these powers to the police
Let the police do it U are only the council not the law
Many dogs jump all over other persons
Many people are afraid of dogs for many reasons and a dog running towards you can be very upsetting.
Members of the public should respect people with this authority, and in any case should be responsible for their dog and keep it on a lead to prevent it from being a nuisance.
My dog is trained and socialised, not all dogs are. I have had issues with other dogs causing a nuisance and distress to my dog which has resulted in heated discussions with the other dog owners.
My dogs have been attacked several times whilst in parks. If people want to let dogs loose I believe they should take them up the mountains away from children as well. Very good proposition
Need to be kept under control.
No dog should ever cause a nuisance or distress and definitely if showing aggression should be on a lead.
No one should be put in a potentially dangerous situation with an aggressive or out of control animal. Expecting dog owners to put a dog on a lead is a basic request
No responsible dog owner should object to this.
Not all owners are able to control their dogs and some people are genuinely afraid of them. I am not afraid of them but find it very unnerving and annoying when a dog jumps up on me and the owner says "He's only being friendly" !!
Not all people like dogs. Not all dogs are friendly.
Not everyone is happy to see dogs running around. Lots of people are afraid of dogs.
Not everyone likes dogs.
Not sure how a dog owner is to recognise an 'authorised' officer, but a responsible dog owner would always put their dog on a lead when asked by any person with a good reason.
Not sure what you mean. My little friendly dog is sort of out of control when we arrive at our park because she is excited to be there and runs around happy with ball throwing. She could be classed as causing alarm to people because she is too friendly and loves people so runs up to them to say hello. You could have an officer saying this is not acceptable if he/she enjoys the control only aspect of the job.
Of course this makes sense although I'm not convinced it'll make a difference given an officer would actually need to witness this.
Officers need good training to understand canine behaviour
On the towpath of the Crumlin arm of the Mon and Brecon Canal, there are several walkers that are not in control of their dogs.
Others people dogs can be quite frightening to a child ,especially when they bound towards you on Caerphilly mountain owner often way behind. Shouting he won't hurt you, jumper soiled by dog jumping up, trying to be friendly ,left me annoyed far from friendly.
Owners should be in control of their dog(s) at all times.
Owners should be responsible for behaviour of their dogs
Perfectly sensible but like so much legislation, any bye-law is ineffective without adequate monitoring and enforcement.
Provided it is unbiased and the animal is indeed out of control or causing alarm / distress or is causing a nuisance.
Provided this isn't done in the usual heavy handed using I common sense way most policies appear to be implemented by the council I would support a sensible implementation of this
Recent events prove that there is a need for dogs to be controlled and placed on a lead
Reduce the risk of a dog attack on a member of public. Reduce risk of harm to a member of public.
Responsible dog owners will always comply with this. Hopefully it will give the council greater powers over those who are less responsible.
Safety first

Safety issues for both children, drivers and the dogs themselves
Safety of the community is of paramount therefore measures should be in place on these occasions
Safety reasons
Safety..
Safety...tired of being told it's OK they are friendly...how am I supposed to know that
sensible suggestion - again should target irresponsible owners
Should also apply when asked by a member of the public
Should be on a lead always
Should not be an offence. Current legislation is sufficient.
Should not have to be directed ALL DOGS SHOULD BE ON A LEAD AT ALL TIMES
Show me where you are providing areas where dogs can be exercised safely without children and how you are going to enforce that? As a horse owner with nowhere to ride. You will do nothing.
So long as the poorly trained `civic` staff who are given a role in the enforcement of these proposals can prove to a Court of Criminal Law that the `offence` actually took place at all, an entire team of witnesses will have to be assembled, witness statements taken and the putting to `proving` genuine ALARM AND DISTRESS will require a huge financial commitment on the part of the Caerphilly council, each dog owner will of course be not guilty of such an `offence` until the Council (in this case) demonstrate that offence in a Criminal Court. My Pet insurance provides me with legal insurance to protect me and my dog from what could be quite subjective action by untrained enforcement witnesses, because that is all they will be in such circumstances.
Some dog owners don't see the risks of dogs running freely whilst children are playing.
Some owners are plain stupid and irresponsible
Some owners are unable to see when their dog is being a nuisance to others, so I feel this would be a sensible option. Others are just too lazy, which again will solve this problem.
Some people - especially children - are frightened by dogs.
Some people don't understand others discomfort around dogs, or simply don't see their dogs behaviour as distressing
Some people see their hound of hell as a cute, cuddly family member.
Some people think their dogs are well behaved but they are not so I agree if asked to put them on a lead they should.
Strongly agree with this - if the dog is out of control it should be on a lead at all times, not even the owner could be sure of the damage a dog could cause to children/people if they are out of control / causing alarm or distress/ or being a nuisance - and then its too late!
Strongly agree. Some people are not dog lovers and don't know if the animal is a calm dog or a flighty dg so they shouldn't be left off the lead. Some children are frightened of dogs.
Surprised this is not already in place
The dog owners needs to be in control of their animals if there is sufficient cause for alarm then they need to be restrained by a lead to prevent harm.
The owner surely would already have a dog on a lead in an area such as that
The Police already have these powers.
The police already hold these powers
The rise in attacks on people and children
The risk of injury is well documented, as regards to certain breeds, particularly large dogs e.g. American bull dogs, pit bulls etc.
There are a few "dangerous breeds" up here that are allowed to run free. They intimidate other dogs and owners.
There are numerous risks associated with dogs not on leads particularly if they are considered out of control.
There are plenty of nuisance dogs. There are so many different breeds of dogs people can feel intimidated or frightened.
there's nothing worse than someone saying to you about their dog when its growling it wont hurt you no comfort wen you are terrified
They need to comply, and learn to become a socially responsible person.

This could limit the amount of exercise dogs are provided with. Which could then be classed as abuse by welfare organisations. Responsible dog owners know their dogs and would only let them off the lead if they knew they would be well behaved. Again, punishing the majority. Who would these officers be? How much money would cbcc be throwing away at trying to police this when that money could be better spent?
This is a reasonable measure if the dog was indeed causing alarm or distress.
This is common sense!
This is important, but must be used appropriately by properly qualified personnel. Otherwise those dogs and owners not causing a genuine problem will also be effected.
This is just common sense
This is not possible to police. Who would be authorised and how many staff will be employed to do this work. Council staff have been told to be non-confrontational. To ask them to do this would be for some owners unacceptable and could create problems for staff. Given that the gates to the parks and the Public Conveniences cannot be locked or unlocked at appropriate times I cannot see how enough staff could be employed. It would therefore fall down and become disregarded.
This is reasonable as long as the authorised officer can justify the instruction. Dogs should not be allowed to be a nuisance.
This proposal is plain common sense
This will prevent dog mess and also dogs frightening people and potentially turning and harming people.
To keep them under control.
To make the owner/walker responsible and prevent anti-social behaviour
Too many dog owners don't take enough responsibility for their pets.
Too many dog owners/walkers allow their dogs to run free in public areas. In many cases this causes distress and sometimes injury especially to children.
Too many owners are not concerned about other peoples fear of dogs.
Uncontrolled dogs are a danger not just to people but to themselves, their owners could be putting their pets' lives at risk if they are judged to be dangerous just because their owner would not train or control them properly.
Unruly dogs need to be kept under control.
We walk our dog off the lead when there is no traffic about as he is well behaved and obeys commands, if asked by an authorised person we would put him on a lead
When teaching a dog how to behave initially they may seem out of control until that behaviour is learnt. This particularly applies to younger dogs
While I agree I believe that all dogs should be kept on leads unless they are in a designated area. My dog becomes very nervous when larger dogs come up to her and it doesn't matter how much they say that their dogs won't hurt her, if she snaps they will want her dealt with !
Who can make that judgement
Who constitutes an authorised officer? Who will pay for these? What constitutes alarm or distress? Some people behave stupidly at the sight of animals when the dog is under control and cause distress to the animals. It cuts both ways!
WHO IS an authorised officer ? ALL DOGS SHOULD BE ON LEADS WHEN THE NEED EXISTS TO DO SO
Who is deemed an officer? Wouldn't this really be a police matter?
Who's to say if a dog is out of control?
Would require more information on what constitutes an "authorised officer)
Yes - All dogs should be on a lead in a public area. There are extended leads for smaller dogs, larger more energetic dogs can be taken to a non public area.
Yes a dog off it's lead, Causes alarm and fear in the people,Who in the vicinity
Yes at the officers discretion, some owners dont see their dogs potential nuisance.
Yes maybe stop the dogs killing the geese around the castle
Yes my family should feel free of fear and harm of out of control dogs.

yes the officers should also carry a handheld micro chip scanner so they can identify the owner of any out of control dog which is not muzzled or leashed.

Yes, any dog who is a danger to anyone or to a person in a vehicle on council property should be on a lead, and any owner whose dog repeatedly offends should be fined and banned from parks etc also not just authorised officers, any council worker should be able to direct an owner

Yes, if an owner is not in control of their dog they this should be an offence. Possibly owners should be made to attend training classes for owners to learn how to control their dogs?

Yes, many people have a fear of dogs. Think of the number of children who have been savaged. Prevention is better than cure.

Yes, this is for the general safety of the public.

Yes, to protect the public, especially children. my only concern would be that the decisions of what and how to define what is considered "alarm, distress, nuisance" should be clearly established to ensure consistency and avoid any potential disputes.

Memorial Gardens

The Council is proposing the introduction of a new requi...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	405	88.8	91.2	91.2
	Disagree	39	8.6	8.8	100.0
	Total	444	97.4	100.0	
Missing	System	12	2.6		
Total		456	100.0		

A dog in such a solemn place is out of place and doesn't belong there. blanket ban dogs in all area like these is my opinion.
A Memorial Garden is not a field, it is a place of calm where People show their respect in a dignified way. Dogs should not, in my opinion be allowed AT ALL in Memorial Gardens across the Borough, and in some cases this was imposed in certain places. I do not understand the rationale behind why Garden signs have been altered to allow this. It only encourages people to take advantage of an open space, allowing their dogs free reign to mess in an area where young Children and older residents access. Children of varying ages also walk through the Memorial Garden to get to the local School and should not, under any circumstances, expect to have to avoid the amount of dog excrement that is visible on both the grass and footpath. The Council need to take full responsibility and ownership of this matter as it is a Caerphilly Borough area and should be respected and upheld for the nature of what Memorial Gardens symbolise. This proposal is much awaited and needs to be enforced by tighter more rigid Enforcement Officers who do not currently have a great enough presence.
a memorial garden is not an exercise space for your dog, again, most responsible owners understand this. I wouldn't even consider taking my dogs in in case they had a pee, I would be mortified, it's just disrespectful.
A memorial garden is not designed for animals to run around, common sense. However, make sure that those people who are letting their dogs off know where alternative safe places to walk are.
A memorial garden is precisely that not a dog exercise park and toilet
A memorial garden is probably not the best place to allow dogs to run loose as there may be grieving people
A memorial park is for people to sit or walk through to remember the past etc not to be bothered by dogs running around. I would not dream of taking my dogs into a memorial park and I don't think they should be allowed in there at all.
A well behaved dog would not need to be leashed.
Absolutely.
Actually agree with this one. Children should also not be allowed in supervised
Again - The reasoning for this is obvious.
Again responsible dog owners who have well behaved and well trained dogs would not have an issue with dogs causing havoc in this area.
Again this seems appropriate
Again, perfectly sensible but there are those for whom any legislation will be ignored.
Again, the lack of safe enclosed spaces where dogs can be trained of-lead is limited & such areas, when quiet, can be useful.
Agree. This is disrespectful.
All animals should be kept under control in these places.
ALL DOGS SHOULD BE ON A LEAD ALL OF THE TIME WITH ON THE SPOT FINES Some children & adults are frightened of dogs so will not walk passed them
All dogs should be on a lead in any public place.
All dogs should be on a lead to be fully under control

already stated my reasons
Also children should be too
Any defecation or defacing of any memorial is an insult to the persons / event being commemorated.
Any respecting dog owner would do this anyway
As a mark of respect to the dead and prevent distress to other visitors
As a mark of respect, I agree with this proposal.
as long as a dog is under control and behaved there should be no issue, but an authorised officer should be able to make a judgement as above.
As long as dog is well behaved and under control this is not necessary.
As long as the dog is controlled and well behaved while off the lead, I do not see the need for this proposal.
As long as you clean up after your dog I cannot see any problem
As per previous answer above.
As said in previous comment In my opinion dogs should be kept on leads at all times regardless, even if a dog does everything on command it can only another dog to run over which could cause the dog to turn at least on a lead owners got control over where their animal goes
But should extend this policy to all areas , places not just memorial gardens .
Can't argue against it.
Cannot understand why an owner would be offended by this, seems a responsible thing to do.
Completely agree. Dog mess should never be a concern for visitors to the gardens, and enforcing dogs on leads would limit this concern.
Current legislation is sufficient.
Disrespectful
Does like to dig!!! Obvious reason
Dogs are a great source of comfort for many and part of the family. I want to be able to take my dog with me when using the gardens as do others.
Dogs are capable of damage or defacing objects and are not under full control at all times which allows them to roam and in many cases out of sight of the owner
dogs on leads everywhere apart from woodlands
Dogs should always be on a lead in public places. I have had to pick my dog up or ward off other peoples dogs who are off lead to prevent an attack from the other dog may times,
Dogs should be banned from memorial gardens.
Dogs should be on leads at all times except on private land
Dogs should be on leads in all public gardens as well as memorial ones. Some people have phobias some are allergic. I think if you want a dog as a pet and you want to let it off a lead you should only do so on your own ground
Dogs should not really be in these areas anyway
Dogs shouldn't be taken in these places except guide dogs.
Don't think they should be allowed in memorial gardens even on leads as they have a tendency "to cock a leg" which could deface memorial.
Falling back to the previous question. If the dog is controlled in the area this fine. If the dog isn't controlled then you've proposed that a person of authority can request the dog be put on a lead.
For respect
For the Above reason's
For the reasons stated above. People do far more damage and leave far more rubbish, etc. behind them than any dog.
Gravestones are a memorial for loved ones, not a toilet
I agree as a dog will continually urinate
i am not sure what the definition of a memorial garden.

I cannot see why the dog should be on a lead in these areas. As long as any fouling is cleaned up, I cannot see a problem
I definitely agree with it
I do not go to memorial gardens on a regular basis but would suggest it would be respectable and responsible for them to be kept on a lead
I do not think that any dog should be in a memorial garden.
I don't feel all dogs should be allowed in memorial gardens however I do appreciate that there may be instances where the owner of the dog is buried in the garden
I feel it is very disrespectful to walk a dog or have them off a lead in such spaces. Dogs fouling in such areas is again anti social.
I feel that dogs should not be allowed in memorial gardens and/or cemeteries at all, as I've seen many dogs being walked in cemeteries without being on a lead; and I've had a dog come up to me barking whilst at my Wife's grave and it's something that you just don't need when you're grieving and remembering a loved one. Especially when there are plenty of other areas much more suitable for exercising a dog(s).
I for one would not be happy if I went to the cemetery to visit a loved one's grave and found dog mess on there!!
I have no objection to this
I hope they go much further with this and ban them altogether, there is woods and walking places for dogs in Llanfach so why they choose to let them run all over the memorials is beyond me and I DO NOT like the idea of dogs using the memorials as a toilet, because you can never be sure its cleaned and disinfected after they've done their business, its a disgrace, having witnessed it myself
I see nothing wrong with that.
I think it is excessive
I think this is right because personally I think it is disrespectful for a dog to run off and urinate on a grave stone. Also if a dog poos on or by a dead person and the owner does not pick up after it.
I think this should be done. Areas like this should be looked after and not used for straying dogs.
I would myself
I'm not sure I agree with dogs being in memorial gardens any way. I wouldn't consider taking my dogs into a memorial garden
If an area is clearly marked as a memorial garden it should be treated with respect. I am told an area opposite my house is a memorial garden but it has no signage suggesting this is true. I exercise my dog in this area regularly but only when there are no other people using the space. I also pick up after my dog although I know not all dog owners who utilise the area do.
If authorised officers can insist that out of control dogs be put on leads then surely only well behaved dogs would be off the lead and these dogs would not be a nuisance to anybody. Most responsible dog owners know what their dog is like and if the dog is not under control would want to have it on a lead anyway.
If people wish to visit loved ones graves with dogs on lead it is comforting to have company (even if it is a dog) must better than dogs not being allowed at all
If there aren't people around, I see no harm having them off lead if they're obedient and not aggressive dogs.
If there is no one else around, if the dog is well trained and the owner would leash their pet if others arrived and requested it and also ensure their pet did not defoul the garden it seems too harsh to always penalise the dog.
If this is classing places like cemeteries then I would agree, as some dogs, even ones that are off-lead trained should not be allowed to walk over people graves.
In a sacred place like a memorial gardens, all dogs should be properly under control at all times.
IT DEPENDS ON THE DOG. IF HE IS CALM AND NOT MISBEHAVING, WHY SHOULD HE BE PUT ON A LEAD. SHOULD WE LET DOGS BE DOGS. NOT EVERYONE HAS ACRES OF LAND TO ALLOW THEIR DOGS TO RUN AROUND
It is a matter of respect and most children play in these areas.
It is a sensitive area and therefore reverence should be shown.
It is an area of respect, so needs to be treated with respect not urinated all over.
It is disrespectful to allow a dog to urinate/defecate in a memorial garden
It is disrespectful to allow a dog to walk amongst memorials.

It is disrespectful to have dogs trampling around everywhere in a memorial garden. They should be on a lead on the footpath with their owners.
It is impossible to watch a free running dog at all times and easy for an irresponsible owner to disown the offending dog.
It is not appropriate for dogs to be loose in memorial gardens.
It is the respectful thing to do, nobody wants to see dogs running around in such areas .
It needs to be animal friendly.
It would be disrespectful to do anything else but have you dog leashed
It would be stupid not to.
It would be wrong of un-controlled dogs to damage memorials but how many people actually take their dogs to such places?
It's a place of respect and responsible owners I don't think would have an issue with this
It's a sign of respect
Its a matter of respect
Its a memorial garden so off course I agree.
Its disrespectful.
Just out of respect of roaming dogs in a place of peace.
Logical and reasonable
Mae hon yn rheoleiddio diangen - This is unnecessary regulation
Many of these gardens are maintained (either in part or in full) by volunteers and dogs not only pose a risk if uncontrolled, but also cause damage
Many residents visiting these venues do so to pay respect and for contemplation.
Memorial area to be defined but I agree that these areas are to be preserved and respected by ALL who use them
Memorial gardens are a place of respect - I'd expect to have to hold my child's hand in these circumstances.
Memorial gardens are for bereaved people, not a place to let dogs roam
Memorial gardens are generally places of reflection that deserve quiet and respect
Memorial gardens are not appropriate areas for allowing dogs off-lead freedom. However, it is important that owners are allowed to take their dogs into memorial gardens, so making an on-lead rule is a positive
Memorial gardens are not dog toilets/exercise areas
Memorial gardens are not for dogs so if they are taken in then keep them on their lead and under strict control
Memorial gardens are not recreation parks
Memorial gardens are there for a reason and to be kept clean
Memorial gardens should be a place of quiet reflection.
Memorial gardens should be respected at all times. Any person/animal using the area should do so with respect.
Memorial gardens should be respected. Again, as long as there is clear signage.
Memorial gardens should be treated with respect,
Memorial gardens, cemeteries, cenotaphs - all deserve respect.
Need to be kept under control and peeing all over memorials.
No dogs allowed at the universal memorial garden except for guide dogs.
No dogs to be allowed in at any time exemptions trained assistance dogs
No idea as to what an enclosed memorial garden is and where.
No issues with this at all.
No need for dogs to be exercised in these areas
No need for dogs to be free
No, I don't believe there is reasonable grounds for insisting this. More damage is likely to be done by the youth!
Not all dogs need to be on a lead, some are well trained
Not everyone likes dogs and if you are lucky enough to be allowed to visit somewhere with your dog you should show respect to others.

Not only should they be on leads but I feel they should not be allowed in memorial gardens.
Not sure of the definition of a memorial garden
Not sure what an enclosed memorial garden is or if there are any near me but as long as there are alternative spaces to exercise dogs then there is no need for them to be let loose in cemeteries and the like.
not the place for dogs to be running free
Not therefore of place for dogs running free. That's why we need the sports fields.
Nothing worse than finding dog waste in areas of memorial it's totally disrespectful
Once again dogs should not be allowed to roam around memorial gardens where they could potentially cause damage or distress to those members of the public using those areas.
Out of respect
Out of respect for people paying their respects to loved ones
Out of respect then yes i agree with this proposal
Out of respect to those who have passed on.
Parents take small children to memorial parks and they would feel safer so far with dogs on leads.
People don't want to be cleaning up after someone else's dog if it has messed or run across their plots, damaging flowers.
Respect should be shown in a memorial garden.
Personally I don't think memorial gardens are a place for dogs as I know most owners are responsible for their dogs but they cannot control where they urinate, which after time causes smell.
Remembrance items left in these gardens should not be disturbed by ANYONE
Respect
Respect and safety
Respect for others and the public
Respect for the dead, especially for my fallen comrades who did not come back
respect for the memorial has to be shown
Respectful and responsible behaviour.
Safety of all in the area and so that owners can see when their dogs foul
Should not be in there in the first place.
Similar reason to above
So anyone in grief whose remaining companion is a pet cannot carry it in?
some dogs on (extending) leads cause more of a nuisance than a well behaved and controlled dog off lead
Strongly agree
Strongly agree, my elderly grandmother was recently attending to my grandfathers grave at Gelligaer Cemetery and encountered a large dog off it's lead running around the headstones. My grandmother was distressed by the situation and was upset that the dog was urinating on graves and knocking things over. Dogs should not be walked in Cemeteries, it's very disrespectful! As my grandmother was on her own she was too afraid to approach the male dog owner on this occasion.
The memorial garden in Cwmcarn is a prime example here. Individuals will bring dogs into the garden - carefully closing each gate behind them, then let them run freely. I know that this has alarmed older residents and children alike.
The only chance of being in control of a dog is for it to be on a lead
The sports fields are the only open large spaces to exercise our dogs properly off a lead, without using a car to go elsewhere.
There are however many well trained dogs who behave better off the lead. With the proposed above offence, would this requirement be needed?
These are areas of contemplation. Nobody likes to have contemplation marred by poop!
These are areas to show respect and I don't think it is very respectful to let your dog run all over areas like this.
These are spaces for quiet reflection & remembrance, not for playing with your pup
These areas are respectful places not play areas.
These areas need to be kept as peaceful as possible etc

These areas should be treated with respect. I am sure that no responsible dog owner will object to this.
These places need to be looked after and respected at all times, no dogs should be allowed on here without being on a lead.
They are not the appropriate places to exercise dogs they should be taken to more appropriate places such as the many country parks within the borough
This council has a sinister preoccupation with boneyards and I wish to hear no more of it.
This is a question of respecting the memorial.
This is an area of respect, not a place for dogs to run riot and urinate over every object in the memorial garden.
This is an obvious demonstration of respect and will avoid people tripping over animals or being distracted
This is just basic respect for the dignity of the grounds
This is respectful.
This is simple respect.
This just seems to be a matter of common courtesy and respect.
This will prevent dog mess and also dogs frightening people and potentially turning and harming people.
This would have the same adverse effects to banning dogs from sports pitches
Thought this was already the case. Sign "Dogs on Lead" should be sufficient.
To keep dogs under more control and reduce risk of harm to a child/member of public.
To preserve the sanctity of the area
Totally disagree here. They need freedom too.
Totally agree because people with dogs should have respect
Unless those areas are Fenced.
Various areas should be treated with respect and dignity
What would you describe as a memorial garden. Would this be all of the area around Caerphilly castle. Is that a memorial garden?
Where are the memorial gardens?
Where are these places?
Why let a dog roam a consecrated site?
why would anyone want to take a dog to a memorial place or cemetery
Why would they need to be a lead in these areas ? They should be under control.
Why?
Yes - out of respect.
yes but I would like them to be kept out at all times
yes I saw two off lead dogs attack another off lead dog in gelligaer cemetery, it was awful.
Yes I Strongly Agree With This.
Yes I visit the local memorial garden weekly with my dog and always ensure he is on lead and walking close and under control.
yes I witnessed first hand in gelligaer cemetery two men taking a short cut through the cemetery with off lead dogs, a lady had her dog on the lead and also had young children with her and a baby in a buggy, the two off lead dogs attacked her dog, which was awful to see.
yes should be treated in the same way as children's playgrounds.
Yes this is fitting for the environment of a memorial garden
Yes, a memorial garden should be respected by all, including the dogs
Yes, memorial gardens need to be treated with respect.
Yes,. A memorial garden is usually a very small area. If they are visiting the garden, then as a mark of respect dogs should be kept on leads so as not to disturb others who wish to enjoy the peace of such a space. Owners should find some other place to exercise their dogs. There are many owners who keep their dogs under control at all times. Unfortunately this is not the case for all owners. The Council enforcement officers cannot be present at all times so , therefore, one law has to fit all.
You dont want dogs trampling on memorial gardens they should be clean and safe.

You seem to be persecuting the majority of responsible dog owners due to a very small minority of irresponsible owners.

Are there any other areas that you feel the Council shoul...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	182	39.9	42.6	42.6
	No	245	53.7	57.4	100.0
	Total	427	93.6	100.0	
Missing	System	29	6.4		
Total		456	100.0		

1. Outside schools. 2. At festival & fairs. 3. Whilst spectating at sports events. Anywhere there are high levels of excitement and energy a dog will pick up on this and may become over excited.
A dog should be on a lead at all times unless in an appropriate area, maybe the council could define what an appropriate area is so we can continue to exercise our dogs in open areas, as proposed it sounds like any open space would be dog free and that could be detrimental to our pets.
A park solely for dog walkers which children don't play on.
Abertridwr park and football and sports pitch. Our pitches are often used by people walking their dogs OFF LEADS and don't bother to clean up the dog's poo. There are children playing on these pitches, dog owners attitude is our dogs are friendly but any dog will turn and when you have got people with certain breeds off dogs off leads it can be worrying for children's safety. It can become a very worrying concern for parents. In Abertridwr there is a small piece grass by the children play area. There is a sign which has been put up for years No Golf/No Horses or Riding yet people let their dogs off leads, running loose, pooing etc, this unables the children to play games, where is the sense of that! I asked a lady once if she would put her dog on a lead as I was concerned, she told me NO, when I phoned the council there was nothing I could do. She had the right to walk her dog so it that case I had no right until my child was bitten. Really! I think its about time we protect our children in parks and not dogs! Ban all dogs from park I say!
Again, dog owners should be using their discretion.
Again, I think fouling may be a problem but not dogs on/off leads. Most people are aware of their dogs and can manage it themselves. For example, I wouldn't let my dog off somewhere where he would be a nuisance...mainly because I wouldn't want to cause anyone distress or any distress to my dog for that matter. You do not need to control all aspects of peoples lives who live in the Borough.
All areas
All areas that are in public use, because as stated previously, owners have no control over where their dogs foul, so therefore would not pick it up. Also not everyone likes dogs who are not under control.
All dogs should be kept on a lead on all public footpaths. Notices should be placed on gateways where public footpaths cross open farm land, warning owners of the dangers of dogs coming into contact with all kinds of livestock and the possibility of danger to other animals being adversely affected by dogs fouling land. Bins should be sited on all public footpaths and rights of way for the disposal of dog mess.
ALL DOGS SHOULD BE ON A LEAD ALL OF THE TIME
ALL Dogs should be on lead when walking adjacent to the public highway (pavement). For the safety of the dog and road users etc.
All footpaths and pavements
All footpaths in built up areas

All parks/play areas/ Caerphilly castle, as discussed above I've had dogs nearly knock my son over jumping at him, last week a dog bounded through Morgan Jones park and my 4 yr old son panicked and swerved his bicycle to avoid the dog he fell off bike and hurt himself, owner didn't apologise. Caerphilly castle we were sat on a bench eating chips and dog kept coming over begging for food and jumping up at us, owner carried on standing chatting to another dog owner ignoring what was happening. Dogs can still be exercised no problem sharing recreational spaces but poo must be picked up, too often it isn't or people pretend don't see it happening. Dogs can still be exercised on a lead, it is unsafe for children and other members of public and dirty having strange dogs jumping at you, licking, barking etc, also even if the owner believes friendly dogs are unpredictable.
All public areas, near roads, dogs should not be allowed on any school premises.
all public areas, playgrounds and paths should require dogs to be on leads. if dogs want to run free and foul they should go on top of a mountain or the owners back garden, simple!
All public areas, shops, pubs and restaurants.
All public areas.
All public areas. As dogs unneutered can be very intimidating. Even friendly dogs jump on you covering you in hair and muddy paw prints!
All public places
All public places, pavements, highstreets etc
All public places.
All public rights of way and shopping centres. Due to fact they could follow owners into shops etc.
All public/residential pavements, especially near roads. This is vital for the safety of the dog, pedestrians, other dogs and drivers. Recently I was walking along a residential street when a man walked down the other side of the road with his dog off a lead. The dog spotted another dog (on a lead) across the road and immediately ran across the road and began attacking that dog. Obviously, this is dangerous for both dogs, as well as anyone who may have been driving down the road. Had the dog been on the lead it wouldn't have been able to attack and harm another person's dog, or cause a traffic hazard, or be in danger itself. Yesterday, whilst driving down a 40mph stretch of road, a dog was being walked on the pavement. It was off its lead and the owner was several feet behind. The dog was leaping around excitedly and looked as though it was about to dart into the road in front of me. This could have caused a serious incident, whereby the dog could have been hit, and if I had had to brake sharply or swerve, any car behind me could have collided with mine. I believe that dogs should only be off leads in safe areas with no traffic, such as public fields, walking tracks & canal paths (assuming the owners are sensible, which most who walk their dogs in this type of place are), woodlands, etc.
All recreation areas where children play e.g. playing and sports fields and parks
All walking routes in the borough, especially in the Oakdale and Blackwood walking areas.
Along Monmouthshire canal. The poor wildlife is constantly being frightened by dogs
Although difficult certain 'public footpaths'/rights of ways etc, due to their narrowness, can cause anxiety if dogs are not on a lead.
Any / all areas around schools, where fouling can cause particular problems, especially for young children or mothers with prams / buggies etc.
Any built up area around shops in town etc. There are many distractions for dogs in town they could easily run out in the road causing accidents. if you ban dogs from these areas you discourage many visitors to the area who could be on holiday with their dog. You mentioned in the write up before this questionnaire that you may enforce dogs to be on a lead along the canal. We would be totally against this proposal as dogs enjoy walks and some freedom, what should be encouraged in these locations, as used by Forestry Commission and widely promoted in Scotland is to flick the poo off the towpath with a stick, this cuts down on plastic bags being hung on trees with poo inside them.
Any paths where stepping in faeces is unavoidable.
any public place
Any public space - esp green spaces around schools
Any public walk way.
Any street and childrens play ground

Anywhere there is likely to be a congregation of people (festivals, sporting events, farmers markets etc)
ANYWHERE WHERE OTHER WILDLIFE OR ANYONE COULD BE ADVERSLY AFFECTED BY DOGS RUNNING FREE.
Anywhere where there are children or other dogs
Areas immediately surrounding schools - child safety.
Areas where there are protected and vulnerable species known to be close by - especially during breeding season. In fact I would add areas such as lakes and ponds too.
Around all rugby and football pitches
Around Caerphilly castle because the dogs can frighten the birds (and people).
Around schools especially at school gates. Canal walks are areas where children are playing.
Around schools.
around shops and on busy roads. dogs can become a danger to traffic and to others if they get nervous
Around the lake at Castle view caerphilly
Around where I live there lots of lambs grazing , so perhaps in these types of environments
..... I am a walker. I am concerned about the amount of dogs not on leads at Penyfan Pond particularly on weekends the owners think it's a free for all to release their dogs. I avoid going there on weekends for this reason. I would like signs put up for dogs to be kept on leads at all times and for rigorous checking and enforcing. I am not against dog walkers and dogs, but it's only common courtesy to keep dogs on leads as I have seen many dog fights at the pond and around the borough.
As long as you don't own dangerous dog/s all dogs should have freedom to walk, run, play and enjoy themselves as much as humans.
As outlined previous page - (1) i.e. children's play areas (2) sport pitches
At all times in public, the most well trained dog will pee over someones pushchair or other property.
At all times unless in open parks and other areas where the pets cannot themselves be endangered.
at anytime where they could cause a hazard or nuisance to other persons or property
At schools
At schools, town centres, roads and highways (again education is key to this)
But I do feel the council should take on board complaints by other members of the public about dogs attacking other dogs , there has been a few owners bitten trying to protect their dogs . The dogs that have attacked others have been off the leads and are with irresponsible owners . I feel any reports in Caerphilly area which have been made to the police should be passed on to the council to address
Can't believe I'm actually responding to these questions!! How about the council do more promoting healthy living rather than pandering to the 40% complaining. Statistically 60% must think the situation is fine as it is!
Can't make this one out at all
Canal Tow Paths or anywhere where there is restricted space when passing by.
Canal Towpaths Mon and Brecon Canal Crumlin Arm.
Cemeteries - where I have seen dogs on leads being allowed by its owners to vacate itself.
Children areas
Cycle paths that have been made part of national routes or given a tarmac surface. Dogs seem to be a hazard on these paths
Cycle tracks and near ponds as dogs can get tangled with bikes or cause accidents and when near ponds they worry the wildlife
Definatley no.
Designated cycle paths. I have been chased by dogs using a section of sustrans route between Nine Mile Point and Pontllanfraith. This is dangerous to cycle path users and the dogs. There are no dog fouling bins which has led to HUNDREDS of bags of dog faeces being left all along the length of the cycle path.
dog exercise areas would be a very good idea.
Dog owners need to be able to exercise their animals. It would be counter productive to animal welfare and restrict responsible owners from enjoying their pets. This would diminish the enjoyment and well-being of both the dogs and their owners.

Dogs and their owners are already suffering thanks to some of the decisions made by Caerphilly council. Green areas we used regularly are being transformed into housing. Places like penallta Parc and pen y fan pond now attract a parking charge. As an aside, there are now fewer children's play areas than ever before and virtually nothing within walking distance. To have to drive to walk somewhere decent is defeatist he object!
Dogs could be allowed anywhere it is irresponsible owner that cause problems
Dogs need exercise, if not allowed to run unrestricted, the dog is likely to develop behaviour problems due to boredom and frustration.
Dogs need to be exercised off lead - for the well being of the dog, the well being of other dogs, the owners and other individuals. If a dog is being a problem then yes.
Dogs should always be on a lead in public places .
Dogs should always be on a lead in public places. My dog is well behaved but he barks at other dogs off lead.
Dogs should be kept on a lead at all times. Its impossible to see where a dog is fouling if it runs off and also if the dog turns and attacks someone it could take minutes for the owner to get to their dog - in which time the damage would have already been done.
Dogs should be kept on a lead if they are near a road.
Dogs should be kept on a lead in all public areas, especially where children play.
Dogs should be kept on a lead in all public parks. e.g. Waun Fawr Park Crosskeys can be a nightmare for people trying to walk their dog or children on bikes having to deal with other peoples dogs not on leads.
Dogs should be kept on leads in parks, if you the owner think it might pose a threat to other dogs.
Dogs should be on a lead at all times
Dogs should be on leads at all times when walking along public highways.
dogs should be on leads on al roads, they should not be allowed to run free in busy areas
Dogs should be on leads whenever a member of the public could be because they should be. All dogs can be a danger to the public everywhere if not on leads
Dogs wearing leads along pavements/highway must be enforced.
During events such as the food festival and the big cheese or any public event when large numbers of the pubic are gathered.
Enough sanctions on dog walkers already. We need spaces to walk and run our dogs.
Every where all dogs should be on leads as you have no control of a dog when its just wondering or following you ,it only takes a split second and any dog can cause mayhem. This is why it would be good to have dog parks
EVERYWHERE
Everywhere, they are a dirty nuisance.
Everywhere. Far too many dogs around and dog mess everywhere. Dogs should be on retractable leads whenever outside.
Failure to pick up is the main concern. Dog owners need to be responsible and realise what this can cause if they don't. Hefty fines all the way. Do not target all dog owners as many abide by the rules.
Footpaths and cycle paths where there are likely to be other users. Dogs on cycle paths cause a danger to riders.
Footpaths and cycle tracks Dogs running free a hazard
For everyones safety and to make sure the dog is under control ----- Walking on the roadway, when near children's play parks, at the entrance to parks & in car parks In large parks, some areas could be designated "Dog on a lead" and some areas could be set aside for dogs to run freely & play ball etc. Cardiff Bute Park does this I believe.
General footpaths and any areas where there is a likely to be young children.
I am a fisherman, on many a time a dog has been allowed to enter the river near to me which is silly as it could be caught in my fishing line. The owners seem oblivious to this fact.
I believe a dog should be on a lead in all public area's, I would go further and make it Compulsory for all dog's to be MUZZLED in Public Places. A lead, A Micro-Chip, Dog registration. Would help restrain & establish owner-ship of a dog. They would not stop a dog causing serious injury or even Death in an Attack. But a regulated fitted Muzzle Would, reduce severe injury, & Death from an attack. There's no record of a Muzzled Dog causing the Death of some one.

I believe dogs should be kept on leads in all areas, And provide designated areas that the dogs are able not to be on leads
I feel all dogs in public places should be kept on leads. Owners should control their dogs so they do not interfere with other dog walkers and also the public. A dog can take an instant dislike to another dog even if it has a good temperament and people don't want dogs running towards them and jumping up on them.
I feel dogs should be kept on leads in all public places in order they are kept under control
I feel that dogs should be required to be kept on a lead outside schools, particularly primary schools.
I feel that some larger dogs should be kept on a lead as it can be quite intimidating for young children and small dogs
I feel the council should not focus on whether or not the dog is on a lead, but whether the dog is under control.
I feel these proposals are pretty harsh and seem to discourage pet ownership and proper socialising and exercising of pets. Those owners who do not train or control their pets are the issue, not the majority of loving pet owners who ensure their dogs behave as they ought in the circumstances and clean up after them.
I sometimes use local paths around where I live (access to Penallta Park) and it sometimes makes me nervous when large dogs come bounding up to you as you do not necessarily know their temperament
I think all new proposals are a great addition to the current legislation.
I think certain breeds should always be muzzled when out in public I understand Bridgend have brought this in
I think dog owners should have the right to let the dogs off lead. In Poland, they have created parks for dogs where dogs can run freely. I think if you create a few areas like this, people won't complain about keeping the dogs on the lead elsewhere. you can see some examples here: https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=parki+dla+ps%C3%B3w&espv=2&biw=1600&bih=799&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjb1fyPsJ3NAhXjI8AKHYO9BdoQ_AUIByqC&dpr=1
I think dogs should be kept on the lead in all Pandy road and by the Bedwas Juniors School because a nasty dog came up to my dog off the lead and bit him. He also bit a child and the owner let the dog poo by the school.
I think dogs should be kept on leads or under control around schools as some children can be fearful of dogs and if a dog approaches a child who is scared it can make it worse. Often these areas are very busy and it would be a lot safer to keep the dog on a lead.
I think dogs should be on a lead at all times. If they are running off the lead the owner is not in control of them.
I think dogs should have to be kept on a lead in all public places and there should be designated places where they can be off lead. People do not take enough responsibility for their dogs. My dog is kept on a lead, she is a rescue dog and afraid of other dogs. People do not understand that they should not allow their dogs to just run up to people and dogs when they have no recall of their dog.
I would like dogs that are well behaved to be allowed into cafes and restaurants as they are in other countries in Europe and then they should be kept on a lead.
I would like to see better facilities for dogs, where they can be off-lead, have space to exercise & under-go training exercises safely where they can't get onto a road, or be run-over by scrambler bikes on common land.
I would like to see dogs on leads on all road-side pavements
If dogs are on leads when the dogs go to the toilet there is no excuse for not cleaning it up also they are under control at all times when around the public. you can't blame the dogs they only do what dogs do it is the owners that are to blame.
If dogs are to be kept on a lead to prevent nuisance behavior, then perhaps dog areas are needed to combat the issue. In my area, dog walkers are very considerate to others, so there is no need to make it mandatory for a dog to be on a lead.
If other people are in area, not everybody likes dogs running at them, friendly or not
If they are not to be banned from enclosed children's play areas, then they should be on a lead at all times in those play areas.
In all areas where the general public use the space. In shared spaces everyone should be respected. Dog walkers shouldn't have special privileges. A dog is a pet. Not everyone likes or feels comfortable around animals. They should be controlled at all times. Even on common ground, wildlife in particular ground nesting birds can be disturbed by dogs not on leads.
In all public places where there are children
In all public walkways, all dogs should be on a lead and notices put up to that effect.

In all school grounds.
In and around school playgrounds
In my opinion dogs should be kept on leads at all times regardless, even if a dog does everything on command it can only another dog to run over which could cause the dog to turn at least on a lead owners got control over where their animal goes We should have dog parks which is just a bit of enclosed land to take dogs where they are allowed of lead to run at least then owners can choose to take their dog there if their dog doesn't mind being bothered by other dogs
In my opinion dogs should be kept on leads at all times. I own 2 dogs and they are quite anti-social around other dogs. Very often dog owners who leave their dogs off leads will shout to us and say "oh its fine, he won't hurt you" but the problem is our dogs (who are always on leads) are not fine and become quite distressed. Also as much as you may think your dog is fine off lead you never know and they could hurt somebody!
In parks where children's swings etc, cemeteries but not on green grass fields.
In residential streets and town.
in the town centres.
In the vicinity of schools (for similar reasons to excluding them from playgrounds). Main roads, to prevent them from causing traffic accidents. With the exception of open public spaces the default position should be for dogs to be on a lead to keep them under control. Would it not be more appropriate to list the areas where dogs can be let off a lead, rather than having a limited number of areas where they must be on a lead?
In town centres and near public roads. As a driver, it can be unnerving when driving along paths if dogs are not on leads which leads to the fear of them running out of the roads.
In town centres, near farms, on the canal tow paths because of the ducks and ducklings.
Instead of banning dogs in parks and playgrounds or sports grounds make all owners to keep them on leads
It should be a requirement to put a dog on a lead if confronted with another dog(s) on tow paths, canal paths, cycle tracks. This would help to avoid the issue explained above with dogs who are under control, but are being surrounded by other dogs that are out of control and off lead.
Large gatherings such as events - e.g. Big Cheese, generally walking to areas with large groups of people e.g. shopping areas, town centres. The food markets where streets have been closed of traffic, and Christmas markets.
Main roads in caerphilly, a few times i have seen dogs off leads and have come close to causing accidents as they have seen a cat or bird the other side of road and run out
Many owners are prepared to allow their dogs to roam the streets rather than take them for a walk. A requirement to have dogs on leads around the streets may deter this action.
More effort needs to be done regarding the amount of litter and dumping of house hold waste along some of our walk ways / trails/ streams. It's a far greater problem than dog fouling. Beautiful walks are spoilt by being littered with non degradable waste of all kinds. I want dog walkers to clean up after their pet but at least such waste degrades or washes away with time unlike the human mess that's currently out there.
Morgan Jones Park in its entirety (if not covered by the other clauses)
Most of these suggestions are likely to affect the minority of dog owners and therefore. Those that are responsible for their animals will always pick up dog mess, put dogs on a lead as and when they deem appropriate.
Mountain & river walks nothing worse then a few dogs running at ur dog who is on a lead!
Near Schools Town Centres High Streets Bus Stations/Bus Stops Train Stations.
Near schools. Some children are afraid of dogs and this fear is multiplies when a child sees a dog running loose at what they consider to be a safe place ie their school.
No need to change the rules regarding dogs, just enforce the current rules properly! The minority of poor dog owners that currently flout the rules will continue to do so with new rules unless enforcement is improved. I've owned dogs for years and walked them all over the borough, not once have I ever been approached by a council official.

NO, I do not think dogs should be restricted on leads at all in places like parks or playing fields etc. The owner should know if there dog is behaved off-lead and be responsible for it. On streets I would say keep your dog on the lead, as I do with mine. I think parks are the main places that people take there dogs for exercise and freedom, especially for local people that don't have cars or are disabled. I strongly feel that this on-lead proposal/restrictions should not happen.
Not sure if it is a requirement already but where I live dogs very often are with their owners walking along the the pavement off the lead Which can be very intimidating.
On a pavement as I see many dog owners walking their dogs without leads and they wander on to the road. This could easily cause a road traffic accident.
on all pavements (road safety issue)
On all pavements adjacent to roads and shopping areas eg supermarket car parks
On all public Highways, in order to prevent an animal seeing another, perhaps across a road - then making a dash for it! irrespective of traffic or the the inability of the owner to verball control their dog
On all roads. No matter how well trained you can never be sure your dog will not run across a road. If the dog is run over not a pleasant experience for driver of car.
On canal paths, Forest Drive paths.
On cycle track from Sengenydd to Dip garage as its dangerous for cyclists, horse riders and other owners when dogs aren't on leads. On three separate occasions dogs have tried to attack my Labrador when she is on her lead on this route.
On foot paths so that walkers can continue without having to avoid free running animals.
On public pavements & roadways
On streets and play areas enclosed where they play and that's my only issue
On streets with houses on.
On the street
Only off leads In specified dog areas.
Open spaces adjacent to playing field's (Feeder row park and playing field is a typical example) Cwmcarn. All public walkways and routes to and home from schools
Open spaces that the National Cycle Network passes through. ie routes in Caerphilly Borough Routes 4, 47, 475 including Sirhowy Valley Countryside Park
Outside school premises
Outside schools
Outside schools - dogs without leads can be frightening for young children and also can make them step off the pavement suddenly into the road
Outside schools or banned from outside schools
Outside schools. In shopping centres. On the side of roads. In any residential areas. Dogs are potentially dangerous weapons in the wrong hands. Dogs temperaments and behaviour cannot be relied upon. It is up to the owner to ensure they do not pose a risk to others, however small they imagine this risk to be. Keeping your dog on a lead begins to safeguard and reduce risk to humans and other animals.
Parks especially where the area is shared with cyclists, children, joggers etc. Dogs can carry toxoplasmosis and if transmitted to humans can have terrible consequences.
Parks play grounds and roads dogs if not kept on leads could jump out in front of moving vehicles
Penyfan pond is on example especially in summer, full of dogs running loose causing chaos with owners who have no control, amounts cyclists, runners and families trying to enjoy picnics etc
Personally, I think dogs should be kept on a lead at all times but I know that is unreasonable. As an occasional cyclist I get anxious when passing owners and their dogs in case the dog runs across in front of me on the bike.
Playing fields used by schools.

Provide DOG FRIENDLY AREA's and or sign post existing area's that clearly identify that it is DOG friendly and list what the owners are permitted to allow their dog to do in the area for e.g: Dog Permitted Area (DPA) This area is designated for allowing you and your dog full enjoyment of this area. Dogs Should be placed on a lead when instructed to do so by an authorised person. Ball Play is Permitted. Dog walking Groups permitted. Dog training groups Permitted. Please be aware that children play in this area and fouling is not acceptable please clean up after your dog and place any waste in the bins Marked for Dog waste. Blanket Ban on all dogs in grave yards and memorial gardens that CCBC own. Blanket ban on Dogs at all sports and event pitches such as The Showfield Blackwood st davids sports field. Increase Officers on the ground and have regular area patrols that cover the whole county on a daily basis. report all suspected dangerous dogs to the police at first suspicions (such as a dog and owner caught mauling a duck or swan or attacking a number of dogs and owners in the vicinity. Have a Dog warden do random CHIP ID scans for illegal dog owners.
Public events. Big Cheese, Bedwellty show etc.
Public footpaths on the side of busy main roads, especially where there are schools, hospitals etc nearby.
Public highways (safety of dog and motorists)
Public parks, especially where there are children. I have seen dogs running up to push chair's and the child beside themself. Retractable leads can always be used and the dogs are still being exercised.
Put up fence areas for dogs to run freely example penallta park why can not an enclosed area be put where dogs can run freely without them being hit by bikes
Residential areas - to make sure dogs are able to be controlled by owners
Residential areas and around schools.
Residential streets
responsible dog owners are just that. I have two dogs and if I was told they had to be on a lead on a canal path, or a walking / cycling route I feel it impacts on their health and well being. they are meant to run. please use the term dogs must be "under control" more officers to prosecute the irresponsible dog owners - believe you me their dogs are a nuisance to me too - but classroom detentions are just not fair. punishing us all for the idiots is not fair...
Responsible owners already do this
Responsible owners already keep their dogs under control. Irresponsible owners should be dealt with on an as and when basis by the Police.
School playing fields seem to be awful too & all the way along the outskirts of the school road is plastered regularly! Why isn't someone parked up monitoring the situation?
School vicinities during morning and home times.
schools shops
Dogs should never be allowed in eating places or shops.
Shopping areas and main roads. Dogs wandering without restraint could be hazardous for shoppers and traffic.
Something needs to be done with the amount of mess outside schools - paths. Children walk into school and carpets. My daughter who is 6 is afraid of dogs and a dog without a lead run into her. My daughter got scared and jumped straight into the road away from it - luckily no car was coming. Scary! Maybe school zones.
The cycle track in Senghenydd. Have walked it on numerous occasions and dogs have not been kept on a lead.
The grass verges in front of the Risca Road flats (which are in effect our front gardens) are frequently used by dog owners to exercise their animals. This area should be made completely dog free.
The high streets
The majority of dog owners are responsible, so why should we all be restricted because of the minority. If there are problems, then these should be tackled by authorised officers asking for a dog to be on a lead, as above.
The new offence for failing to put a dog on a lead whn directed to do so should also apply to a dog being a nuisance / causing alarm / out of control around other dogs.
The path surrounding the castle

The showfield Blackwood. Hundreds of dogs there all day running off lead and fouling on sport playing fields. As the abundant amount of dog foul still left there it is obvious a large percentage avoid cleaning up mess. Please make showfield a dog free zone playing field.
There are already requirements to be on leads, why reinvent this wheel?
There is already enough exclusions.
There probably are but I am unable to think of any at the moment.
There shouldn't be a blanket requirement, my current dog needs to be on a lead but my of dog didn't, the idea of including all dogs is silly, bad owners will continue to ignore this and you penalise the good dogs
This just needs common sense not dictatorial edicts.
Tougher fines and more dog wardens to actually target those responsible for dog fouling. Don't target responsible dog owners.
Town centres
Town centres, dogs running through these areas can cause accidents.
Town centres.
Walking around the streets, they run all over people's gardens etc
Waunfawr Park, Sirhowy Park, basically all parks, canals
Well behaved dogs should not require a lead
When a dog is on a leash , the owners are identified and accessible. Any dog not on a leash should be liable to be taken away, wherever it is found
When being exercised on main roads or anywhere near heavy traffic. This is a welfare and safety issue.
When on the pavement.
When using rights of way. Rights of way allow dogs and their owners to pass through a piece of land to access another, land owners are usually left picking up the mess left by dogs, since the owners are oblivious or ignorant!
When walking along roads or in any area where there is moving motor traffic.
When walking through a park a dog should be on a lead. A dog should be on a lead in all public spaces and areas. If not on a lead a dog is out of control because it can run away from its owner and be a nuisance to others.
Where people without dogs walk too canal paths ,public mountain areas that are popular .
Yes in the town centre

Protected Characteristics

Old people and disabled people who can't drive can only walk dogs around parks, playing fields.
Age and disability
Age. I am retired and my dog is critical to my full enjoyment of my retirement. Apart from the obvious health benefits of daily dog walking, it is essential to exercise my dog off lead (under my control) in the local park. If a PSPO was introduced to prevent dogs straying onto adjacent sports fields, this would effectively exclude dogs (off lead) from public parks. If this was the case there would be a duty on CCBC to provide suitable local accessible dog walking open spaces.
All of these proposals affect me as an individual - to help to keep me and my family safe from harm by means of disease, attack and peace of mind
All of these proposals will improve the quality of life of myself and all residents , as there will be increased confidence in public and playing areas being made more safe.
An improvement to the environment
As a high band council tax payer who feels she gets very little from the council in return, the least I am entitled to for £125 a month is a local park or field where my dog can have a run. I run a business, working 60-70 hours a week to pay a ridiculous amount of money into 'the system'. With no children of my own I take nothing from the council in terms of education or child care, and now you are considering denying people like me the apparent 'privilege' of a field in which to exercise their dogs on a local patch of grass? Beggars belief.
As a Mother of two young Children, and a Caerphilly Borough resident, I am utterly appalled at the amount of dog excrement on the streets, parks and Memorial Gardens within Caerphilly. Further action must be taken by the Authority to tackle this issue, and in my opinion, there is not enough Officer presence on the streets. Naming and shaming individuals for failing to clean up the mess is all well and good, however time and time again I have witnessed people either ignoring that their dog has fouled or picking it up and putting it in a bag only to leave it on the floor or even on a branch of a tree. More dog bins need to be distributed in all areas, not just where a Caerphilly waste disposal truck can easily access as is currently the case.
As an aethiest responsible dog owner paying high rate council tax I feel I'm being affected by this ludicrous proposal.
As an older member of the community I am still able to walk to my local park as is my wife with our visitors but then it is nice to enjoy seeing the dogs enjoying a run off the lead.
As mentioned previously, there are a number of places to walk my dog locally that, as a female, I would be uncomfortable walking alone. This limits the places to walk if the restricted access is introduced.
Disability. I can walk and enjoy walking my dog. Part of the reason for having her was to aid my recovery from a bone marrow transplant. I would not be able to exercise my dog to the same extent if I had to keep her on the lead at all times. I only allow her to run off the lead where it is safe for her and other people. I always pick up after her and dispose of her waste responsibly. I would not be able to continue her training if I could not allow her off the lead sometimes.
Every member of the community has a Human Right to follow a lifestyle which is lawfully acceptable. These proposals have the potential to conflict with that right. The introduction of Criminal offences is a matter for others and NOT officers of the Caerphilly Council, but these proposal attempt to introduce new offences in criminal law, and if introduced in their current form will NOT be enforceable and WILL be tested in the Criminal Court, and in the unlikely event of finding myself on the wrong side of these proposals I shall have the potential weight of £1,000,000, worth of legal insurance on my side, this in turn has the potential to turn these proposals in their current form into a very expensive local Council farce. Finally, on this point, MOST dog owners will have such insurances.
Having mobility problems was once in an intimidating situation where the owner was busy chatting with a friend and not keeping control of the dog. While I couldn't move due to the dog growling and barking and all the response was " he won't hurt you" but how do you know that I feel prevention is better then cure
How will this affect visually impaired people who already have challenges enough with their dogs?
I am 80, my husband 77. We have had to pressure wash the pavement. We don't like doing this.

I am a widower who like to take walks in the nearby fields. I like playing with the dogs on my travels even though I cannot have one myself. I like watching them run around, it prolongs my walks and gets me out of the house, a chance to meet people.
I am disabled and can't walk very far. So more importantly dogs need exercise. Since having a dog its helped me to get out and be able to talk to everybody I come across, my mental health improved.
I am retired and walk the dog as an aid to keep my fitness levels up. I walk the dogs with my husband at least twice a day long the river bank and the park, some of these measures would deny me this health walk as the only other option would be along the pavement adjacent to the road breathing in noxious fumes from heavy traffic
I believe some of the proposals affect me as an individual due to my responsibility for dependents. I want my children to be able to play in enclosed spaces without dogs being in those spaces but also want them to have the opportunity to interact with dogs in open playing fields.
I do not feel that any of these proposals affect me as a thoughtful and considerate dog owner.
I do walk my dogs around the castle grounds I would appreciate this being left as an area to walk dogs as there are a lot of responsible owners using this area . Please don't tar us all with the same brush
I feel that some of these proposals discriminate against responsible dog owners. My beliefs are that people should live in harmony, with tolerance and respect for all animals around us, including the ducks on Caerphilly moat. At my age, I would also like to own a dog without the worry of a draconian council breathing down my neck.
I feel that these proposal will affect me as I will be able to enjoy my environment without avoiding the mess left behind by unattended dogs!
I have a disability. I have a condition that is managed by regular exercise. This was the main reason for getting a dog. I now walk my dog every day This has helped my condition considerably. If I was restricted to where I could take my dog, my condition would return. This would remove the only leisure activity I take part in. There are also a lot of elderly, lonely residents who I have met whilst dog walking and this would affect them greatly. It would take away their social contact. Dog walking has a considerably benefit to health and wellbeing so these proposals would be counterproductive and may actually have an adverse effect on health and social care budgets.
I have a heart condition and the local football field allows me to exercise my dog off lead with the help of a sling ball.
I have a mobility issue so Morgan Jones Park in my only available area to exercise my dog.
I have small children who use play areas. Young adult children who participate in sporting activities and have witnessed the result of irresponsible dog owners who do not clear up their dogs faeces and inconvenience and unpleasantness this creates for others. Other dogs are also affected by out of control dogs and can be injured or killed if more aggressive breeds are not on leads. I'm sure responsible dog owners would not be frightened by these proposals and should welcome them.
I live near the showfield in cefn fforest as both my husband and myself walk our dog there we meet many old age pensioners , whose only companion is their dog , so we stop and have a chat, while keeping an eye on our dogs . should this become a dog free zone then , a lot of the elderly who walk there because its flat , will miss out on their usual exercise. and social life. both my husband and myself are disabled and in our late sixtys
i particularly like walking the area around the castle due to walking problems for myself and there being suitable paths to walk on
I think I'm being discriminated against as the proposals are biased against me as I no longer find it a pleasurable way of spending an evening drinking in a public place, leaving broken glass bottles, cans and other rubbish in play areas
I use my walking the dog as an exercise. I am 70 years old and walking a dog is a companionable and healthy way of keeping fit. Indeed I use the parks and other area such the riverbank everyday at least twice a day. To have to stop doing this would deprive me of this opportunity.
I'm disabled can't walk far it will affect me and dog as it is only exercise we get
I'm single and elderly so this would restrict my exercise and social interactions.
If showfield Blackwood was made a dog free zone it would effect me positively. I could then avoid my child getting concerned with dog muck constantly there.
It will effect everyone and the welfare of dogs so as a whole it affects me and my ??
It will give our local communities a healthier and cleaner environment as well as a safe place to walk.

It would have a positive effect as my child could play in the field instead of avoiding it because of dog mess and confrontational dog owners!
My age and disability make it difficult for me to access green spaces which requires me to walk up or down steep terrains. Without using a car I can not make use of the countryside. The only practicable green spaces available to me without a car are sports fields that are flat, allowing me to enjoy the fresh air, exercise myself and my dog. If I am denied access to these area, I feel it will detrimental to health and well being.
..... lives on her own and when walking her dog she is able to be social and interact with other people such at fields and parks. If she isn't allowed to take her dog I feel she will become even more lonely and suffer with depression. I'm 20 years old and have dogs as a responsible owner you should punish the people that do not pick up and control their dogs.
None of these rules will affect me or my family. Even as a formed dog owner had we still have our dog these controls would not effect our family.
None of these will affect me as my dog is always on a lead ,I always pick up after her ,I always have poop bags ,i don't take her to parks where children play ,if a take my children to a park she stays home
Owners with ill-health or disability can often only access parks etc. & do not have an option to use steeper public footpaths through woods & fields, but their dogs do need off-lead time. I think this should be considered carefully before over-restrictive powers are made.
Should make taking the kids out in streets and parks and other places less traumatic.
Sometimes as a busy person, I could forget to "top up" my pockets with bags to deal with waste, so I wouldn't want to be prosecuted for something that was an accident on a very rare occasion. I have a child and need to be able to allow my child to play safely in a park, but also to keep my dog under control. I need to be there for both. Its not fair on the child to keep saying, no you can't play there, I have to look after the dog. Dogs in family life teach children respect and care. The council should also respect and care that dogs are part of a large part of many peoples family life. As a single parent, I need to be able to look after my dog and my child safely. There must be areas we can use together when we go out for the day. As a woman, I dont want to walk in lonely places. I stopped walking my dog at the Cwmcarn forest drive, because when car park charges were introduced, all the regular dog walkers that I knew stopped going there and I felt unsafe to walk on my own. There should be EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES for EVERYONE to use the parks safely. There should be NO EXCLUSIONS and breach of peoples rights when the council address this matter.
The only people that this will effect are the disabled.
THE ISSUE SHOULD BE LARGELY AND INCLUDE THE WELFARE OF DOGS, EXERCISE, HEALTH ECT, AND THE COUNCIL SHOULD LOOK TO WAYS OF BEING POSITIVE TOWARDS RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS, THERE ARE MANY THOUSANDS LIVING AND VOTING IN THE BOROUGH
These proposals do not affect me as such, but could be considered discriminatory against various groups with reduced mobility issues due to placing undue restrictions on where dogs can be exercised.
These proposals will affect me as an individual based on my gender, age and responsibilities. I am currently thinking about starting a family and not being able to walk my dog off the lead and in a convenient location to my home would affect my child and my dog bonding and would seriously impact on my ability to sufficiently care and exercise my dog. Also I have occasional caring responsibilities for a small child and again on these days not being able to walk my dog in the park opposite my house would result in my dog not having sufficient exercise with contradicts the Animal Welfare (Wales) Act 2006.
These proposals will affect me only in a positive way as they are meant to protect the general public from mess/nuisance.
they seem fair except keeping dogs on leads in walking open areas and canals - that would be unreasonable.
This has nothing to do with any of the above
This proposal Is fantastic and fully supported by many people and neighbours I know. I would like to help enforce this in any way I can.
Two SS's please
Why all these above? surely affects age and disability only!!
Why? Should have a religious belief effect how you walk your dog??

Yes I am elderly and dog running freely can be frightening when they bound up to you and jump up.

Yes. As a disabled person I often use sports and playing fields to exercise my dog as they are accessible and flat. My dog needs to be off lead so I can throw a toy as I cannot walk far. If I could not take my dog here I am unsure of where I could access. This goes for many elderly and disabled people in the county. I feel it is a discrimination against disabled person and is something I would pursue if dogs are banned.

Additional Comments

I would like to register my objection to the Public Space Protection Orders currently being enforced by many councils. I am a dog trainer of 25 years experience and a multiple dog owner. Firstly let me say that there are some points that I am in favour of such as greater restrictions on dog fouling – picking up should be obligatory (are the council going to provide more poo bins to this end?) - and all dogs being walked on leads on any public road. There are several points, however, that are being brought forward by people who obviously do not understand the needs of dogs or the dog/human relationship. Regarding orders to restrict the exercising of dogs off lead. It is important to realise that a dog that does not have sufficient free running and opportunity to burn off energy will be a frustrated dog. This will manifest itself in, at best a destructive and disruptive dog, and at worst a dog that takes its frustration out on its human owner, sometimes physically. Dogs need to run and play in the same way that a child does. Also like a child the dog needs physical exercise for fitness and wellbeing. To deprive a dog of this kind of exercise is sheer cruelty. An owner should, however, be able to demonstrate his or her control over the dog when asked to i.e. by recalling or downing the dog. Another point to be considered is that, should dogs not be allowed off lead, all dog sports would have to cease as there is not a single dog sport whether it be shooting or agility or any of the range of sports across the spectrum, that does not have an off lead component to it. It should also be remembered here that many parks and open spaces remain safe due to the number of dog walkers who are out and about in all weathers and all seasons unlike the non-dog owning public! Dog owners are generally fitter and healthier and have lower blood pressure than non-dog owners, perhaps you should be encouraging more people to own dogs! Another point to bring up here is, should dog walkers be forced to go further afield to run their dogs freely, they will have to put their dogs in cars and drive them elsewhere thus adding to the pollution and congestion that we are trying to discourage. An important point, for councils with jurisdiction over coastal areas to consider, is, the impact of banning dogs from beaches on tourism. A high percentage of visitors to our coastal resorts in this country do so because they do not wish to kennel or leave their dogs at home. The majority of people without dogs go abroad where the weather is more predictable. If dogs are to be banned from beaches during the summer more people will start taking advantage of the pet passport scheme and will take their families overseas, as a result the income that these coastal areas rely on so heavily will decrease considerably. I have noticed that councils are trying to limit the number of dogs that can be walked at any time by one person. I believe that the reason for this proposed legislation is the growth of professional dog walkers who “walk” anything up to 20 dogs at a time. There should not be an overall limit on the amount of dogs a private individual can walk, as most multiple dog owners are involved in a dog sport, and as such, are well aware of their responsibilities regarding dog fouling and control. It would be inhuman to possibly have to leave some dogs in a hot car whilst walking others, which may be the only option for some owners. Public Space Protection Orders that set the limit of dogs that one person can walk at under 6 are actually contravening the DEFRA guidelines. Dog theft from cars is on the increase, while the police and local councils do not appear to take this problem very seriously, for many people it has become not only a heart breaking and distressing reality but has cost them large amounts of money and on occasion they have even been threatened with physical violence. However, the growth of professional dog walkers means that all multiple dog walkers are being tarred with the same brush. Would a more sensible approach be to license professional dog walkers and limit the amount of dogs they walk at any one time to perhaps 4. It is far more difficult to control other people’s dog than your own. It is noticeable to me, a mother and a dog owner, that children these days seem to be frightened by dogs, this appears to be a byproduct of so much anti-dog publicity that is constantly being banded around. Dogs and children make excellent bedfellows providing simple rules are followed regarding common sense and hygiene. (Not leaving children on their own with dogs, worming and hand washing). By removing dogs further and further away from where children meet and play, we will soon have a generation of children who have miserable lives because they are scared stiff every time they see a dog! I noticed in one particular area every minority group was consulted about Public Space Protection Orders except dog owners themselves. Who is stirring up all this anti-dog feeling? Do councillors not realise that having children and owning dogs often goes hand in hand and many children learn responsibility and care in this way? These new Public Space Protection Orders are being brought in by stealth tactics, the majority of responsible dog owners would be appalled if they knew what was being proposed in many areas now. By the time they find out it is too late to do anything about it, this is an infringement of civil liberties!!!! If you really want to know dog owner’s opinions on the subject take out a full page advertisement in the local papers, voice it on local television and local radio. Only then can you say in all honesty that you have made people aware of your intentions and given them the opportunity to protest.

Add areas such as lakes and ponds.
All of the suggested measure are perfectly reasonable and I think any responsible dog owner would agree. It is important that everybody is made fully aware of any new legislation and I would suggest that monitoring of these measures must be seen to be done.
Although dog fouling is controversial certain individuals will always ignore the law it is unfair to penalise the majority of residents their pleasure of dog walking.the actions of the irresponsible few will just carry on regardless as the chances of them being caught is probably not high. But the law abiding majority will be the ones to suffer.
Any owners found to be ignoring/breaking any existing, or new laws , should not be given "second chances". They should be subject to the full impact of legislation and maximum penalties imposed. After so many years now , there is no excuse for not knowing their responsibilities under the law.
Anything that can be done to ensure dog faeces are always picked up by owners should be applauded. Owners who continually pick up after there dogs should not be discriminated against. Cat owners should also be made to clean up after their pets. What can be done about this?
apart from banning dogs from sports fields & the poo bag police I support most of the things that are being suggested, its common sense. I manage a large tourist attraction that is pet friendly, before every school visit my staff have to go out and walk the route to shovel poo off the paths, this is a daily occurrence. we have reported it to the council and requested that officers visit the site as they could quite easily catch a large number of people, not once have they patrolled the site. I understand, I work for the council, make your rules, good luck with enforcing them.
As a dog owner I take personal responsibility in the park looking after my dog and others around me . If the dog wardens were to police the park from 6.30 until 11 .00 am they would catch the minority who are letting their dogs foul while they are either sat in their cars, busy chatting or on the phone.
As a law abiding and responsible dog walker I am extremely disappointed with this proposal outlined by CBC and strongly oppose the proposal to introduce a new requirement that makes it an offence to allow your dogs onto all marked sports playing pitches owned by CBC.
As a local Councillor I supported the by-law for banning dogs in enclosed children's playground. I have also campaigned for a ban on dogs on marked playing fields. More difficult because the fields are not enclosed, however, it is the responsibility of dog owners to have control over their dogs to ensure they do not stray onto marked pitches. To say, 'my dog will not listen to me', is not an excuse. Possibly owner training sessions could be introduced as part of the enforcement procedure?
As a member of the rugby club I would welcome restrictions for the access of dogs to the playing surfaces of the marked pitches throughout the Borough. This is essential to ensure that the sports participants in the Borough are safe and able to play on uncontaminated pitches.
As a responsible dog owner I agree with most of the proposals, especially those relating to dog waste, all owners should be responsible and pick up after their dogs but I do feel that the borough would benefit from having additional dog waste bins, especially in parks and along river walks. An example of this would be Pengam, where you have to pay to park but then there are no bins along the path and therefore there is always dog waste or waste that has been picked up but then the bag just left.
as a responsible dog owner I firmly agree with all the councils proposals,but I do think that we need more on foot dog wardens and dog fouling wardens especially at night,a lot of people let their dogs foul in the darkness in the back lane behind my house,also there is a problem up parc penalta where people just dump the poo bags on the floor tied to a tree or fence,and think they are going to pick it up later it should also be an offence to dump it on the floor in a bag it needs to be put in a bin or carried with you at all times not just dumped on the hope it will be picked up later.
As a responsible dog walker I clean up after my dogs. Why is the law discriminating against responsible dog owners when horses are allowed to foul without the same controls and stigma attached.
As a tenant in a flat sharing a communal passageway, I feel strongly that before someone in one of the flats is allowed to have a dog the other tenants should be asked if they agree. Tenants that are allowed should be instructed that their dogs should be kept on a lead at all times when they are outside with their dogs.

<p>As dog owners I do not like seeing dog mess left behind and it does have to be remembered that the majority of dog owners are responsible and do pick up after their dogs. If the council are going to restrict areas for owners to go with their dogs then they do also need to then consider dedicated areas for dog owners to allow their dogs to run free and enjoy the area. As parents as well as a dog owner I feel it is important that we can have family time in the area which includes children and dogs together. We currently walk our dog in the Showfield and respect the ban of the dog being allowed in the children play area but do then like the fact that we have an area that we can all be together so would not want to find that on a nice day we could not take our children and dog to a park or open area to enjoy family time because there are additional restrictions because we have a dog.</p>
<p>As I have said previously my wife and I feel that these proposals are a discrimination to an age old pastime that brings responsible dog owners and their companion's a lot of pleasure and enjoyment.</p>
<p>As I said above, more dog bins</p>
<p>As previously mentioned, you appear to be persecuting the majority of very good responsible dog owners based on feedback of only 2015 complaints and 40% of respondents in the survey indicating they had an issue. Exactly how many people answered that survey? Maybe what CBCC should be doing is providing more awareness of what the issues relating to dog fouling are and possibly providing classes as to how dog owners could become more responsible and obey the law. As said, the majority of dog owners are responsible and pick up their dogs mess. If there were more bins (which got emptied regularly) available then maybe everyone would pick up after their dogs. CBCC has some of the most beautiful countryside and parks which should be enjoyed by everyone - that includes those from the canine world. If this is something CBCC is seriously thinking about, then the same needs to be said for littering. The state some of these fields are left in after kids football matches with rubbish is a disgrace. However, I doubt that anything would be done about that.</p>
<p>As well as looking at these proposals the council needs to look at the inadequate number of dog bins in the borough and also how frequently they are emptied. Several times I have come across bins which are overflowing with rubbish just left on floor and also the number of walks I have been on where you can go for miles with no dog bin</p>
<p>Can we have more dog waste bins please? I live in Mornington meadows, there is a grass area at the top of Heol Lewis that has the bin taken away and it was required at the top of the steps not bottom anyway. There are many in Lansbury and as usual Mornington is forgotten!</p>
<p>Can't stress enough that, living opposite a memorial garden, that dogs should not be allowed when young children 'play'. Some people think the memorial garden is a dog toilet. Some people pick up after their dogs and then put it in the normal bin - not the dog bin. More dog bins are required.</p>
<p>CCBC should look at increasing the number of waste bins for dog mess particularly in areas where the walking of dogs is common. Increase the number of patrols and include sports pitches. My experiences are that wardens tend to police parks such as Tredegar (Risca) Pontymister Recreation Ground and Waunfawr Park however areas like Longnridge, Fernlea and Ty-Isaf don't get the same level of policing. Greater broadcasting of fines and prosecutions of dog owners who haven't complied with currently regulations</p>
<p>Child/Adult safety comes before any animal needs to roam sites designated for play. Caerphilly, at present, has ample space for dogs to access without conflict with people playing on our limited amount of playing areas. St Martins ward has less than is the required minimum for play areas as it is. Having to clean up before you play just adds insult and does not safeguard those individuals, as I mentioned previously it's the safety aspect that is paramount in my mind. By the way this survey was not easy to find, as a councillor I would have expected to see this under News items and not for me to have to use the search facility. Can you advise me where else this consultation has been advertised. Regards James Fussell</p>
<p>Children should be above dogs in the scheme of things.</p>
<p>Clarification is needed regarding Marked Sports Pitches, If the problem is that dogs are interfering with games, then you could specify that all dogs must be on leads whilst games are in progress. On the other hand if the concern is fouling, then the sports areas are no different to any other area within the park boundary, and should be policed by authorised personnel.</p>
<p>Completely unrelated to all the above, maybe the stated "persons in authority" should have the power to fine the players from the said marked sports pitches who cannot be bothered to use the facility provided and urinate on the field.</p>

<p>Consider that responsible dog owners behave in line with many of your proposals and don't need stigmatisation or additional burdens to continue with what is by and large good behaviour. Irresponsible owners will not heed any of this and could probably be dealt with under existing regulations. Also note that simply putting restrictions on available areas is only part of the solution. Alternatives must be provided.</p>
<p>Designated dog exercising fields would allow non dog owners the choice of avoiding them.</p>
<p>Dog owners make up a large proportion of the constituency in Caerphilly. Whilst ensuring public safety and cleaner parks etc is important, a balance needs to be struck for owners and their animals to still enjoy the green areas in the borough and feel they can responsibly and not at risk of prosecution. Areas must be clearly signed if dogs are not allowed and dog bins in the area should be maintained as this does encourage the picking up of dog poo and effective disposal.</p>
<p>Dog owners should also be fined for not using the dog waste bins.</p>
<p>Dog ownership is enjoyed by many, why only champion the negative circumstance of dog ownership - dog fouling etc? Surely CCBC can give a more balanced perspective. I have dogs, they get me out walking in our countryside and parks on a daily basis. My dogs are exercised fit and sociable content animals and I feel emotionally and physically well for the daily exercise and social interactions having them brings. My dogs are micro chipped, collar and ID tagged, I carry poo bags and pick up. There could certainly be an improvement in poo bin facilities. I allow my dogs to run free in areas where I can still maintain control and I return them to their lead appropriately. I would like the council to encourage educating children on how to behave near dogs, - running towards them shrieking with joy is a response I've encountered many times, and it worries me a lot, many children have very poor dog sense and this leaves child, dog and owner vulnerable.</p>
<p>Dog walkers should clean up their dog faeces, why wouldn't you, if your dog is fouling clean it up. It's dangerous to children.</p>
<p>Dogs are companions for the elderly and other members of the public who are isolated. They help sick people. Denying dog owners the right to exercise their dogs on Council land will amount to a breach of their human rights for companionship and security.</p>
<p>Dogs need exercise and they are sociable animals. If they are stopped from mixing with other dogs they are likely to become unsociable and could be nervous even vicious. There needs to be more boxes for dog litter and they need to be emptied regularly. I suggest also that notices regarding fines should be displayed prominently in appropriate places. Ok</p>
<p>Dogs on leads at all times</p>
<p>Dogs should never be off the lead anywhere near children</p>
<p>Don't punish all dogs for the badly behaved. Dogs need to run. Off the lead. They need to be trained....</p>
<p>Ensure bins are emptied more regularly and maybe give away dog bags in local libraries.</p>
<p>Firstly, I would congratulate Caerphilly Council for having the foresight to have a public discussion on an issue in one way or another affects us all. I understand that pre-existing legislation means that you do not have an entirely free hand in this matter. However, I feel that if there is to be a discussion about dogs in the public domain there should be no preconditions brought to the table. We should start with a blank sheet. We the public have a dilemma with dogs, some love them and find them a source and comfort and friendship. Others do not and may dislike them or be fearful of them; there is no obligation for them to like dogs. The question we should be asking is how we prevent dogs from having a negative impact on the public dog owners or not, and what measures should be taken to protect the public from harm or disease? It is mortifying to see playing and sports fields, where children should be able to play free from harm, covered in dog faeces. As with all things keeping it simple is a good start. Dogs should be kept under control (on a lead) in all public places town or country at all times, and should only be let off the lead in designated places. Whereas the current philosophy is a dog can be kept off a lead unless it states otherwise. This would negate the need for complicated legislation and disputes about owners controlling their pet. We should also consider the health and welfare of the animals. What can be done to ensure that dogs are happy, healthy, safe and in good hands. I would like to suggest the following all of which to be paid for by dog owners. Licences; Compulsory chip/DNA; Education for owners about dogs and dog behaviour; Training of the animal; Awareness of any legislation in relation to dogs - noise, fouling, control etc; Appropriate places to exercise their animals not sport grounds or nature reserves; Bi-annual health checks. Finally, having decided on a course of action, it will prove fruitless unless there are clear sanctions applied.</p>
<p>Focus on important issues instead.</p>

<p>For enforcement to be effective please consider more dog waste bins in known dog walking areas - and regular emptying. Maybe advertise availability of waste bags (as RCT council does) and an 'awareness campaign' in schools/community groups. Advertise any and all prosecutions for infringement.</p>
<p>Great idea putting certain restrictions on irresponsible owners as long as there are areas where people can use to walk dogs and let them off leads for a run. If these areas are not provided you will never stop the problems. Wouldn't normally suggest we follow Americans but they make use of designated dog parks and charge entry fees to supplement to running costs. Also fines issued could be used to help fund such places.</p>
<p>Having owned four dogs during my lifetime, I am only too aware of the need for a dog to do its business. Sadly, any legislation is obviously aimed at those owners who couldn't care less about it! The only answer, since education does not work, is penalisation. This requires monitoring and therefore money.</p>
<p>HOW DO YOU INTEND ON ENFORCING THESE MEASURES?</p>
<p>I agree in principle with most of the proposals. As a dog owner and someone who walks dogs for other people, I believe that the public need to be educated and informed in order to encourage responsible dog ownership. I would also like to see the council encourage neutering and microchipping, including information on the benefits of these, especially in deprived areas.</p>
<p>I agree something needs to be done. How will it all be policed - I've never seen a dog warden or an authorised officer in this area. The mess around our school is terrible. With the lack of parking - forcing parents to walk off paths into poo on the grass verge. We have mentioned to school and are actively seeking resolution.</p>
<p>I agree that dogs should be kept on leads at all times when out in the public, but at the same time I feel that it maybe a good idea to introduce dog only areas in the borough so that they may run free without children bothering them? Also, owners need to realise that they are the only person(s) responsible for picking up their dog's faeces, I'm sure they wouldn't like it if somebody else leaves dog mess outside of their home or where their children play!</p>
<p>I agree to all the above proposals but would like to see more done by the authorities not only to combat irresponsible dog owners but also vandals, vile graffiti artists, litter louts, a ban on glass bottles in all parks and other forms of anti-social behaviour in such areas e.g. bad language, intimidation etc.</p>
<p>I am a firm believer in cleaning up after your pet however, recent walks in parc penallta has highlighted a problem. There are insufficient dog bins in the area which leads some owners to a) leave the mess or even b) tie the dog mess bag to a tree or fence. This is disgusting but on a 5K walk through the parc I didn't see one bin. If you want people to clean up you need to provide suitable bins at regular intervals.</p>
<p>I am disappointed to hear of the proposals, as I feel that the responsible dog owners are being penalised for the minority who are not responsible. It's so important for a dog to have adequate exercise, and whilst walking is great a dog does need to have a good run. My dogs are such a big part of my life that if/when the ban is enforced I will seriously consider moving to a different borough. My main bugbare is the appearance of the Ystrad Mynach Park on the weekends, early of a morning it is full of litter and smashed bottles from the children/youths the night before. Despite being opposite the Police Station there is nothing done about the state in which it is left. Without sounding rude, can we not insist all children are put on a lead as clearly some of them can't be trusted either so lets penalise them all. I hope you see my point of view. Many thanks, Kate Courtney.</p>
<p>I AM FED UP WITH THE COUNCIL RESTRICTING SERVICES, THEY WANT US TO LEAD A HEALTHLY LIFESTYLE, HENCE MY REASON FOR GETTING A DOG. WHAT AM I NOW SUPPOSED TO DO IF I CANNOT TAKE HIM TO A FIELD AND THROW A BALL FOR HIM? SHOULD I LEAVE HIM TIED TO A POST OUTSIDE TY PENALLTA?</p>
<p>I am in favour of the requirement that only those who rely upon dogs trained by a prescribed charity for assistance are exempt from clearing up their own mess</p>
<p>I am in firm agreement with the council on these proposals. As a dog owner, and the parent of young children who could be affected by selfish people not clearing up their dog's faeces I believe the council are taking rightful precautions. There is no excuse for leaving dog's muck on the ground when poop bags are so cheap and the council have provided so many dog bins.</p>
<p>I believe I have already responded once or twice to similar questionnaires/proposals and feel that CCBC are becoming an organisation discriminating against dog owners. Is this like the EU where we vote until we get it right or ignore the wishes of the majority? 40% of residents thought it was a problem therefore 60% did not.</p>

I commend the council for proposing the introduction of these new dig control orders. However, I am against the exclusion of dogs from marked playing fields, this is often the only area where responsible dog owners can exercise their animals. That said I understand the health implications for sports users but this proposal is virtually impossible to enforce as many sites are in open areas / parks. Please do not penalise responsible dog owners like myself for the actions of the minority who fail to pick up their dog's waste.

I do feel that dog fouling in the streets and parks are a problem, but I do not think you should introduce these new rules just because certain people are too lazy to pick up their own faeces. What about us owners that pick up our own dog faeces and tidy up after our dog, why should we be affected? And don't introduce rules where our dogs can't roam free or have restrictions in certain places, well behaved and trained dogs should be allowed to roam free in parks, don't let this affect us, responsible dog owners just because of certain dog owners that don't go by the rules.

I do not agree with your proposal that dogs should be in leads on canal towpaths. I frequently walk dogs along a towpath with no problem from the dogs, if anything the only problem is cyclists, not them being there but the speed they are going. Even without dogs have had to move quickly out of way of speeding cyclist going down middle of towpath.

I do think that more bins need to be provided around cbcc. For example penallta Park and park coetir bargoed there are only bins provided on the entrance to the park. Whilst I bag my dogs mess and carry it around on our walk until I find a bin, if your out waking for several hours, this is likely to put people off and mess will be left, or worse, they bag the mess and then leave the bag. Additional bins may help to reduce this issue.

I do think there is a problem with dog fouling in the area, often found along public footpaths and walkways. However as a responsible dog owner, who ALWAYS picks up after my dog, I do not think it is fair for me and my dog to be punished for other peoples irresponsibilities. I often walk my dog in Croespenmaen football field, and always bump into other dog walkers there. I have never seen anyone who hasn't picked up after their dog has fouled. There is a great community spirit amongst the all the dog walkers and its great to see the dogs interacting, as it is known that socialising your dog prevents aggression in them. If dogs are excluded from this area, this community spirit will break down and if dogs are not allowed to interact in such a manner, it could potentially increase the number of aggressive dogs. The pitch is used very infrequently for sports purposes, both organised and for personal use by children and families, however it is used on a daily basis by dog walkers. If this particular proposal is to be put in place, I think it is only fair that the council provide a safe area specifically designed for dog socialising (similar to dog parks in America!).

I feel that the council need to be mindful of all dog owners and cannot introduce a blanket ban on dogs in sports areas. Otherwise an area specifically for dog walking of similar properties to the sports fields needs to be provided. In CCBC area we have a lot of open spaces at present but many are not accessible to people with disabilities and mobility issues. Also there are many areas that are used a lot by cyclists and again it is not always safe to let the dogs off in these areas. Consideration of these things needs to be taken into account otherwise fouling on the streets may increase and more accidents may occur on the roads if dogs have to be walked on pavements. It may also impact on the number of elderly people becoming dog owners if there is no where to exercise them safely and this will affect the number of dogs not being given homes and more elderly people becoming more isolated and lonely.

I feel that the proposals are unjust and unfair. Some peoples only means of exercise is walking the dog, and these proposals will make it extremely difficult to do this. Recreational fields should be inclusive, not exclusive.

I feel the Council needs to put up posters in parks and public areas informing people of the implications of not picking up after their dogs and the disease they can pass on in their faeces to others. Dog wardens could patrol when dog owners are more likely to walk their dogs. Education starts in schools and then hopefully take through peoples lives. Posters could also be put up in GP surgeries, libraries etc.

I feel the fines should be given out more to avoid dog foul being left and a blanket ban on dogs on playing fields is unfair.

I feel there are enough restrictions put in place already in relation to dogs on leads. my concern as a responsible dog owner is those who don't follow the rules give us all a bad name within our community. Please be mindful that we still need safe open spaces for our dogs to be able to go to let them off the lead to run as this is an important part of looking after them, their care and wellbeing. It could also be helpful to designate certain areas that families with dogs could use vs. areas where families with no dogs are not allowed.

I feel this is getting a little out of control. Why not concentrate on the irresponsible dog owners, instead of persecuting the law abiding majority of Caerphilly. There is nothing wrong with the powers that are in force at the moment.
I frequently walk my dog off lead in MJ park, on the mountain and various other places. I've only been in Caerphilly since October having moved from Cardiff. The ratio of good to bad owners is about the same here but there are many many more inappropriate dogs being housed in inappropriate accommodation that get insufficient exercise. This is absolutely true where I live. This campaign is frankly a waste of money. What will it achieve? Spend my council tax on things that will enrich lives not make them worse. When I walk around I am staggered by the number of "young" people who openly smoke cannabis. Even in the park. Bearing in mind this is a criminal offence, anti-social, and the start of a slippery substance misuse slope, what's being done about this? I'll tell you what, nothing.
I have completed this survey as I have to deal with dog fouling on a regular basis in the parks I use and in my street and lanes I do see Good practice but I also see bad practice this is especially worrying when I have to use the park with my young grand daughter And my lane is near to a school in the past I have had dog fouling out side my front door this is I feel not acceptable
I have found over the years that most offences are caused by selfish owners from outside the area an example being cars pulling into the car park and the owners letting their dogs out to run unsupervised whilst the owners stay in or around their car, they never clean up after their dogs because they can't be bothered to walk any distance.
I have often thought in the past when children have been attacked by dogs that dogs should have to wear muzzles in public places.
I have seen suggestions that dogs should always be on a lead on canal towpaths. I strongly disagree with this idea. I am a regular user of the towpaths, on a bike and walking with/without a dog and i have never had any issues regarding dogs on or off a lead. It comes back to responsible owners who will put their dogs on a lead if required and not because of some unnecessary law. Dogs need places to be allowed off the lead and not everyone is in a position to climb to the top of a remote mountain to let their dogs off a lead, which is the way it seems to be heading.
I hope dog owners take on board what C.C.B.C. Have to say regarding dog control and dogs fouling.
I know that this is a major issue for the Council but it makes me so mad, as a responsible dog owner, that the minority of dog owners will spoil it for the rest of us who look after our dogs in a responsible manner.
I live in Deri where we have no litter bins for dog mess think we need one placed here
I live near the Machen welfare fields where there are regular responsible dog walkers every day. People frequently visit the fields for a variety of sports and bring dogs with them, unfortunately they do NOT always act responsibly and clean up after their dogs. This is very annoying to the regulars as it gives a bad impression of us that use the fields daily. We are concerned that we could be penalised for these irresponsible people.
I recon dogs should be made to have a Mussel on in public areas
I strongly disagree with the proposal to stop people taking their dogs for a walk on recreation and leisure grounds. Sports fields I do agree with, but leisure and recreation grounds are there for all to enjoy. Including the people with dogs, I am a responsible dog owner and always pick up my dogs mess. Please do not victimise the many responsible dog owners, because of the irresponsible few who do not bother to pick up. We need more dog wardens to issue on the spot fines, and notices placed saying how many people have been summonsed.
I support the council's proposals to control dogs
I think CCBC need to ensure the correct decision is made not just for residents but also for the animals in their county. Animals have the right to be protected just as much and require sufficient exercise or owners could be seen to be irresponsible for allowing their animal to become obese a form of animal cruelty
I think it would have been useful for the council to have appealed for people to enter discussions with themselves in relation to the developments of these proposals. for example an appropriately qualified behaviourist as well as local rescues.I am a Behaviourist for the uk's largest animal welfare charity.....

<p>I think most dog owners are responsible and care for their dogs well, including socialising with other people and dogs outside of their homes. It is important that dogs play and socialise they cannot be kept on a lead to do this. Could designated dog walking areas be made where the public are made aware that dogs will be off their leads? if people choose to go there then with children etc they are aware . These areas could be patrolled regularly or have camera s to identify dogs out of control or those who do not clean up after their dogs. It is annoying to see dogs faeces in the streets but it is also very unfair to punish all dog owners for the actions of a few selfish people who probably should not own a dog at all. People should be caught and fined constantly it seems the approach at the moment is too half hearted. I want to continue to be able to let my dog off its lead at my discretion not have a rule imposed because the law is not being enforced on those who break it .</p>
<p>I think most of the proposals are logical but question how you will be able to implement them.</p>
<p>I think that dogs that are not socialised with different environments are more likely to become nuisance dogs. Taking away the freedoms of the owners and discriminating against dog owners should not be allowed.</p>
<p>I think that putting specific enclosed areas aside for dog walking is an essential part of encouraging people to use smaller parks responsibly. It doesn't stop people using the area, but if you are someone with very small children or have a problem with dogs yourself, you are able to go with the knowledge that dogs off a lead are in an enclosed area that allows you freedom of the rest of the park. Personally, I have found that the main users of parks on a daily basis are people with dogs. Manor Park, in Lewisham London, is a very busy park and has dog areas set aside & dogs on a lead in the rest of the park. It works very successfully and is always busy with everyone and no one is excluded.</p>
<p>I think that the Council should concentrate on other anti social behaviour issue in our public spaces before discriminating against dog walkers!</p>
<p>I think the Caerphilly Council HAVE to publish a map of all the proposed areas effect in anyway by these officer proposals, inless they do that before the consultation comes rto an end the results of public comment and concerns will be flawed and negate any quality public returns will have.</p>
<p>I think there is a lot more the council can do to help the public use the areas we live in. I have not seen any policing of loose dogs or of dog fouling for many years. There are millions of dogs in this country this number will rise something has to be done now to make owners more responsible for their dogs.</p>
<p>I think there should be more wardens in this area to control the dogs running free the owners cant be bothered to walk them giving a bad name to genuine dog lovers</p>
<p>I think these proposals are good. They should be used. I hate it when people dont pick up. It shows a sign of lack of responsibility.</p>
<p>I think this is a great idea, as a local dog walker it would make my job more pleasurable, not having to clean dogs waste off my boots and not running into loose dogs.</p>
<p>I think this would be discriminating against dog owners as this effectively takes away our chosen form of recreation and or hobby I.e walking the dog. It prevents us from socialising with other dog walkers of all ages...I'm sure some of our seniors enjoy this as we may be the only people they interact with on a daily basis. I also think there should be more dog waste receptacles and that they are emptied at least once a week.not left to overflow and smell causing offence to neighbours who live near them</p>
<p>I think your doing the absolute right thing and as a deterrent you should make it a heavy fine for people who dont pick up their dogs mess and have wardens patrolling but not in council issued uniform so,you can catch the culprits offending . As i said my daughter got a dog and i take her out a lot and always normaly got bags but if i ran out id pick up a piece of paper off the floor to pick up her mess . I had a discussion with my mate on facebook about dog fouling amd although he do pick up after his dog i told him that i take my dog up the field owned by the famer and i always still picked up the dog mess and he told me he dont bother up the farmers field because its not law , i thought it was awfull he thought that way so i just educated him that the livestock eat the grass and it will come down the food chain if the animals eat contaminated grass from dog fouling. I am a responceble dog walker and i think its disgusting to see dog muck everywhere ... My daughter took her bany oit in the pram the other day and ended up with mess on the wheels , i would like to see the people who dont pick up dog mess pay a fine of £1000</p>
<p>I want a poo bin around the bedwas mountain (the cwm) because there are no bins around there so owners let they're dog poo there because there is no bin.</p>
<p>I will welcome anything that helps tackle the problem of dog fouling</p>

I would like the Caerphilly Council to allow restaurants, cafes and bars in the county borough to allow well behaved dogs in, as long as they are kept on a lead.

I would only reiterate the need to clear the bins on Caerphilly mountain and for more dog waste bins to be placed around the foot paths on the mountain.

I would wish to note that the health and wellbeing of dogs belonging to responsible owners ought not to be forgotten in considering changes within this borough. Additionally, I was made aware of these potential changes through my Kennel Club training sessions - has this initiative been publicised through local media, through local veterinarian practices or by any other methods?

I'm in full agreement with all of the council's plans to control dog fouling. As the owner of 2 dogs I value places to walk my dogs safely and I enjoy walking up through the Sirhowy valley walk. Unfortunately there is only 1 dog waste bin at the Cross Keys entrance and for weeks it has been overflowing and still is!!!! Surely facilities should be available for dog waste to be binned adequately. Not everyone are like my husband and I and carry our dog bags home. I will say that I live close to Waun Fawr park and appreciate this lovely park and the very adequate amounts of dog waste bins that are available there. Please consider increasing the amount of " poo bins" on the Sirhowy valley walk !!! I'm sure that responsible dog owners would value it greatly.

I'm writing this in response to CCBC's public 'Dog Control Consultation'. I'm afraid that I am not filling in the form online as I feel that the said form can lead to generalisations that the person completing it did not intend. Firstly, I wish to make the observation that once again CCBC's attempt at public consultation is so far below the radar that it barely gets off the ground. If it had not been for the Kennel Club drawing attention to it, I doubt many people would even be aware of it. You have a publicity department surely, and you wish for public engagement, so please make the public of Caerphilly aware of these consultations. Dogs bring well documented benefits to the physical & mental wellbeing of their owners. They play an important role in society, from guide dogs for the blind, search and rescue dogs, sniffer dogs, police dogs, and hearing dogs, alert dogs for epileptics and diabetics, and assistance dogs for the disabled. And yet you seem to seek to demonise dogs and marginalise their owners, who for the most part love their dogs dearly and are both responsible and caring. I am a resident of Caerphilly. I am responding to this consultation as a resident. I agree the continuing of the existing power that makes it an offence if a person in charge of a dog fails to clean up its faeces. But until the replacement proposal is clarified I would not be happy to agree to sweeping changes to the existing status quo. The new offence which requires dog walkers to carry an 'appropriate receptacle' for picking up their dogs faeces is reasonable. But responsible owners do this anyway, and the way of things mean that said receptacles are used and disposed of when the occasion arises. The owner at some point may run out of said receptacles, especially if double bagging the contents (as recommended by CCBC), and responsible owner or not, and even if their dog no longer needs to defecate again, will run the risk of a swingeing fine, and/or a criminal record. I agree that dogs should not be allowed into children's play areas, but you have not stated what 'multi use games areas' are, and without clarification I cannot agree to the second part of this question. How can you ask people whether they agree or disagree to two different questions? I find the thought of people not picking up their dog's faeces off sports pitches abhorrent, but I completely disagree with this proposal. It is discriminatory, and in danger of putting some people at risk of breaking the law. These sports fields are in urban and semi-urban areas, and not all people have access to private transport, and for these people these fields are the only places they may have access to for their dogs to run off leash and exhibit normal behaviour patterns, play with and socialise with other dogs and people (Animal Welfare Act 2006). This proposal will have the unhappy outcome of putting some owners of not being able to comply with the law. Dogs on leads when directed – I consider this on par with laws such as it being illegal to talk on a mobile when driving; it may be well intentioned, but as the law regarding mobiles is almost unenforceable, this proposal may be too. Putting your dog on a leash in an enclosed memorial garden is common courtesy. Finally, I would like to say that in response to CCBC's statement that you issued 36 FPNs (what is an FPN? If you are going to use acronyms, then explain what they stand for), that is only 3 every month. My personal observation is that 25 years ago, if walked the length of this street, I would walk it in the middle of the road, because of the dog mess on the pavements. Now it is an exception to see dog mess on the pavement, not the rule. Times have changed, and it is, I believe, down to three things; education, peer pressure and resources such as the provision of bins. Invest in these, and the improvement will continue with the existing provisions proving adequate. You may question why you should invest in the provision of more bins for what some may feel as an individual's life style choice – owning a dog. I could question why you spend some of my hard earned taxes on school breakfast clubs; surely parents should feed their children, not people like myself, when I don't have children – to me, having children is a life style choice, a hobby if you will.

If any of the proposals are confirmed; community needs to be properly informed of the specifics so mistakes won't be made.

If banning dogs from being allowed to be walk within these areas, which is used for the dogs to run and play in as well as their owners to socialise with people the only area that they would really be able to use would be the roadside. Then why not ban teenagers as well from these areas due to their anti-social behaviour as I personally believe that they can be a greater nuisance than any dog can be. Which I know wouldn't be done as it would be seen as danger and a risk to human rights for them as well as having to move them to other areas creating disruption somewhere else, then why should dog owners be penalised for having a dog and the area their beloved pet can be walked in.

If dog owners are to be expected to comply with the existing and new rules, then it is only fair that the County Council reciprocate by removing the parking charge at their parks. Parks are ideal dog exercising areas (as well as human exercising areas) but to have to pay to take one's dog to a park is unacceptable, so it is not at all surprising that owners choose to exercise their dogs in inappropriate places like sports fields and children's play areas.

<p>If dogs are off the lead, there should always be a human present. A lot of people don't walk their dogs, but just open the front door to let the dog walk itself. This means the dog is out on its own and does its business somewhere and no one is picking it up. I am worried that this issue is not being discussed at all. Where I live, on any given day, there are at least 6 dogs walking around without supervision. I've reported some issues (one when I was bitten, one when a dog kept fouling in front of our house), but nothing was done about it.</p>
<p>If I am not allowed to use areas by the council with my dog then why should I have to pay towards them? Reduce my tax... Also put more dog waste bins in these areas to people have no excuse for not picking up mess</p>
<p>if people are to pick up the dog waste there will need to be more bins to put the waste into. dog wardens will need to carry chip detectors if they are to correctly identify owners of dogs. why are dogs being singled out? the biggest cause of waste is people who throw litter down - is anything going to be done to control this problem?</p>
<p>If the council are to put forward these proposals, then they need the manpower to maintain them, which at the moment there isn't. The amount of dog mess is unbelievable. I have seen people out with their dogs and they allow them to mess and have carried on walking, in one instant i told the man it needs to be picked up and was verbally abused. I have also seen people open their gates and allowed dogs to roam free and dirty wherever. Something needs to be done, it's all well and good to have things written down on paper, but putting them into practice is another thing. Doggy bins need to be cleaned more regular as well, sometimes they are overflowing so people just throw it on the floor by the bin, instead of taking it home.</p>
<p>If the council keeps bringing in these rules and not being fair there will be more dogs in pounds it will turn into joy of having a dog to a chore, where are there places especially dogs ie dog parks, in the uk we are one of the most dog unfriendly nations my sister recently came back from working in holland and she said she loved it as all the dogs were aloud in the shops and everywhere and she did say even though they were aloud everywhere all the beviour of the dogs there dogs alot better behaviour then dogs in the uk. I think there's to many restrictions nowadays with dogs that's why service dogs do so well cos there aren't restrictions with them it's as if your setting pet owners to fail, if a dog is not socialized and shown all different experiences when young and learning they will not turn into a well balanced and behaved adult dogs, a socialized is hard to achieve in today regulations on dogs and for no where for them to go. If there's one bad owner punish that individual not all dog owners.</p>
<p>If the council would make arrangements for suitable areas to be available for dog exercise, then that may be an alternative.</p>
<p>If thee are going to be restrictions on off lead exercise for dogs then I think it would only be fair to provide designated areas for off lead exercise. We're cyclist and people who don't wish to be around dogs or those with aggressive/ unsocial dogs are pro hrohibited.</p>
<p>If these public areas are not open to exercise your dog then there is no where to let them run free. They have to be allowed off a leash at sometime</p>
<p>If you introduce this legislation what areas will you designate as dog only areas- as in no children? Because in fairness my dogs are better behaved than some children and indeed adults. You are discriminating against the majority because of the minority. Education and enforcement of current legislation is key, however I am concerned as to how you will a) enforce, b) educate and publicise, c) fund the changes to legal requirements, publicity, enforcement, the cost in terms of people and resources is significant, especially when as a council you are looking at cutting services. What will be reduced or stopped as a consequence.</p>
<p>If you want to "exclude" dogs then you must also make enclosures for "dog walking areas" where they are safe to come off the lead and run. Caerphilly could have as many dogs as it has children, so both must be considered. Dogs MUST be exercised for at least half an hour a day. There are many areas that could be designated "dog only" or "dog exercise" areas where dogs can be taken by responsible owners and their families. Not everyone is bang next to an open area to walk their dog</p>
<p>In an ordinary terraced 1, 2 or 3 bedroom house only one dog should be permitted in such an enclosed space, also same for small premises. Notices should be displayed in all the areas i.e. dog fouling and dog exclusion.</p>
<p>in full agreement with the proposals</p>
<p>In some continental countries there are dog poo bags next to the dog waste bins which I think is a good idea. They don't have problems with them being pinched or disappearing. I would like to see more dog waste bins around the area and also more rubbish bins as rubbish is a major problem</p>
<p>Increase powers over dog barking in residential areas.</p>

Is anything going to be don about all the duck fouling around the castle, and on owain glyn dwr pack
it does relate to keeping dogs off sports pitches as there is the risk of dogs defecating but Caerphilly council need to start emptying the dog foul bins next to the wern park nelson! They are always overflowing and people have just started putting their bags on the floor now because you cannot get them in the bin! You also need bins on the cycle track between nelson and ystrad especially by the pond and some more up by the sultan the grass pony! There are none! And bags are left everywhere!
It has become an offence to own a dog that is not microchipped. The dog of anyone flouting the PSPO should naturally be checked. Repeat offenders should be subject to orders banning ownership of dogs. Also repeat offenders to be given community service orders cleaning up dog mess in addition to fines.
It is a very few dog owners who ruin it for others. These people are unlikely to listen to any new rules anyway and it will be us responsible dog owners who suffer.
It would be a nice change to see a local authority be proactive rather than reactive. Consider what is needed rather than what seems like a restrictive solution, punishing ordinary working people as a result of the careless action of a minority of people, which are generally on the estates.
It's completely understandable that the local council would want to tackle this issue, and this is a problem because of a minority of careless dog owners. However, as I've mentioned, the local council seems to be continuing to limit the ability to walk dogs in all of the already limited green spaces in the area. What about working with dog owners, and also giving a little bit back to them. As part of my job I have to travel occasionally. On a recent visit to Canada, it was a literal breath of fresh air when on a visit to one of their parks, I observed the following; - A stand with free biodegradable poop bags, for the responsible owner, who perhaps on one occasion has been caught short, as well as a water source for dogs -Enough dog foul bins at multiple locations. This would encourage more owners to pick up poop and they wouldn't have to carry it around for the whole of the walk. It would also discourage a personal pet hate of mine which is for people to bag up the foul, then leave it in the bag on the floor or in hedges and trees which then creates litter as well. -Free parking. By introducing parking fees, and limiting areas without nothing in return, the risk is run that you will have rebellion amongst the dog walking community, and people will actively not want to comply with petty enforcement when there are bigger concerns. If these areas can't be patrolled 24/7, the problem will remain. If you give people the facilities, the likelihood to comply could increase the chances of compliance. -Different zones in the park which clearly identifies when dogs should be put on leads, are free to run or dog free areas. -It's worth noting that the park(s) are a lot better maintained, with more facilities which I also assume is productive in the dog walking and non dog walking public taking pride in their green spaces, and also getting more people in them...
It's the irresponsible dog owns that cause all the problems and we the responsible one's are penalised. The only way to catch these people is to have your officials do random visits to these areas, preferably early mornings and evenings. When the dog owners walk their dogs before going to work and when they come home. You would be able to pay their wages.
Just like beaches, zones within parks (e.g. Morgan Jones) should be shown as where dogs are allowed and where they are not.
Just to reinforce the strong sense of feeling that residents have regarding restricting dogs on 'marked sports pitches'. Two local well attended meetings have been held in Caerphilly town that have been well documented in the press. These residents don't object to the vast majority of the order, but the above proposed restriction. Dog owners I speak to love their dogs and care about them greatly. Both would be very sad to see this part of the order come in. There needs to be tougher enforcement against the minority of irresponsible owners. The welfare of the dogs and dog owners should not be compromised by this and the whole community would welcome the Council re-doubling their efforts against this behaviour.
Let dog walkers know of local (within Caerphilly) places to walk. Tackle those people who still don't adhere to the current bylaws instead of introducing more. Local football pitches are full of litter and fox poo (which my dog loves to roll in) - how are you going to regulate this?
Living in churchill park, the back lanes are becoming a dumping ground, not only dog poop is a problem, but rubbish too. A sweeper once a month would be a welcomed sight! On the path behind my street alone, there hasbeen a rubbish bag there for 5 months, can't say which neighbour as it moves house to house every week, and broken glass that has bern there longer than the bin bag!!!! Side streets/lanes need as much attention as main roads do

lots of people in my area allow their dogs to roam free, no-one is picking up their mess, so therefore they are being allowed to contaminate the ground freely, if a dog is loose the owner should automatically receive a dog fouling fine.
Majority of dog owners are responsible people but there is always an element who give others a bad name. These are sensible proposals needed because of the minority of dog owners who shirk their responsibilities both to their pet and to the community
Make Muzzling of all Dog's in Public Compulsory, It's the only safe way with the increasing public contact with Dog's
Making dog owners put their dog on a leash will not stop dog fouling but it will punish the vast majority of responsible dog owners. Lazy, inconsiderate dog owners will still allow their dogs to foul, regardless of whether they are on a lead or not. Allowing a dog free to explore means they get a chance to play and expend more energy, leading to a more relaxed, better tempered dog. Punishing the majority will not stop the minority.
More dog poo bins in areas where many owners walk their dogs. For example, caerphilly mountain, rudry mountain and all of the surrounding woodlands, Aber cycle track, Energlyn sidings & Forest fawr.
More dog waste bins need to be introduced around Cefn Fforest. I can walk a for quite a while without coming across one. You seem to have a few all together in the same area then none in others.
More signs to advise dog walkers of the penalties of dogs fouling
Most dog owners are responsible and clean up faeces. Blanket bans just penalize responsible dog owners for the actions of the few irresponsible ones.
My only concern is how this would be managed as the council are cutting down on so many things
Nelson Community Council fully endorse the proposals to introduce the PSPO
New rules would be great but existing files are consistently being broken. you will not get far without investment
now the dog must be chipped maybe it would be an idea to right to the owners personally underlining what is proposed maybe they will take more notice
number 7 proposal is not fair to dog owners. This has come about from a survey where 40% of residents complained about dog fouling in the streets, neighbourhoods and towns. How does the playing fields come into this . Its an attack on dog owners for the council to appear to be doing something. Its not actually dealing with the problem of dog fouling.
Obesity is currently a big problem for people and pets. Reducing the number of suitable spaces in which they can exercise would be detrimental.
On the playing field in front of my house we have a problem with geese and fox poo and the local cats go onto the field. How can that be stopped?
Penalise heavily bad dog owners not everyone.
perhaps a lot more dog wardens will help in inforcement
Perhaps restrictions could be extended to horse owners whose animals leave far greater deposits without a problem. More bins would be helpful. Morgan Jones park has a number and I rarely see dog mess there. The bins in Abertridwr are often overflowing, but I understand it's the design that is at fault and the man who empties them responds quickly when alerted. Apart from dogs, I think litter is a huge problem in general. The rugby ground by Tyn y Parc is an eyesore. I pick up the plastic tin holders because they're a hazard to wildlife, but I don't want to carry bags of other people's rubbish with me on a walk.
Perhaps the council should try and focus on dealing with dangerous dogs who pose a risk to the general public rather than going after ordinary people.
Plans are in place to build on Caerphilly mountain. What happens when the mountain is covered in concrete? Will the castle in future years be pulled down for even more houses to be built!!
Please also see comments in my letter of 12 April sent as an email attachment to The Public Engagement Officer, Communications Unit. Thank You
Please don't be swayed by large numbers of dog owners who are planning to object (saw stuff on face book)
Please don't stop me from walking my dog in the park. It is a simple pleasure that causes harm to nobody and is beneficial to my health.

<p>Please enforce clearing of dog foul and using a lead and if necessary a muzzle. I shouldn't have to keep my son off a field because dogs are running wild or have to. comfort him when hes upset from being jumped on and barked at or stepped in poo. People need to take priority over peoples pets.</p>
<p>Please help clean up our country, I'd love to take my children on more country/beach walks etc but am always put off as they continually come home with dog faeces on their shoes. This should never happen!</p>
<p>Please make showfield playing fields Blackwood a dog free zone. Children come first not dogs and dog mess. I can't let my son play there as the amount of dog mess he will get on him is a serious health hazard.</p>
<p>Please pass a county wide PSPO order for 'Boy-racers' and anti-social beaviour!</p>
<p>Please please please, enforce these plans, keep dogs on leads at all times and make owners pick up the mess.</p>
<p>Please try to remember that dogs form a huge bond with people, they are part of the family, not just 'dogs'. People need to be trained better to comply with your suggestions automatically (I am lucky, I have grown up with show dogs and have been to many training classes where we actively train new owners to do everything you are proposing). Education is key with dog owners! Please just be careful not to alienate owners from their animals just due to a few new rules.</p>
<p>Pleased to see you are cracking down on this. The root of the problem though is overbreeding, people breeding expensive exotic dogs. People on benefits paying a thousand pound for a dog but can't afford poop bags. Little old ladies & men pretending they can't bend down to pick it up. People in tiny terrace houses buying 4 dogs. Make people have a licence. Dogs are not more important than children.</p>
<p>We have had dogs for Years off & on. Always took them out on a lead. Never (since the law came into force) not used a bag to pick-up after dogs mess. Alas our last dog passed away last year. The point I wish to make is Im an early bird in the mornings being in a wheelchair (disabled) & the owners I see taking their dogs over the schools or parks & dont pick-up is ridiculous(EARLY MORNINGS)????????? What would be a good idea is someone around early hours & look out for the owners that spoil it for others? I've been by the school & shops early hours & dogs mess all over the bedwas area</p>
<p>Responsible dog owners should not be punished for the inaction of irresponsible owners. The proposals are tantamount to closing the motorway because some motorists break speed limits!</p>
<p>Responsible owners should not be penalised and restricted because of the actions of others. The owners who let their dogs run loose and do not pick up their waste should be caught and prosecuted and publicly named and shamed.</p>
<p>So far I cannot see anywhere where it would be OK to take your dog off its lead. It mentioned earlier that there were proposals to possibly have your dog on its lead on the canal towpath. I find a lot of cyclists are totally inconsiderate and do not slow down giving you either enough time to hold your dog or put the lead on then they do not even have the courtesy to say thank you. If all these places mentioned so far are taken forward, where is there left to let your dog exercise????</p>
<p>Some of these proposals will discourage dog walking which is recognised as an excellent activity for getting people active (particularly the older generation). This would seem at odds with other healthy living related strategies of ccbc and the health board.</p>
<p>Sooner the better !</p>
<p>Speechless to be honest. What's the next proposal? Banning cycling on the shared cycle paths? This council is a disgrace, along with the insane housing proposals in Caerphilly. Oakdale & Maesycwmmmer, building the new Islwyn secondary school no where near 2/3s of the catchment area, the obsession with stupid expensive monuments through the borough, high business rates with shops shutting everywhere, gridlock at peak times due to the pathetic road junction designs through Maesycwmmmer, I could go on and on but I'm sure you are as bored of this as I am.</p>

The consultation has arisen because 40% of respondents felt that dog mess was a problem; this is a minority and not a majority. How much of that 'dog mess' was in fact dog and not cat? I believe that the current consultation discriminates unfairly against responsible owners, who are in the majority, and does not address the problem of irresponsible owners. There is legislation already in place to deal with these, and this should be enforced. Adding another layer of legislation is not going to encourage irresponsible owners to comply, they will simply ignore the new legislation as they do the existing. However, you do run the risk of alienating the majority of owners by this action which, if enforced, is liable to be disregarded by more people. The Consultation has taken no account of the many positive benefits of dog ownership for people - including, but not limited to increasing mobility, social inclusion and the very many health benefits. Those owners who are unable to access the few areas left to walk their dogs will be disproportionately affected by this legislation.

The council must realise that dog owners are council tax payers too. I disagree with keeping dogs on leads on the canal towpath as long as they are under control. We have to have somewhere to walk dogs off lead.

The Council should address more important issues like the gates left open at night, loud music noise, vandalism and rubbish being left around.

THE COUNCIL SHOULD ENSURE OPEN SPACES ARE KEPT AS 'OPEN' SPACES FOR CITIZENS TO EXERCISE PETS ETC, THERE HAS TO BE A RETENTION OF FREEDOM TO ROAM ON OPEN SPACES AND CIVIC LAND WITH DOGS, AND A HIGH PROFILE ENFORCEMENT OF 'RULES' WHICH THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE "ENCOURAGED" BY ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO ABIDE WITH. CREATING MORE MONEY MAKING REGULATIONS WHICH IN THE PROCESS RESTRICTS THE MOVEMENT OF CITIZENS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

The council should maybe look at the abuse in its own administration and concentrate on delivering the services I pay for like road repairs and not waste my and it's time on matters like this

The council should review dog waste bins and listen to communities when such bins are requested. I believe this will promote the council's encouragement for responsible dog owners.

The council state "40% of respondents felt that dog fouling was a major issue affecting the appearance of streets in neighbourhoods and town centres." If the problem is mainly "affecting the appearance of streets in neighbourhoods and town centres." Why are dogs being banned from all these other spaces? The problem areas have been identified in the resident survey but these proposals seem a little over the top and very restrictive for responsible dog owners. Don't tar us all with the same brush, most of us are not irresponsible but it looks like we will be forced to suffer because of the actions of the few .

The dog fouling is out of control dogs owners must be made to clear dog mess up for health and the knowledge that you can walk without having to avoid dog mess or even stepping into dog mess which is disgusting I dog walk my sons dogs so know it is very important to pick any mess up and it is so easy to do it just needs care in our environment.

The dog waste bins are not emptied often enough, sometimes they are overflowing which prompts the question if the council can't be bothered to clean them, why should dog owners use them? You are creating your own problems by not emptying the bins you are having problems making residents use!

The increased legislation will be a total waste of time unless there are more enforcement operative put in place!

The majority of dog owners are responsible, please do not allow the minority to spoil dog ownership for everyone. I visited family in Yorkshire recently and the lack of dog litter bins was noticeable, however dogs were widely accepted as it is a tourist area used by walkers and campers who are often also dog owners. Dog litter was not a problem and the fact that business's etc were more relaxed and welcoming of dogs was I feel greatly appreciated. A positive attitude to responsible dog ownership is on the whole is something dog owners appreciate and strive to maintain. Penalising irresponsible owners is not something the majority object to, however restricting everyone would I feel be counter productive.

The majority of dog owners do pick up after their dogs and are responsible when it comes to having their dogs on the lead at appropriate times. Please do not restrict everyone as a measure to punish a few.

The parks and open spaces should be free to all residents to enjoy leisure activities and exercise. Dog walking is one of those activities so the dog owners would be unfairly discriminated against. I am a responsible dog owner who cleans up after my dog. I think the solution is to just police the very few who are not. i.e. on the spot fines for irresponsible owners.

<p>The people who ultimately make these 'strategic' decisions need to be on the ground visiting areas of concern especially the Memorial Gardens which are being destroyed as a direct result of this issue. It is all well and good sending staff a few days before Remembrance Day to ensure there is wire around the cenotaph for people to leave marks of respect, but not address this huge issue. Why should it be left to non dog owners to clean up to ensure the safety of Children, and to honour the memory of our fallen heroes on a day to day basis - this is Caerphilly Borough's responsibility and not that of good hearted volunteers.</p>
<p>The second proposal (re: 'other areas where dogs could be required to be kept on leads) is far too vague to be commented upon</p>
<p>The solution is not the exclusion of dogs from sports fields in public parks but the proper enforcement of current bylaws. I walk my dog daily in a number of parks in the Caerphilly town area, and excluding fenced children play areas, the majority of people in the park at anytime of the day are dog walkers.</p>
<p>The term "irresponsible owners" should be extended to include those who allow their dogs to bark continuously and incessantly at all hours, even in private gardens, if they are within, say, 50 metres of neighbouring properties. The council seems to be reluctant or unable to deal with this kind of dog-related nuisance.</p>
<p>There aren't enough safe places to allow dogs off leas</p>
<p>There is a distinct lack of bins in which to dispose of dog waste along cycle tracks etc. If these policies are to be introduced/continued then dog owners need to be given areas to dispose of the bags. The lack of bins may be a contributing factor to the amount of faeces not being picked up as some people may not want to have to carry it in the hopes that they MIGHT come across a dog waste bin.</p>
<p>There is absolutely no point in introducing new laws if the existing laws are being flouted. There are already sufficient laws in place to control these issues, but they are not policed effectively. Hence any new laws will also be flouted by the majority of dog owners who are causing a nuisance already, and will be detrimental to the vast majority of responsible, law abiding dog owners and their pets.</p>
<p>There is an urgent need for dog toilet areas to stop irresponsible owners using public areas. If there were dog exercise/toilet areas provided then fines could be increased and enforced.</p>
<p>There is existing legislation in place which should be enforced. Adding further legislation will not lead to increased compliance but discrimination against and penalise responsible owners. 40% of the respondents highlighted an issue, not a majority.</p>
<p>There proposals represent a reasoned, well balanced response to what has become a real problem within the borough. At the end of the day public health and safety is of paramount importance.</p>
<p>There should also be a law to stop horses and sheep messing anywhere the owners should be made, like dog owners to clean it up after them. It makes more mess than any dogs ever do and horses should not be allowed on any beaches. And you need to put a lot more dog bins everywhere. Nobody likes carrying bags of dog muck anywhere so more often than not they throw them anywhere.</p>
<p>There tends to be a pattern of faeces being deposited (i) Early hours before the owner goes to work (ii) Lunch time if an owner is home during that time (iii) After the working day - before evening dinner and after if it is pleasant evening for walking with dog The action of these proposals is long overdue - and is going to be welcome by many people especially shop owners on the High Street in Blackwood.</p>
<p>These animals should be on leads because of animals/sheep being attacked. Children being bit (as reported in many newspapers).</p>
<p>These are all good sensible proposals, however I feel they will be near impossible to enforce and any fines etc issued will not scratch the surface of the real issue experienced by the public, you can only enforce these rules if the owner is caught in the act. Most of the proposals rely on the integrity and morals of the owner to clean up after their dog or not take it into restricted areas. If you are the type of person to not clean up after your dog I feel you would be the type of person to behave as if the rules dont apply to you. But i suppose you have to start somewhere.</p>
<p>These bylaws must be rigorously enforced and owners not complying should have the dog confiscated and be banned from keeping animals</p>

<p>These fields are not used enough to ban all dogs going on. Most dog owners pick up dog waste and it is a small amount of people that do not and it's not fair to stop all dogs because of this. Anyone found not picking up after a dog waste needs to be fined on the spot!</p>
<p>These problems are long overdue, good luck with your endeavours.</p>
<p>This appears to be looking to penalise all dogs and their owners due to issues with irresponsible owners. Are the council going to be able to enforce all of these new orders considering that they can't already deal with the issue of dog fouling. 35 FPN's in a year!?!? This appears to be another case of the council trying to crack a nut with a sledgehammer! Deal with the irresponsible owners that are currently out there and do not penalise the responsible people who care for their animals and have respect for the other members of their community. Dogs need to be exercised!</p>
<p>This consultation is a complete waste of time - yours and the public's if you do not have enough personnel to enforce the rules. Perhaps you should spend more money on enforcement officers and less on people who sit on their bums all day thinking up new consultations, which few people know about.</p>
<p>This has been long awaited for, and can't wait for it to be implemented. I have no problem with dogs just some owners who just have no respect for others in their handling of their pet or pets.</p>
<p>This is a disgraceful misuse of council powers, instead of employing more wardens to police the county borough you are discriminating against the majority of responsible dog owners due to the actions of a minority. I hope that when the council is disbanded, the new authority will show a more non-discriminatory attitude to dog owners</p>
<p>This is not a rant against dogs or responsible dog owners. I actually like dogs but am appalled by the amount of mess on pavements, pathways in parks etc. I think implementing these proposals will be difficult but something needs to be done and probably should have been done earlier.</p>
<p>This needs to be a fair consultation with a fair outcome not a process with the result of getting at responsible dog owners. It would be a great pity if we had to go to other county boroughs to walk our dogs - we too pay our council taxes.</p>
<p>Unfortunately there will always ignore any regulations. It is a shame that the thoughtless dog owners can spoil things for the responsible ones.</p>
<p>Very difficult for borough members since most dogs are seen as families by dog owners. Dogs are unsuitable pets for urban environments. Generally owners observe pick-up poo rules but our parks are like dog urinals.</p>
<p>We have a dog but feel let down by some owners who do not clean up after their dog. Gives responsible owners a bad name, classing everyone the same. We want to be able to take our young grandchildren to playing areas without the worry of coming across dog fouling. At times I feel ashamed to call myself a dog owner when witnessing the result of the irresponsible few. The more sanctions the better to make our streets and recreational areas a better place to experience.</p>
<p>WE NEED LOTS MORE DOG POO BINS And dog parks, then you may see these issues reduce</p>
<p>What we really need is more dog wardens on the ground to enforce these laws.</p>
<p>Why impose additional sanctions on an already legislated area. Only a few dog owners are irresponsible and this should not penalize the majority. Dog walking and being able to socialise them properly is key to good behaviour, both with dogs and owners. Children cause more of an issue with littering and disruptive behaviour than dogs but you don't see any sanctions on them! Unless you are proposing designated play areas for dog only that are spread across the borough then leave this area alone.</p>
<p>With dog fouling being such a problem in the county I would like to suggest the Dog DNA database being used in parts of England. Those who volunteer their dog's DNA to be kept on record do so freely, so if any dog mess is found that matches their dog can be traced to them and dealt with accordingly. Those who decide not to be part of the database pay for a dog licence (about £500 seems fair). This leads to people willingly taking part, meaning the vast majority of dogs will be on record and those owners not picking up after their dog can be dealt with to the full extent of the law. This punishes neglectful owners while responsible owners can continue caring for their dogs in their current and best fashion. Please give this the consideration it deserves.</p>

Would appreciate that the council emptied the dog fouling bins a bit more often; they are regularly overflowing where I live and when emptied, the bags are left for weeks before collected. Also would appreciate if the council could think where dog owners are supposed to exercise their dogs if these proposals go through which they will in true CBBC consultation fashion

Would horse owners also be covered with these new proposals? We experienced piles of horse poo along side Nat West Bank Caerphilly, 26th Dec 2015 after the hunt had visited. At the end of the day these rules are for the minority of dog owners that don't care about other people, they don't pick up dog waste on paths and parks in regular use. In the appropriate place e.g. out in the countryside along the rural sections of canal it is more appropriate to flick with a stick into the long grass hedgerow, rather than carry it for miles until we find a bin.

Would like to see additional dog waste bins with open tops. I have photographed a dog bin on the canal which had a number of poo bags on top of the bin in which you have to lift the lid. This remained the case for a number of days. This is very unhygienic. In Cheltenham BC, they have open top bins that you can drop your poo bags into and is much more hygienic.

Yes people need to take more ownership and clean up after their pet, but banning them from areas of recreation when we already have an obesity crisis is ludicrous. Some dog owners have children, restrict the dog is unfair to the whole family. Parks need to be multi functional and user friendly for all, equality across the board. I would rather see our taxes going towards cleaning up our streams, walk ways, and even putting appropriate fencing in around sports pitches to help such concerns raised.

Yes use your new officer to deal with the dogs that are a problem

You can change the rules as much as you want but it will be the same people who will take heed and obey the new restrictions. It will be the same people who ignore and carry on doing what they like and leave their dogs to roam. Tighter Controls should be placed on the owners who flout the rules not on law abiding people. This is the only way to see an improvement.

You should not make it mandatory for dogs to be on leads in all areas the public have access. That's too wide a remit and Caerphilly already has limited spaces to exercise dogs. If the dogs aren't aggressive and the owners responsible, leave them be. We should be encouraging responsible ownership and not punishing the majority.

You strengthen existing legislation by catching offenders not writing more rules. Do something about the problem, start being effective. Simply identify areas where frequent fouling is evident and make your wardens presence known. People that incorrectly dispose of poop bags are as much a problem as those who just leave their mess on the floor.

MUGA

Latitude	Longitude	Name
51.5945107	-3.2671414	Abertridwr Park MUGA
51.7415079	-3.25702768	Abertysswg MUGA
51.6856255	-3.23493751	Bargoed Park MUGA
51.6808959	-3.21944777	Britannia Angel Playground MUGA
51.6709691	-3.20726518	Cefn Fforest Welfare (Ty Isha Terrace) MUGA
52.5508124	-3.25981263	Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre MUGA
51.6933142	-3.22109819	Cwrt Coch Street Aberbargoed MUGA
51.7431826	-3.29571802	Fochriw MUGA
51.5965294	-3.16428772	Graig Y Rhacca MUGA
51.6684689	-3.22984349	Glanynant MUGA
51.7244664	-3.24712955	Grove Park New Tredegar MUGA
51.7028143	-3.20757739	King George Field Markham MUGA
51.6046813	-3.22986605	Llanbradach Park MUGA
51.6517341	-3.12506937	Llanfach MUGA
51.594275	-3.25702768	Machen MUGA
51.65337	-3.19430789	Manor Park Penllwyn MUGA
51.5783763	-3.22595183	Morgan Jones Park MUGA
51.5750934	-3.22603664	Owain Glyndwr MUGA
51.7562152	-3.27979167	Paddy's Pond MUGA
51.5864672	-3.24236486	Penyrheol Park MUGA
51.743452	-3.28016959	Pontlottyn MUGA
51.5811116	-3.2031932	Porset Park MUGA
51.6048628	-3.27521287	Senghenydd Park MUGA
51.7067908	-3.26209997	The Darren Public House Deri MUGA
51.6159244	-3.12276799	Waunfawr Park Cross Keys MUGA
51.6812294	-3.22971196	William Street Gilfach MUGA
51.6241232	-3.18690884	Ynysddu MUGA

Playgrounds

Latitude	Longitude	Name
51.5947733	-3.2677984	Abertridwr Park
51.7425805	-3.2601425	Abertysswg Village Green
51.5665426	-3.24224	Ashman Close Castle View Estate, Caerphilly
51.5669958	-3.1986796	Attlee Road Blackwood
51.5691548	-3.2443601	Badham Close, Castle View Estate, Caerphilly
51.6843204	-3.2401818	Bargoed P.E.P. (Park View)
51.6859422	-3.2347436	Bargoed Park
51.5730167	-3.2156345	Bartlett Street
51.6260942	-3.1876104	Bridge Street, Ynysddu
51.6804539	-3.2195805	Britannia Angel Playground
51.6136266	-3.1556985	Brynawel Wattsville Playground
51.7756861	-3.159835	Butetown Rhymney
51.6714518	-3.2066706	Cefn Fforest Welfare
51.6520761	-3.2342132	Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre
51.6502734	-3.2260552	Cefn Road Hengoed
51.5680728	-3.2454848	Clos Gwylne, Cwm Farm, Caerphilly
51.6749495	-3.1419292	Crumlin Park
51.6518917	-3.2423175	Cwm Calon Ystrad Mynach
51.6120366	-3.2247068	Cwm Las, Wingfield Works, Llanbradach
51.7154139	-3.2350252	Diamond Playground, White Rose Way, New Tredegar
51.5936651	-3.165687	Dickens Court Graig Y Rhacca
51.5950726	-3.2131194	Dol y Pandy, Bedwas
51.5800409	-3.1243944	Draethen Village
51.6156031	-3.1476171	Duffryn Terrace Wattsville
51.6663699	-3.2164115	Fairview Bottom Blackwood
51.6334397	-3.1265672	Feeder Row Cwmcarn
51.6141954	-3.097378	Fernlea Risca
51.5946102	-3.1454998	Ffwrwm Road Machen
51.6662516	-3.1578472	Fields Park Newbridge
51.63155	-3.2391463	Forge Mill Ystrad Mynach
51.6596768	-3.1653131	Fox Avenue Pentwynmawr
51.6625331	-3.1960236	Garfield Street Blackwood
51.7112632	-3.2651193	Glynderw Deri
51.5795433	-3.2355661	Grange Close Trecenydd
51.6838153	-3.1204547	Hafodyrynys Welfare
51.6686086	-3.2293845	Hanbury Street Pengam
51.5788705	-3.2060348	Hartshorn Court Lansbury Park
51.5803168	-3.2474504	Hendredenny School
51.6029324	-3.0785664	Herbert Avenue Pontymister
51.7539239	-3.275511	Hill Street Rhymney
51.720181	-3.211558	Hollybush Rugby Ground
51.6824322	-3.1463701	Kendon Hill Crumlin
51.6511535	-3.1395819	King George Field Abercarn
51.7024902	-3.2076122	King George Field Markham
51.6977808	-3.2161107	Lewis Street Aberbargoed

Latitude	Longitude	Name
51.6050247	-3.229702	Llanbradach Park
51.6516437	-3.1251249	Llanfach (Clytha Square)
51.6519558	-3.2889224	Llwyn Yr Eos Nelson
51.5941566	-3.1338813	Machen Welfare Playground, Bovil View, Machen
51.640938	-3.2219304	Maesycwmmmer Park
51.6793105	-3.2292116	Maesygraig Street Gilfach
51.7232088	-3.1889089	Manmoel Village
51.637176	-3.1335525	Marne Street Cwmcarn
51.5781942	-3.2253119	Morgan Jones Park, Caerphilly
51.6704772	-3.2398036	Mount Pleasant Cascade
51.6757094	-3.1796665	Oakdale Recreation Ground
51.6711415	-3.1877183	Oakdale Terrace Penmaen
51.6631614	-3.1483993	Panteg Terrace Newbridge
51.6412101	-3.2473581	Park Lane Tredomen
51.5739109	-3.2410123	Penrhos Park, Black Prince Road, Caerphilly
51.6558455	-3.2501886	Penybryn Penallta
51.69778	-3.1455425	Penyfan Close Trinant
51.6975501	-3.1947909	Penylan Road Argoed
51.5867378	-3.2422856	Penyrheol Park, Caerphilly
51.7230906	-3.2377825	Phillipstown Community Centre
51.6016125	-3.0871262	Pontymister Athletic Ground
51.581226	-3.2034416	Porset Park Caerphilly
51.7385664	-3.2960349	Rhodfa Ganol Fochriw
51.7617953	-3.2834271	Rhymney Park
51.612619	-3.1015139	Rifleman Street Risca
51.6079013	-3.1002444	Risca Park
51.5942068	-3.1379826	Riverglade Machen
51.6751235	-3.1462289	Royal Crescent Treowen
51.578818	-3.1721765	Rudry Village
51.6577627	-3.2183495	School Street Pengam (Fleur de Lys)
51.7241042	-3.2507536	School Street Tirphil
51.6050583	-3.2754205	Senghenydd Park
51.6729838	-3.2037033	Showfield, Blackwood
51.6579902	-3.1900345	Sir Harold Finch Park, Pontllanfraith
51.6178996	-3.1798999	Stanley Street Cwmfelinfach
51.644152	-3.2404149	Station Road Ystrad Mynach
51.7427047	-3.2802643	Sunny View Pontlottyn
51.6003514	-3.0776245	Tanybryn Pontymister
51.7129901	-3.2337867	Tennyson Terrace Brithdir
51.5927381	-3.1899593	The Bryn Trethomas
51.6519942	-3.2796578	The Wern Nelson
51.6647396	-3.1912524	Thorncombe Road Blackwood
51.6615247	-3.2292361	Tir y Berth Welfare
51.6616849	-3.2268115	Tir y Berth William Street
51.628345	-3.1280735	Twyncarn Road Pontywaun
51.5739109	-3.2410123	Ty Coch Rhymney

Latitude	Longitude	Name
51.611103	-3.089577	Ty Sign Open Space (Holly Road)
51.5838419	-3.2157213	Virginia Park
51.6608725	-3.2176088	Warne Street, Fleur De Lys
51.6178517	-3.1271343	Waunfawr Park Cross Keys
51.5921747	-3.1984907	Waunganol Park, Bedwas
51.674397	-3.1293333	Willow Court Panside
51.6646634	-3.1520231	Windsor Avenue Newbridge
51.6630798	-3.1891124	Woodfieldside Park
51.6140333	-3.280265	Woodland Terrace Senghenydd
51.6392566	-3.1895295	Wyllie Village (Glanhowy Road)
51.6931488	-3.221441	Yew Street Aberbargoed
51.6365055	-3.2364925	Ystrad Mynach Park

Sports Grounds

Latitude	Longitude	Name	Sport	Pitch
51.69485048	-3.219490113	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground	Football	Rec 1
51.6942644	-3.218779868	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground	Football	Rec 2
51.69370349	-3.218243938	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground	Rugby	Rugby Pitch
51.64051135	-3.1363959	Abercarn Welfare Ground	Football	Mini Co#1
51.63941021	-3.134966627	Abercarn Welfare Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.64171807	-3.137134206	Abercarn Welfare Ground	Dual Use	Duel
51.59442987	-3.265464478	Abertridwr Playing Field	Football	Pitch 1
51.74083977	-3.256444282	Abertysswg Playing Fields	Rugby	Top Pitch
51.73761458	-3.26038091	Abertysswg Playing Fields	Football	Bottom Pitch
51.58619526	-3.240870724	Aneurin Park	Football	Pitch 1
51.58549638	-3.240635171	Aneurin Park	Football	Pitch 2
51.58569863	-3.221356862	Bargoed Basin Gilfach	Football	Pitch 1
51.68814467	-3.240763773	Bargoed Welfare Ground	Rugby	Pitch 4
51.68549371	-3.23720504	Bargoed Welfare Ground	Rugby	Duff Pitch
51.68896194	-3.240004915	Bargoed Welfare Ground	Football	McDonald Pitch
51.68816483	-3.238854736	Bargoed Welfare Ground	Football	Pitch 2
51.68681571	-3.238036726	Bargoed Welfare Ground	Dual Use	Main Pitch
51.68081156	-3.215438914	Bedwellty School Pitch	Football	Junior Football Pitch
51.68067493	-3.216476675	Bedwellty School Pitch	Football	Pitch 1
51.67562943	-3.213984051	Britannia Playing Field	Football	Main Ground
51.6765352	-3.212475216	Britannia Playing Field	Duel	Pitch 1
51.67561882	-3.215010609	Britannia Playing Field	Football	Bottom Pitch
51.70080516	-3.22876671	Brithdir Welfare	Football	Pitch 1
51.59337507	-3.18565948	Bryn Bedwas	Football	Pitch 1
51.65207865	-3.201024446	Bryn Pont Park & Playing Fields	Football	Pitch 1
51.65218131	-3.202414847	Bryn Pont Park & Playing Fields	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.66768057	-3.247463404	Cascade	Football	Duffryn Field
51.66990768	-3.239238579	Graham Moore Playing Field (Formely Cascade Community Field)	Football	Community Pitch
51.5739044	-3.24163262	Castle Mein	Football	Pitch 1
51.670316	-3.206944133	Cefn Fforest	Dual Use	Duel
51.65117187	-3.233841715	Cefn Hengoed Playing Fields	Football	Pitch 1
51.6775951	-3.163704863	Croespenmaen	Football	Pitch 1
51.71207803	-3.265431504	Deri Playing Field	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.76240497	-3.288516046	Eisteddfod Rhymney	Football	Eisteddfod Pitch
51.63276108	-3.127012705	Feeder Row	Football	Pitch 1
51.61414001	-3.098488802	Fernlea	Football	Pitch 1
51.66464196	-3.160596748	Fields Park	Football	Pitch 1
51.74148227	-3.294988634	Fochriw Road	Football	Pitch 1
51.71176656	-3.221812292	Gelli Wen	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.59656112	-3.165616768	Graig Y Rhacca Playing Fields	Football	Pitch 1
51.68433104	-3.121060486	Hafodyrynys Recreation Ground	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.72101341	-3.211927664	Hollybush Recreation Ground	Rugby	Pitch 1

APPENDIX 4

Latitude	Longitude	Name	Sport	Pitch
51.6536396	-3.185453746	Islwyn Park	Football	Lower
51.65446113	-3.185128247	Islwyn Park	Dual Use	Duel
51.67681301	-3.138924401	Kay Field Recreation Ground	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.66130802	-3.195355202	Libanus Field	Football	Main Pitch
51.60428665	-3.228916786	Llanbradach Welfare Park	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.60563322	-3.229126436	Llanbradach Welfare Park	Football	Pitch 2
51.6131714	-3.223668554	Llanbradach Welfare Park	Football	Cwm Las
51.59330432	-3.185542147	Llanfabon Drive	Football	Pitch 1
51.61067502	-3.102665461	Longbridge Fields Sports Ground	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.61132953	-3.10382224	Longbridge Fields Sports Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.59359634	-3.133232185	Machen Welfare	Cricket	Wicket
51.59320573	-3.135503391	Machen Welfare	Rugby	Main Rugby Pitch
51.59280198	-3.134482791	Machen Welfare	Football	Pitch 1
51.63915731	-3.219368031	Maesycwmmmer	Football	Pitch 1
51.6397464	-3.219788468	Maesycwmmmer	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.70301849	-3.206077814	King George's, Markham	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.57976546	-3.226393314	Morgan Jones Park	Football	Pitch 1
51.57907012	-3.226677661	Morgan Jones Park	Dual Use	Duel
51.65311413	-3.289070902	Nelson	Rugby	Lower
51.65165589	-3.276872861	Nelson	Football	Pitch 1
51.7266384	-3.250041675	New Tredegar Welfare Ground	Dual Use	Duel
51.72494428	-3.247852142	New Tredegar Welfare Ground	Rugby	Main Rugby Pitch
51.7260874	-3.249432846	New Tredegar Welfare Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.66330404	-3.141144715	Newbridge Welfare Ground	Dual Use	Duel
51.66330404	-3.141144715	Oakdale Miner's Welfare Ground	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.67595822	-3.180858938	Oakdale Miner's Welfare Ground	Football	Pitch 2
51.67546367	-3.180860535	Oakdale Miner's Welfare Ground	Rugby	Mini 1
51.67546165	-3.180166284	Oakdale Miner's Welfare Ground	Rugby	Mini 2
51.5759055	-3.22576988	Owain Glyndwr Playing Fields	Football	Pitch 1
51.62168946	-3.130118514	Pandy Park	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.67115934	-3.127531872	Pantside Playing Fields	Football	Pitch 1
51.67160201	-3.128251464	Pantside Playing Fields	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.67160201	-3.128251464	Pentwynmawr Recreation Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.6551674	-3.252222722	Penybryn	Football	Pitch 1
51.722189	-3.237164298	Phillipstown	Football	Pitch 1
51.74765766	-3.278738547	Pontlottyn	Football	Rec 1
51.75002534	-3.285889277	Pontlottyn	Football	Welfare
51.60041034	-3.087804991	Pontymister Recreation Ground	Football	Small Pitch
51.60079743	-3.087756489	Pontymister Recreation Ground	Cricket	Wicket
51.601175	-3.087765513	Pontymister Recreation Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.76061208	-3.283089281	Rhymney	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.76260569	-3.283319698	Rhymney	Rugby	Pitch 2
51.60110573	-3.274241257	Senghenydd Welfare Ground	Rugby	Windsor Colliery Rugby
51.66645381	-3.222183137	St Davids Pengam	Football	Pitch 1
51.64146382	-3.231843922	Sue Noakes Playing Fields	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.6409834	-3.231353999	Sue Noakes Playing Fields	Rugby	Pitch 2

APPENDIX 4

Latitude	Longitude	Name	Sport	Pitch
51.66012252	-3.229183731	Tiryberth	Football	Pitch 1
51.66157321	-3.223728921	Trelyn Park	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.66143801	-3.224621677	Trelyn Park	Rugby	Pitch 2
51.69365691	-3.146046054	Trinant Recreation Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.58235837	-3.215710606	Virgnia Park Caerphilly	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.58222745	-3.217063802	Virgnia Park Caerphilly	Rugby	Half Pitch
51.58090167	-3.216580968	Virgnia Park Caerphilly	Cricket	Pitch 1
51.61562645	-3.143385776	Wattsville Recreation Ground	Football	Pitch 1
51.61604488	-3.118625683	Waunfawr Fire Station	Dual Use	Mini 1
51.61601959	-3.116559643	Waunfawr Fire Station	Dual Use	Mini 2
51.61597026	-3.115128529	Waunfawr Fire Station	Dual Use	Mini 3
51.61561334	-3.121445968	Waunfawr Park	Cricket	Wicket
51.61739855	-3.125635389	Waunfawr Park	Football	Pitch 1
51.61712348	-3.124314192	Waunfawr Park	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.66420603	-3.189778063	Woodfieldside	Rugby	Pitch 1
51.66905599	-3.225289885	Ynys Pengam	Football	Pitch 1
51.62165903	-3.185168867	Ynysddu	Dual Use	Mini Co#1
51.62175359	-3.184709079	Ynysddu	Dual Use	Mini CO#2
51.62272483	-3.185586676	Ynysddu	Dual Use	Duel
51.61869078	-3.182592638	Ynysddu	Dual Use	Bottom Pitch
51.6210644	-3.182611023	Ynysddu	Youth Football	Youth Pitch
51.63739722	-3.237195962	Ystrad Mynach Park	Rugby	Trinity #1
51.63703035	-3.238732158	Ystrad Mynach Park	Rugby	Trinity #2

War Memorials

Eastings	Northing	Latitude	Longitude	Name	Location
315524	200091	51.6931895	-3.2235689	Aberbargoed War Memorial Gates	Commercial Street, Aberbargoed
321607	194950	51.6478585	-3.1344261	Abercarn War Memorial	High Street, Abercarn
313064	205583	51.7421807	-3.2605225	Abertysswg War Memorial	Walter Street, Abertysswg
315044	199979	51.6921102	-3.2304843	Bargoed & Gilfach War Memorial	Saint Gwladys Church, Church Place, Bargoed
317291	197617	51.6712137	-3.1974236	Blackwood War Memorial	Lewis Lewis Avenue, Blackwood
315056	202164	51.7117531	-3.2308438	Brithdir Cenotaph	Saint Paul's Memorial Gardens, Harcourt Terrace, Brithdir
316306	197782	51.6725508	-3.2117035	Cefn Fforest War Memorial	Central Avenue, Cefn Fforest, Blackwood
322057	193497	51.6348594	-3.1275993	Cwmcarn War Memorial	Memorial Park, Ivor Street, Cwmcarn
318565	191720	51.6183899	-3.1776304	Cwmfelinfach War Memorial	Glanynant Gardens, Cwmfelinfach
315264	198488	51.6787407	-3.2269398	Garden of Peace War Memorial & Clock	Commercial Street, Gilfach
314876	190419	51.6061484	-3.2305844	Llanbradach War Memorial Statue	Park View, Llanbradach
321303	189181	51.5959556	-3.137521	Machen War Memorial	Commercial Road, Machen, Caerphilly
311345	195555	51.6517704	-3.2828605	Nelson War Memorial	Commercial Street, Nelson
314254	203166	51.720638	-3.2426956	New Tredegar War Memorial Statue	Saint Dingat's Church, James Street, New Tredegar
315509	197077	51.666094	-3.2230555	Pengam & Fleur-de-Lys War Memorial	Saint David's Road, Pengam
311583	206281	51.7482229	-3.2821442	Pontlottyn War Memorial	Chapel Street, Pontlottyn
323971	190270	51.6061123	-3.099248	Pontymister War Memorial	Memorial Gardens, Commercial Street, Pontymister
311401	207528	51.7594032	-3.285098	Rhymney War Memorial	High Street, Rhymney
323402	191402	51.6162113	-3.1077104	Risca War Memorial	Saint Mary Street, Risca
314007	203216	51.7210495	-3.2462827	Tirphil War Memorial Clock	Station Row, Tirphil
313039	204527	51.7326846	-3.2606202	Troedrhiwfuwch War Memorial	High Street, Troedrhiwfuwch
319300	186556	51.5720744	-3.1658271	Rudry Parish War Memorials	Saint James' Church and Churchyard, Rudry
320628	199806	51.6913735	-3.1496776	Trinant	Horab Chapel, Trinant

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CABINET – 18TH JANUARY 2017

SUBJECT: PRIVATELY OWNED PROPERTIES AT LANSBURY PARK

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This Report seeks Cabinet approval to deploy funds from the Private Sector Housing Capital Programme to assist private owners at Lansbury Park to partake in the scheme of External Wall Insulation planned for council properties during 2016/17 and 2017/18.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The council is currently undertaking a scheme of external wall insulation (EWI) to the council owned properties at Lansbury Park as part of the overall WHQS programme. The scheme for 2016/17 is being undertaken by way of a partnership arrangement with EON Energy but is currently only planned to tackle properties within council ownership. There are around 700 properties at Lansbury Park of which 526 are in council ownership. The remainder are in private ownership, either owner occupied or privately rented.
- 2.2 Officers, having studied the area, feel that a far more successful outcome, in terms of the physical regeneration of Lansbury Park, would be achieved if private owners also took part in the EWI scheme. Realistically, however, to encourage meaningful participation by private owners would inevitably warrant the offer of financial assistance in the form of grant aid.
- 2.3 This report looks at the potential to offer support to private owners at Lansbury Park in the form of 75% grant aid. The report also outlines a potential funding source to facilitate such an offer.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 This report links to the Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017 priority to *“improve standards of housing and communities giving appropriate access to services across the county borough”*.
- 3.2 This report links to the Local Housing Strategy aim of *“providing good quality, well managed homes in communities where people want to live and offer people housing choices which meet their needs and aspirations”*.
- 3.3 This report reflects Key Priority 1 of the Caerphilly CBC Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy – *“Regeneration of Declining Communities”*.
- 3.4 This report would link most closely to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016:
- *A prosperous Wales*
 - *A resilient Wales*

- *A healthier Wales*
- *A more equal Wales*
- *A Wales of cohesive communities*

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 As part of the overall WHQS programme the council is currently undertaking a scheme of external wall insulation (EWI) to the council owned properties at Lansbury Park. The scheme for 2016/17 is being undertaken by way of a partnership arrangement with EON Energy but is currently only planned to tackle properties within council ownership. There are around 700 properties at Lansbury Park of which 526 are in council ownership. The remainder are in private ownership, either owner occupied or privately rented.
- 4.2 Earlier in the year Officers submitted a bid against the Welsh Government Warm Homes scheme in an effort to secure funding to tackle the area on a street by street basis irrespective of tenure. The scheme was only available for small scale projects (up to 100 houses) but despite the bid guidelines suggesting that submissions should focus on deprived areas, support fuel poverty/ low income households and wherever possible achieve economies of scale, all of which are relevant to Lansbury Park, the bid was unsuccessful. We are now in a position, therefore, where Eon has commenced Phase 1 of the EWI programme for the council stock but no privately owned properties are planned for inclusion.
- 4.3 The design of the houses at Lansbury Park is such that to undertake EWI works to the council houses in isolation will, from a practical perspective, be immensely problematic particularly when attempting to provide satisfactory finishes between the council properties and adjoining privately owned properties. Private householders may not allow the contractors to access their properties to undertake works to adjoining properties and/or may reject the proposals due to impacts on their property. Party Wall Act agreements between the Authority and the private owners will, therefore, prove necessary in many cases. If the private householder is also having work undertaken coordination and access agreements will be far easier to negotiate.
- 4.4 Also, and importantly, to undertake the scheme of EWI to the council owned properties alone will do little or nothing to raise the aesthetic appearance of Lansbury Park as a whole and will provide little assistance in the Authority's strive to gain community confidence. In the circumstances, therefore, it would make sense to consider providing pump priming assistance to private owners at Lansbury Park in an effort to stimulate wider scheme participation and hopefully achieve a far more worthwhile finished product.
- 4.5 A "tenure blind" proposal such as this has been undertaken successfully on numerous occasions in recent years by way of Housing Action Area initiatives, Priority Neighbourhood schemes and Renewal Area activity. Whilst funding for such schemes has, in the main, been forthcoming from Welsh Government grant aid we have on 2 occasions utilised Private Sector Housing Capital funding within Priority Neighbourhoods for similar work programmes undertaken at Wyllie and Graig y Rhacca. As long as a funding source can be identified, therefore, a similar approach could be implemented at Lansbury Park.
- 4.6 There is the potential to identify funding to assist owners at Lansbury Park during 2016/17 from a projected underspend within the Private Sector Housing Capital programme which has arisen as a result of a Clearance Area scheme failing to come to fruition together with long term staff sickness having seriously affected the Home Repair grant programme.
- 4.7 The council houses earmarked for EWI during 2016/17 are in blocks within Courts that have some 76 privately owned houses located within the same blocks. It is estimated that the EWI works will cost around £5,000 per property and on the basis of 75% grant aid and full participation from homeowners, funding in the region of £285,000 would be needed to support the scheme. This level of funding can be identified from potential 2016/17 Private Sector Housing underspends although full owner participation is extremely unlikely and supporting those owners with 75% grant aid should, therefore, require a smaller investment

and so be achievable during 2016/17.

- 4.8 Phase 2 of the EWI scheme is planned for 2017/18 and funding support will be sought by way of bids against ECO and/or Arbed initiatives (although Welsh Government have yet to make a firm commitment as to whether another Arbed scheme will be delivered). However, even if the bids are unsuccessful the EWI scheme will still proceed within the council stock as part of the overall WHQS programme. If the bids are unsuccessful, funding provision will, therefore, need to be made for those private homeowners whose properties fall within those blocks of houses scheduled for EWI in 2017/18 (Phase 2).
- 4.9 90 privately owned houses fall within the Phase 2 programme together with one stand alone block of 6 privately owned houses. Using the same cost estimates as outlined in para 4.7 above, full private participation would require budget provision of £360,000. Again, however, full homeowner participation is not anticipated and so a smaller investment would prove likely.
- 4.10 The CCBC Capital Programme for 2017/18 will not be presented to Members for approval until February 2017. However, provisional estimates once again indicate a potential allocation of £2.2m for Private Sector Housing. There is also the potential for an under-spend from 2016/17 being available to carry forward for use in 2017/18. Should members endorse the £2.2m budget for 2017/18 and also agree that any underspend from the 2016/17 Private Sector Housing budget should be carried forward for use at Lansbury Park, then support for those private owners wishing to participate in Phase 2 would also be affordable with little or no disruption to the 2017/18 Private Sector Housing capital programme.
- 4.11 Should members support the proposals then individual householders would make application for assistance in the same manner as for the existing Renewal Area grant process. Grants would, however, be awarded on the basis of a 25% contribution from home owners without applying a means test or the post-grant ownership conditions. The contractual arrangements would be the same as for all other Private Sector Housing grants with the homeowner contracting directly with the EWI provider in respect of building services and with the Council as Agent.
- 4.12 Members should also be aware that at the time of writing this report, representations have been made to Welsh Government outlining the obvious merits of cross tenure participation and asking that serious consideration be given to additional government funding being made available to assist with our overall ambitions for Lansbury Park. Should such funding become available it would be utilised before calling upon any available Private Sector Housing capital resources.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 This proposal contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above. The proposal is also consistent with the five ways of working set out in the sustainable development principle, as defined in the Act. The proposal is integrated in that it contributes to a number of the Well-being goals and supports the objectives of other stakeholders within the community. Implementation of the scheme exemplifies collaboration across organisational boundaries, working together for the good of our communities in pursuit of shared objectives.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Officers are satisfied that funding for this initiative can be made from within the existing

Private Sector Housing Budget allocation.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The report reflects any views of consultees.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 It is recommended that if Welsh Government funding is not made available as outlined in paragraph 4.12 above :

1. That financial support for those homeowners at Lansbury Park who wish to partake of the CCBC planned External Wall Insulation scheme be offered in the manner outlined at paragraph 4.11 above.
2. That for 2016/17 funding for the initiative should be made available from existing Private Sector Housing Capital budgets.
3. That for 2017/18 funding should be made available from any 2016/17 Private Sector Housing budget underspends with any additional funding which may prove necessary being deployed from the 2017/18 Private Sector Housing Capital budget.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To facilitate the adoption of a holistic, tenure blind, strategic approach to the physical regeneration of Lansbury Park.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 N/A

Author: Kenyon Williams – Private Sector Housing Manager
Consultees: Christina Harray, Corporate Director of Communities
Cllr Dave Poole, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer
Jane Roberts Waite – Strategic Co-ordination Manager
Marcus Lloyd - WHQS and Infrastructure Strategy Manager
Fiona Wilkins - Public Sector Housing Manager
Claire Davies – Principal Housing Officer (Strategy and Standards)
Karl Rivers – District Environmental Health Officer
Paul Smythe – Housing Repair Operations Manager
Steve Martin – Energy Officer
Stephen Harris - Interim Head of Corporate Finance
Nadeem Akhtar – Group Accountant
Lesley Allen, Group Accountant
Gail Williams – Interim Head of Legal Services
Todd Rawson - Solicitor



CABINET – 18TH JANUARY 2017

**SUBJECT: ROWAN PLACE, RHYMNEY – PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF FLATS –
BLOCK 65-68**

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval to demolish an additional block of flats in Rowan Place, Rhymney in conjunction with the improvement of the physical condition of the estate.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following the identification of severe damp and external defects to the external fabric of the properties in Rowan Place a major investment programme is currently being undertaken to bring the properties up to the WHQS. Following the demolition of one block of four flats of the remaining 68 Council owned stock, 44 of the properties are 2 bedroom flats comprising 11 blocks. This is a large concentration in a very small area.
- 2.2 Following Cabinet approval to demolish one block of flats to reduce the density of the estate and in recognition that there remain a large number of two bedroom flats, this report seeks approval to demolish a further block due to ongoing low demand in the area, to enhance the environmental aspect of this estate and to achieve financial savings.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The delivery of the WHQS environmental programme is coterminous with the aims of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 which requires public bodies to work towards a shared vision comprising 7 goals and adopt the 5 “Ways of Working”. The goals and the 5 Ways of Working will underpin the delivery of the programme and include planning and acting for the long term, integration, involvement, collaboration and prevention. The WHQS investment in Council homes to transform lives and communities is a Well Being Objective.
- 3.2 The Single Integrated Plan 2013-2017 has a priority to “improve standards of housing and communities, giving appropriate access to services across the County Borough”.
- 3.3 The Council’s Local Housing Strategy “People, Property, and Places” has the following aims:
“To provide good quality, well managed houses in communities where people want to live, and offer people housing choices which meet their needs and aspirations.”

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 A report was presented to Cabinet in July 2014 outlining the significant problems that had been identified in Rowan Place. The report had been the subject of consultation with the Caerphilly Homes Task Group in May 2014 and with Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee in June 2014. The report also floated the option of some selective demolition. 48 of the properties were 2 bedroom flats resulting in a very high concentration of flats in a very constrained location. In addition, due to reputational issues, Rowan Place had become a low demand area. There were mixed views during the consultation process about demolition and at the time this was not pursued.
- 4.2 A further report was submitted to Cabinet on the 16th December 2015, seeking approval to demolish a block of flats comprising units 69-72 with the recommendation to demolish being accepted. In addition the recommendation in respect of the necessary works and the additional funding implications were approved.
- 4.3 Rowan Place now consists of 68 Council owned properties, including 3 leasehold flats and a further 6 owner occupied houses/bungalows. Surveys of the Council owned properties had identified severe damp and extensive defects to the external fabric and major works were necessary to bring the stock up to WHQS. The original report in 2014 pointed out that if all the properties were to remain as part of the housing stock there would be no option but to incur the expenditure to address defects. It is a pre-requisite of WHQS that dwellings must be free from damp and disrepair.
- 4.4 Very significant costs are being incurred in refurbishing the blocks of flats and concerns remain about long term lettings. As works have progressed on site an opportunity has now arisen to consider reducing the stock of 2 bedroom flats by demolishing a further block 65-68. It is located in the centre of the estate and its removal linked to the demolition of the adjacent block of flats would create a significant open space at the heart of the estate. The site could be utilised to create a central feature that would further enhance the environmental quality and complement the face lift that has been given to the properties.
- 4.5 Despite the investment made in Rowan Place to date and following the introduction of a sensitive lettings policy, there remain 12 improved void properties with no interest being shown from those qualifying tenants on the housing waiting list and despite increased marketing of properties that are available. There is therefore an ongoing risk that further investment in this block would fail to result in the properties being let.
- 4.6 The block is currently occupied by two leaseholders and one tenant who have informally accepted a proposal to move to a newly refurbished flat in an alternative block. In relation to the leaseholders, the Legal Department has been instructed in the matter and the intention is that the existing leases will be surrendered and new leases granted for alternative flats which are being retained by the Council. The tenant will be offered a new tenancy for an alternative property. This will result in the Council having full control over block 65-68 as the other property in this block is currently void.
- 4.7 Members will recall that £1m VVP (Vibrant and Viable Places) grant was received for Rhymney over 3 years which has been directed to support the refurbishment of Hafod Deg and to provide environmental funding that would supplement the WHQS works in Rowan Place. It is anticipated that this proposal would provide the means to extend the environmental works on the site of the demolished flats to further enhance the appearance and facilities available for the community.
- 4.8 The grant of the new leases referred to in paragraph 4.6 above will require the consent of the Welsh Ministers and a formal application for consent will have to be made to Welsh Government. This will need to be accompanied by a statement setting out the purpose of the disposal, a District Valuer's report on the open market value of the property, the financial implications in respect of reduced rent, the Cabinet approval to the disposal/demolition, and the Cabinet report.

- 4.9 Officers consider there are merits in pursuing the demolition of the one additional block. However, if Members support this proposal then the procurement process will need to be fast-tracked to aim for the demolition to take place prior to the end of March 2017, in order to avoid the migration pattern of bats in the area. This could be achieved by a direct award or the issuing of a variation to the ongoing environmental scheme.

5. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The delivery of the WHQS improvement and environmental programme is coterminous with the aims of the wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) act 2015, in particular:-
- **Long Term:** the report includes a recommendation to demolish a further block of flats in order to deliver long term benefits for residents in Rowan Place, the community and the Council by providing an estate which better meets demand for the area.
 - **Integration:** The proposed demolition will result in wider environmental works which will improve facilities and open the area up in order to better integrate with neighbouring communities.
 - **Involvement:** Local residents have been consulted on the proposed environmental works.
 - **Collaboration:** A multi-agency approach has been adopted with the aim of improving the appearance and reputation of the estate in conjunction with the Policy, Communities First, Aneurin Bevan Health Board and Housing.
 - **Prevention:** The proposed demolition of an additional block of flats will reduce the density of the estate, prevent increased numbers of void properties and reduce incidences of anti-social behaviour, thereby improving the mental and physical wellbeing of residents.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An EqIA screening has been completed in accordance with the Council's Equalities Consultation and Monitoring Guidance and no potential for unlawful discrimination and for lower level or minor negative impact have been identified, therefore a full EqIA has not been carried out. The proposal will result in the loss of 4 housing units but this is a location where currently there are 8 no. two bedroom flats, which despite being fully improved, they have not been let. The Upper Rhymney Valley is generally a low demand area.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The cost plan estimate for the internal improvements to the 72 Council owned properties based on the Savills stock condition survey was £563,000 and for the external works £55,900.
- 7.2 Arising from the report presented to Cabinet in July 2014 a revised budget of £4.2m was approved with the additional costs to be funded within the Business Plan flexibilities.
- 7.3 The average cost of repairs and improvements per property was calculated as £58,800. However if the improvement had progressed to block 65-68 the internal work would not have been undertaken to the leasehold flat. The cost saving of not having to undertake improvement works will be of the order of £180,000. This will be offset by the demolition and clearance of the site and the leaseholder contribution which is estimated at £70,000. There would therefore be a net saving of £110,000, excluding legal fees. (Note these are broad estimates).
- 7.4 If we proceed to undertake the improvement work to this block, the leaseholders would be liable to contribute to the costs. A move to an alternative block of flats which has already been improved would therefore be of financial benefit to both leaseholders and the Council.

The detailed terms of the transfer of the leases will be dealt with by officers under delegated powers in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing.

- 7.5 There have been long term voids in Rowan Place and therefore historically there has been the ongoing loss of rental income. The reduction of 2, 2 bed flats (& 2 leasehold flats) would result in a minor adjustment to the housing stock which will have minimal impact in terms of rental income in view of the previous history of the area.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The in house work force is the main contractor for Rowan Place, however, due to the specialist nature of the demolition work, alternative procurement arrangements will need to be made to appoint an appropriate contractor.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 The proposal to demolish the one block of flats has been discussed with the local ward member. He has indicated he would not oppose the demolition. Consultation is also ongoing with the leaseholders and tenant with the aim of relocating them to alternative flats within Rowan Place.
- 9.2 Comments received from the Consultees listed below, have been incorporated into this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Cabinet endorse the proposed demolition of 65-68 Rowan Place and the making of a formal application to Welsh Government for consent to transfer two new leases as outlined in paragraph 4.8 of this report.
- 10.2 Subject to recommendation 10.1, above, officers pursue options for undertaking the work prior to the end of March 2017 to avoid further delays as a consequence of migratory bats.
- 10.3 Subject to recommendation 10.1, above, being approved, a report be requested from the District Valuer on the open market value of the two leasehold flats as required by Welsh Government.

11. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To consider the opportunity of reducing the number of flats in Rowan Place as part of an overall strategy to transform the quality of Rowan Place.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 Housing and Local Government Acts. This is a Cabinet function.

Author: S Couzens, Chief Housing Officer

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Consultees: Cllr Dave V Poole - Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Housing
Cllr Carl Cuss - Local Ward Member
Chris Burns - Interim Chief Executive
Christina HARRY - Corporate Director Communities
Nicole Scammell - Acting Director of Corporate Services and S151 Officer

Fiona Wilkins	-	Public Sector Housing Manager
Gail Williams	-	Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Alan Edmunds	-	WHQS Project Manager
Jane Roberts-Waite	-	Strategic Co-ordination Manager
Marcus Lloyd	-	WHQS and Infrastructure Strategy Manager
Lesley Allen	-	Principal Accountant
Colin Jones	-	Head of Performance & Property Services
Mandy Betts	-	Tenant and Community Involvement Manager
Debbie Bishop	-	Area Housing Manager

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CABINET – 18TH JANUARY, 2017

SUBJECT: NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL SPECIALIST RESOURCE BASE

REPORT BY: CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 A report was presented to the Education for Life Scrutiny Committee on 3rd November 2015 which detailed the progress of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Review. Members noted the progress made and that a separate behaviour review would consider arrangements for specialist provision to meet the needs of children with behavioural, emotional and social needs (BESD). Following notification from the Governing Body of Newbridge School that they no longer wished to host the behaviour specialist resource base (SRB) at the school the local authority needs approval from Cabinet to proceed with the consultation to close the SRB.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The aim of the ALN review is to identify strengths and areas for development of the current services and to provide options for the delivery of services for children and young people with additional learning needs. The report provides an update on the status of the review of provision for children with BESD and seeks approval to commence consultation on the closure of the SRB at Newbridge School.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 SEN Policy and Inclusion Strategy
- 3.2 SEN Code of Practice for Wales (2002)
- 3.3 Draft Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal (Wales) Bill
- 3.4 The report contributes towards the Well-being Goals within the Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015, specifically:
- A prosperous Wales as this is about developing a skilled and well educated population;
 - A healthier Wales as this is about maximising peoples physical and well-being;
 - A more equal Wales, as this is about enabling people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances are.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Learning Education and Inclusion (LEI) Service consists of a wide range of support and intervention services, which includes Educational Psychology, Behaviour Support Service, Education Welfare Service and Additional Learning Needs Service. The purpose of the ALN

review was to review the functions of the individual services and identify good practice and areas for development. Head teachers have been fully involved in the review process through a series of stakeholder group meetings.

In order to progress the ALN review four task and finish groups were tasked to lead development on the following areas.

- Specialist Resource Base (SRB) funding models and provision development
- Additional Support
- Behaviour Provision

Membership of the task and finish groups includes officers from LEI, Human Resources, Finance and Head Teacher representatives.

4.2 Specialist Resource Base (SRB) provision for children and young people with BESD

Whilst the majority of pupils in Caerphilly are educated in their local mainstream school, children and young people who have very significant emotional and / or behavioural needs require more specialist placements (Appendix A). Currently two primary schools offer Nurture and Social Inclusion specialist provision and one primary school has a key stage 2 SRB for children with behavioural difficulties. One secondary school currently has a SRB for up to sixteen key stage 3 pupils. The Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) has provision for up to 24 pupils.

An analysis of provision and future demand has revealed the need for further reorganisation and development of BESD provision to take into account :

- provision required to meet current and future identified need;
- cross-phase continuity for children and young people.

A report to the Scrutiny Committee in September 2014 indicated that addressing these issues could include re-designation and rationalisation of SRBs. In February 2016 the Governing Body of Newbridge School informed the Local Authority that due to increasing number of pupils on roll it no longer wished to host the key stage 3 SRB, which the school refers to as the Inclusion Centre. Closing any specialist provision requires the local authority to follow statutory processes as set out in the School Organisation Code 2013.

4.3 Newbridge School Inclusion Centre / SRB

Newbridge School is a mixed 11-16 community school serving the town of Newbridge and its surrounding area. There are approximately 1015 pupils on roll.

The specialist resource base at Newbridge School is known in the school as the 'Inclusion Centre'. It provides discrete, specialist provision for up to sixteen key stage 3 pupils with BESD. Young people are recommended for a place in the Inclusion Centre/SRB following discussion at the Specialist Placement and Provision Panel. Pupils attending the Inclusion Centre remain on the roll of their catchment school.

Currently there are 9 (8 full time equivalent) pupils attending the Inclusion Centre class. The class includes three year 9 pupils who would be leaving the Inclusion Centre provision at the end of the academic year in July 2017. An Educational Psychologist and Behaviour Support Officer are currently working with the pupils and school to identify alternative year 10 provision. It has been confirmed that one young person will be returning to his mainstream secondary school. Provision for the other two year 9 pupils is likely to be with an alternative education provider.

For the year 8 and year 7 pupils work is ongoing to identify appropriate educational placements should the Inclusion Centre close. Potential alternative provision could include a return to mainstream school, placement with an alternative education provider or placement in the PRU. The consultation report will contain more information on alternative placements /provisions identified for all the pupils should the proposal receive approval.

4.4 Consultation Timeline

If cabinet give approval for the consultation to progress, formal consultation processes as set out by Welsh Government's School Organisation Code 2013 will need to be followed. The table below illustrates the procedures that need to be followed and possible timescales

Process	Proposed Deadline Dates
Cabinet considers proposals	18 th January 2017
If approval to the proposals is granted by Cabinet, the consultation process should commence by providing relevant consultees with a consultation document. Responses to the consultation document should be made within 42 days, with at least 20 of these being school days, If appropriate Learning Education and Inclusion (LEI) Service should consider convening a meeting with the stakeholders during the consultation period.	23 rd January 2017 - 7 th March 2017
Consultation comments are collated and summarised by LEI Service. The summary together with the LEI Services' responses to the comments should be published in a consultation report within three months of the end of consultation period. The consultation report should then be published and reported back to Cabinet.	29 th March 2017
If agreement is granted by Cabinet to proceed with the proposals (this should be within 6 months of the end of the consultation period), the publication of a statutory notice for a 28 day consultation period should follow. This notice must be published on a school day and within 15 school days (not including the day of the publication) in the notice period.	13 th April 2017 – 10 th May 2017
At the end of the 28 day statutory notice period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If objections are received, an objection report should be drafted outlining the objections and their responses to them and available to the objectors within 28 days of the end of the objection period. • If no objections are received, a Cabinet decision will be needed to ratify the proposal. 	In this event Cabinet will need to approve, or otherwise, the draft objection report at the meeting on 7 th June 2017 21 st June 2017
If proposals receive approval or the proposer determines to implement them, they should be implemented in accordance with the date given in the statutory notice, or any subsequent modified date	If approval is secured at Cabinet on 21 st June 2017 and referral to Welsh Government is not required, the plan will be implemented from 1 st September 2017.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The proposal in this report contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above. It is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act and more specifically for the principles noted below:
- Long Term – The report recognises the importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard meeting long-term needs
 - Prevention – We are acting to prevent problems occurring by running a consultation with a view to alternative provision
 - Involvement – The consultation recognises the importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the outcome and those people reflect the diversity of the area which the report addresses.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Council's full Equalities Impact Assessment process will be applied to the formal Consultation Document and subsequent report to Cabinet.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct financial consequences from this report but it is recognised that this will need to be reviewed following consultation. An update will be provided to Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet following that.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Rationalisation of base provisions could impact on personnel currently employed in the SRB. Any staff affected will be fully consulted along with trade union representatives and supported through HR processes.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 Heads of Services and a Head teacher focus group have been kept fully informed of the progress of the ALN review. The report has been circulated to the consultees listed below and reflects their views. Further consultation will take place following Cabinet's approval to move to the next stage.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and give approval for the consultation process to proceed.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 Newbridge School's Governing Body has indicated that it no longer wishes to host the SRB. In order to progress these proposals the Local Authority must follow procedures set out in the School Organisation Code 2013.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 The School Organisation Code (section1.13)

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E-mail: colek@caerphilly.gov.uk
Consultees: Mr C Burns, Interim Chief Executive
Mrs Nicole Scammell, Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151
Mr Dave Street, Corporate Director – Social Services
Mrs Christina Harray, Corporate Director - Communities
Cllr D Havard, Cabinet Member, Education
Mr Bleddyn Hopkins, Assistant Director. 21st Century Schools
Mrs Lynne Donovan, Acting Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development
Mrs Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Mrs Jane Southcombe, Financial Services Manager
Mrs Lesley Perry, Head Teacher, Newbridge School.
Mr Michael Gray, Chair of Governors, Newbridge School
Mrs Kathryn Peters, Corporate Policy Manager

Appendices:

Appendix A Specialist Resource Base (SRB) Provision List

Background Papers

- Report to Scrutiny, September 2014
- CCBC SEN Policy
- CCBC Inclusion Strategy
- SEN Code of Practice for Wales

Appendix A

Name of setting - PRIMARY	Type of Provision	Number
Cefn Fforest Primary (KS2)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Cefn Fforest Primary (Foundation Phase)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Coed y Brain Primary (KS1 &2)	Speech and Language	16
Cwm Ifor Primary (satellite provision)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8 (Trinity Fields)
Cwmcarn Primary(KS2)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Deri Primary (KS1)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Behaviour Management Group at Glan Y Nant (KS2)	Behavioural, Emotional & Social Difficulties	8
Greenhill Primary (KS1&2)	ASD / Social and Communication	16
Pantside Primary (KS1&2)	ASD / Social and Communication	16
Pontllanfraith Primary (KS1&2)	Autistic Spectrum Disorder	16
St James Primary (KS1 &2)	Complex Learning Difficulties	16
Tir y Berth Primary (KS1&2)	Speech and Language	16
Ty Isaf Infants (KS1)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Tyn y Wern (Yr 3/4)	Social Inclusion	8
Tyn y Wern (Rec/ Yr1)	Nurture Class	8
Ty Sign Primary (KS2)	Behavioural, Emotional & Social Difficulties	8
Ynysddu Primary School (Rec/ Yr1)	Nurture Class	8
Ynysddu Primary School (Yr 3/4)	Social Inclusion	8
Ysgol Ganolfan Cwm Derwen (KS1&2)	Complex Learning Difficulties	8
Name of Setting- SECONDARY	Type of Provision	
Newbridge School (KS3)	Behavioural, Emotional & Social Difficulties	16
Islwyn High (KS3 &4)	Complex Learning Difficulties	50
Risca Comprehensive (KS3 & 4)	Autistic Spectrum Disorder	14
St Cenydd Community Comprehensive (KS3 & 4)	Speech & Language, Sensory and Physical Difficulties	50
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymney	Resourced to meet the needs of children and young people with complex needs	

Special School Provision /PRU

Name of School	Type of Provision	Number of places
Trinity Fields School & Resource Centre	PMLD/SLD/ASD	130
The Learning Centre	BESD Y5-8	16



CABINET – 18TH JANUARY 2017

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 1.1 The attached report was presented to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 7th December 2016 and provided Members with options for proposed changes to the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy. Members of the Scrutiny Committee were provided with the opportunity to comment upon the options presented prior to subsequent consideration by Cabinet and Council in January 2017.
- 1.2 Members noted that the MRP is the method by which Local Authorities charge their revenue accounts over time with the cost of their capital expenditure that was originally funded by debt. From 2007/8 onwards, Local Authorities have been free to set their own policy on calculating MRP, with the sole legislative proviso being that the amount calculated must be one that the Council considers to be "prudent".
- 1.3 At a time of increasing pressure on budgets, many Local Authorities have reviewed their MRP policies to generate significant savings to support their Medium-Term Financial Plans. In Wales, such reviews have already been undertaken by Torfaen, Merthyr Tydfil, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Monmouthshire Councils.
- 1.4 The 2017/18 Draft Budget Proposals presented to Cabinet on 30th November 2016 included a savings proposal of £3.5m to be achieved through a review of the Council's MRP policy.
- 1.5 The Council's current policy for capital expenditure funded from supported borrowings is for MRP to be charged to revenue at 4% in accordance with the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) Method on a reducing balance basis. Based on an opening supported borrowing CFR of £175.746m as at the 1st April 2016, the 2016/17 MRP charge for supported borrowings is £7.030m.
- 1.6 The Council currently adopts the Asset Life approach using the Equal Instalment Method for capital expenditure funded by unsupported (prudential) borrowing. This allows a charge to revenue over a 25 year period, which is deemed to be the estimated useful life. The charge is applied on a straight-line basis. Based on an opening unsupported borrowing CFR of £16.073 as at the 1st April 2016, the 2016/17 MRP charge for unsupported borrowings is £0.831m.
- 1.7 Members were asked to consider 2 alternative options available for charging the MRP on supported and unsupported borrowings i.e. the Straight Line Method and Annuity Method, based on the following: -
 - Historic debt liability as at the 31st March 2007 and subsequent capital expenditure funded from supported borrowings to be charged to revenue over 50 years.
 - The MRP charge for individual assets funded through unsupported borrowing to be based on the estimated life of each asset or 25 years where this cannot be determined.

- An assumed annuity rate of 2% for supported borrowing.
- The annuity rate for unsupported borrowing to be based on the average PWLB interest rate for new annuity loans in the year that an asset becomes operational.

- 1.8 An immediate recurring saving of circa £3.5m is available to support the 2017/18 revenue budget through adopting either of the proposed options. In addition to the revenue budget saving the straight-line approach will generate additional one-off sums of circa £3.8m in 2016/17 and £0.232m in 2017/18 to support the Capital Programme. The annuity approach will generate an additional one-off sum of circa £5.5m in 2016/17 and additional annual one-off sums to support the Capital Programme for a number of years as detailed in paragraph 4.6.8 of the report. The total MRP charge required to fully extinguish the CFR is the same under both the straight-line and annuity methods.
- 1.9 Members discussed the report at length and expressed concerns regarding the impact of the proposed changes on future generations. Members were assured that this has been considered and that the proposals in the report essentially seek to charge MRP to the revenue account over a period which is commensurate with the estimated lives of assets. This approach ensures that the charge is applied over the period that benefit is being gained from the use of assets.
- 1.10 Following discussion on the content of the report, it was moved and seconded that the principles of the report be agreed, in favour of the annuity approach being applied to both supported and unsupported borrowing. By a show of hands (and in noting that there were 4 against) this was agreed by the majority present.
- 1.11 It was subsequently resolved that: -
- (i) It be noted that a Member Seminar has been scheduled for the 12th January 2017 to enable all Members to be fully briefed on the proposed changes and to provide a further opportunity for views to be expressed and for questions to be raised.
 - (ii) In supporting the principles of the report and in favour of annuity being applied to both supported and unsupported borrowing, the proposed changes to the MRP policy be presented to Cabinet on the 18th January 2017 and then Council on the 24th January 2017.
- 1.12 Cabinet will wish to note that since the report was considered by the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee, confirmation has now been received via the Authority's External Auditor (Grant Thornton), that the Wales Audit Office (WAO) does not have any particular comments on the proposed changes and recognises that it is an approach similar to that adopted at other authorities.
- 1.13 Cabinet is asked to consider the report and recommendation from Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and determine whether they endorse this proposal, and recommend its acceptance to Council.

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Appendix: Report to Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee dated 7th December 2016.



SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7TH DECEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151
OFFICER**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present Members with options for proposed changes to the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy.
- 1.2 To provide Members with an opportunity to comment upon the options presented prior to subsequent consideration by Cabinet and Council in January 2017.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 MRP is the method by which Local Authorities charge their revenue accounts over time with the cost of their capital expenditure that was originally funded by debt.
- 2.2 From 2007/08 onwards, Local Authorities have been free to set their own policy on calculating MRP, with the sole legislative proviso being that the amount calculated must be one that the Council considers to be "prudent".
- 2.3 At a time of increasing pressure on budgets, many Local Authorities have reviewed their MRP policies to generate significant savings to support their Medium-Term Financial Plans. In Wales, such reviews have already been undertaken by Torfaen, Merthyr Tydfil, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Monmouthshire Councils.
- 2.4 The 2017/18 Draft Budget Proposals presented to Cabinet on the 30th November 2016 included a savings proposal of £3.5m to be achieved through a review of the Council's MRP policy.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 as agreed by Council on 24th February 2016.
- 3.2 Prudent financial management contributes to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016:-
 - A prosperous Wales.
 - A resilient Wales.
 - A healthier Wales.
 - A more equal Wales.
 - A Wales of cohesive communities.

- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.
- A globally responsible Wales.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The UK Government's programme of austerity has led to unprecedented cuts in the level of funding that Local Authorities receive annually to fund services. This has resulted in significant savings being required to balance budgets and unfortunately this situation is not likely to improve in the near future.
- 4.1.2 During this period of increasing pressure on revenue budgets a number of Local Authorities have reviewed their Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policies to generate significant savings to support Medium-Term Financial Plans. In Wales, such reviews have already been undertaken by Torfaen, Merthyr Tydfil, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Monmouthshire Councils.
- 4.1.3 MRP is the method by which Local Authorities charge their revenue accounts over time with the cost of their capital expenditure that was originally funded by debt. This is in accordance with Part 5, Section 21 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (and subsequent amendments in 2008). Before the 2007/08 financial year the method of calculating MRP was specified in legislation. However, from 2007/08 onwards Local Authorities have been free to set their own policy on calculating MRP, with the sole legislative proviso being that the amount calculated must be one that the Council considers to be "prudent".
- 4.1.4 MRP is intrinsically linked to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR represents the total of all the Council's past capital expenditure, less the total capital financing applied other than debt. The CFR therefore represents the Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes, and the amount that has yet to be permanently financed. MRP is the main method of permanently financing that expenditure.
- 4.1.5 The Council's Treasury Management Advisor, Arlingclose, was commissioned to review the Council's current MRP policy with the objective of identifying options to deliver savings to support the MTFP. This review has focussed on the Council Fund and does not, therefore, include the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

4.2 Welsh Government MRP Guidance

- 4.2.1 The Welsh Government (WG) has issued guidance on the calculation of MRP, including a number of methods which it considers to be prudent. The guidance is clear that Local Authorities are free to devise other methods they consider prudent. Broadly speaking, the guidance suggests that: -
- i) MRP on assets acquired through finance leases and Private Finance Initiative (PFI) should be equal to the cash payments that reduce the outstanding liability each year.
 - ii) MRP on all capital expenditure incurred before 1st April 2008, and on expenditure funded by supported borrowing thereafter, is equal to 4% of the opening CFR with some optional adjustments.
 - iii) MRP on expenditure incurred from April 2008 onwards that is funded by unsupported "prudential" borrowing should be calculated by reference to the asset's useful life, using either a straight line or an annuity method, starting in the year after the asset becomes operational.

4.2.2 Importantly, the guidance also suggests that the third method above is an alternative for all other expenditure.

4.3 Auditor Guidance

4.3.1 In January 2016, the Auditor General for Wales (AGW) issued guidance to Local Authorities considering revising their MRP policies. This guidance makes it clear that the responsibility for determining what is “prudent provision” lies with the Local Authority itself but points out that as auditors the AGW will consider whether or not the Local Authority has complied with its statutory duties to make MRP. Some of the areas that the AGW has pointed out that he would expect to see in any MRP policy include the following: -

- That MRP should be set at a level reasonably commensurate with the expected life of the asset or reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of the Revenue Support Grant (RSG).
- Where an Authority wishes to change its MRP for supported borrowing to an amount lower than 4% reducing balance, they would expect the Authority to be able to demonstrate that: -
 - the lower charge more accurately reflects the lives of assets employed by the Authority; or
 - the lower charge is reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of RSG (i.e. a 4% reducing balance basis).
- That Local Authorities need to make sure that when making decisions in respect of MRP that relate to actions taken in pursuit of their well-being objectives (or other sustainable development action) they act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations in accordance with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- Where any changes to MRP are taken retrospectively any “over provision” does not result in a negative or zero MRP charge.

4.4 Current MRP Policy

4.4.1 The Council’s MRP policy is set on an annual basis in accordance with the 2008 Regulations and approved by Full Council as part of the Treasury Management Strategy and the Revenue Budget prior to the commencement of each financial year.

4.4.2 The Council’s 2016/17 MRP policy was approved by Council on the 24th February 2016 and comprises of the following approach to determine the annual MRP charge: -

- Historic debt liability as at the 31st March 2007 and subsequent capital expenditure funded from supported borrowings to be charged to revenue at 4% in accordance with the CFR Method on a reducing balance basis.
- The Asset Life approach using the Equal Instalment Method for capital expenditure funded by unsupported (prudential) borrowing. This allows a charge to revenue over a 25 year period, which is deemed to be the estimated useful life. The charge is applied on a straight-line basis.

4.4.3 Based on the current policy the MRP charge to the revenue account for the 2016/17 financial year is £7,861,064.

4.5 Alternative Approaches

Supported Borrowings

- 4.5.1 The Council's current policy for capital expenditure funded from supported borrowings is for MRP to be charged to revenue at 4% in accordance with the CFR Method on a reducing balance basis. Based on an opening supported borrowing CFR of £175.746m as at the 1st April 2016, the 2016/17 MRP charge for supported borrowings is £7.030m.
- 4.5.2 An alternative approach that the Council could adopt is to link the supported CFR MRP charge to average asset lives. The MRP Guidance states that "approaches differing from those exemplified are not ruled out" and applying an asset life method to this element of the CFR is an approach being undertaken by a number of Local Authorities. In simple terms, this approach links the annual MRP charge to a more realistic assessment of the lives of assets funded through debt. For example, it would not be unreasonable to assume that a school would have a useful life of up to 70 years.
- 4.5.3 As at the 31st March 2016, the net book value (NBV) of the Council's total fixed assets (excluding HRA housing stock) was £942m. A number of these fixed assets will have been funded from supported borrowing. For supported borrowing the Authority does not assign actual borrowing to individual assets. The supported borrowing CFR as at the 1st April is £175.746m, which represents 18.7% of the net book value of £942m. The assets have a range of estimated asset lives but it is difficult to establish which are unfinanced and included in the supported element of the CFR. On a 4% reducing balance method the financing of the supported borrowing CFR will take in excess of 150 years to fully clear and it may therefore be more prudent to change this to a shorter timescale. Based on a review of the assets in the asset register it is considered that an average outstanding life of 50 years would not be unreasonable for the purpose of calculating MRP.
- 4.5.4 There are 2 alternative options available for charging the MRP on the supported borrowing element of the CFR over a period of 50 years: -

Straight Line Method – Under this approach the MRP charge on the supported borrowing CFR would be applied equally over the 50 year period meaning that the year-on-year charge remains constant.

Annuity Method – This is more commonly used as a method of establishing loan repayments, where it is required that the total amount of principal and interest repaid each year is a common amount. As such, it produces a profile of principal repayments that starts low and increases each year. For the purpose of calculating MRP a notional interest rate can be assumed and the MRP charge will be linked to the amount of principal on an annual basis. This results in a lower MRP charge in earlier years and a higher charge in later years. However, it is arguably the case that the annuity method provides a fairer charge than equal instalments as it takes account of the time value of money, whereby paying £100 in 10 years time is less of a burden than paying £100 now. For the purpose of this MRP review an annuity rate of 2% over a 50 year period is assumed for supported borrowing as this corresponds with the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee's inflation target rate of 2%.

Unsupported Borrowing

- 4.5.5 The Council currently adopts the Asset Life approach using the Equal Instalment Method for capital expenditure funded by unsupported (prudential) borrowing. This allows a charge to revenue over a 25 year period, which is deemed to be the estimated useful life. The charge is applied on a straight-line basis. Based on an opening unsupported borrowing CFR of £16.073m as at the 1st April 2016, the 2016/17 MRP charge for unsupported borrowings is £0.831m.

- 4.5.6 An alternative approach that the Council could adopt is to link the unsupported CFR MRP charge to estimated asset lives for individual assets. Rather than adopting the current policy of assuming that all assets have a 25 year life, this revised approach involves reviewing the assets funded through unsupported borrowing and applying specific estimated lives for each individual asset. In essence, many assets will have estimated lives in excess of 25 years and this will result in a lower annual MRP charge for these assets, albeit that the charge will be applied over a longer period. However, it can be argued that it is reasonable to apply the MRP charge over the period that benefit is being gained from the use of the asset. Where the estimated life of an asset cannot be determined a default position of 25 years can be assumed.
- 4.5.7 As with the supported borrowing CFR there are 2 options available for charging the MRP on the unsupported borrowing element of the CFR i.e. the straight line method and the annuity method. However, for the annuity option the average Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) interest rate for new annuity loans in the year that an asset becomes operational will be used for calculating MRP.
- 4.5.8 Members may wish to note that Blaenau Gwent CBC has recently changed its MRP policy on unsupported borrowing to the annuity method. A number of other Welsh Local Authorities are also considering the annuity method as part of ongoing reviews of their MRP policies.

4.6 Options Appraisal

- 4.6.1 For the purpose of appraising the options available, the opening balance on the CFR as at the 1st April 2016 for both supported and unsupported borrowing will be the start point. It is assumed that new borrowing of £17.550m will be undertaken as follows: -
- Supported borrowing 2016/17 for approved Capital Programme £4.990m
 - Supported borrowing 2017/18 for proposed Capital Programme £4.990m
 - Supported borrowing 2017/18 for 21st Century Schools £4.170m
 - Supported borrowing 2017/18 for 21st Century Schools £3.400m
- 4.6.2 No further borrowing is assumed as the revenue implications of additional borrowing in future years will be considered as part of the annual process of agreeing the revenue budget.
- 4.6.3 Appendix 1 provides details of the annual MRP charge for the period 2016/17 to 2088/89 for the current policy and for the revised approaches adopting the straight-line method and the annuity method. The current policy assumes the status quo but the figures for the annuity and straight-line methods are based on the following: -
- Historic debt liability as at the 31st March 2007 and subsequent capital expenditure funded from supported borrowings to be charged to revenue over 50 years.
 - The MRP charge for individual assets funded through unsupported borrowing to be based on the estimated life of each asset or 25 years where this cannot be determined.
 - An annuity rate of 2% is assumed for supported borrowing.
 - The annuity rate for unsupported borrowing is based on the average PWLB interest rate for new annuity loans in the year that an asset becomes operational.
- 4.6.4 Members should note that the total MRP charge required to fully extinguish the CFR is the same whichever approach is followed. The variable is the actual annual amount payable depending on which methodology is adopted.
- 4.6.5 The following summarises the main points arising from adopting the straight-line method: -
- For illustration purposes, under the current policy a total MRP charge of £100.657m is payable for the next 15 years (an average of £6.710m per annum).
 - By adopting the straight-line method a total MRP charge of £64.457m is payable for the next 15 years (an average of £4.297m per annum).

- In year one (2016/17) a saving of £3.858m is achieved and this one-off in-year funding would be available to support the Capital Programme.
- In years 19 to 50 the straight-line method is more expensive than the current approach.
- In years 51 to 72 the straight-line method is less expensive than the current approach.
- The CFR for both supported and unsupported elements is fully extinguished by year 72.
- Under the current MRP policy there is still a CFR balance of £10.099m in year 72 and a MRP charge of £0.421m.

4.6.6 The maximum annual MRP payable under the straight-line method is £4.335m. The charge for 2016/17 under the current policy is £7.861m so a budget reduction of £3.526m is achievable without compromising the budget required for future years. For 2017/18 the MRP charge under the straight-line method is less than £4.335m so this would provide additional surplus one-off funding totalling £0.232m that could be used to support the Capital Programme.

4.6.7 The following summarises the main points arising from adopting the annuity method: -

- For illustration purposes, under the current policy a total MRP charge of £100.657m is payable for the next 15 years (an average of £6.710m per annum).
- By adopting the annuity method a total MRP charge of £43.628m is payable for the next 15 years (an average of £2.909m per annum).
- In year one (2016/17) a saving of £5.540m is achieved and this one-off in-year funding would be available to support the Capital Programme.
- In years 22 to 50 the annuity method is more expensive than the current approach.
- In years 51 to 72 the annuity method is less expensive than the current approach.
- The CFR for both supported and unsupported elements is fully extinguished by year 72.
- Under the current MRP policy there is still a CFR balance of £10.099m in year 72 and a MRP charge of £0.421m.

4.6.8 The MRP charge under the annuity method is much lower in the earlier years than later years. However, it would not be prudent to permanently adjust the budget based on the maximum savings achievable as this would mean that significant growth would be required in later years. An alternative approach would be to reduce the MRP budget by £3.5m from 2017/18 and utilise the excess savings above this sum to support the Capital Programme. This would provide significant one-off resources and help to reduce the need to borrow in future years as demonstrated in the table below for the initial 10 year period: -

Year	Adjusted Annual Budget £m	Annuity Annual Charge £m	One-off Surplus Available £m
2017/18	4.361	2.432	1.929
2018/19	4.361	2.603	1.758
2019/20	4.361	2.661	1.700
2020/21	4.361	2.721	1.640
2021/22	4.361	2.783	1.578
2022/23	4.361	2.847	1.514
2023/24	4.361	2.912	1.449
2024/25	4.361	2.978	1.383
2025/26	4.361	3.047	1.314
2026/27	4.361	3.117	1.244
			15.509

4.6.9 Members should note that from the 2046/47 financial year it would be necessary to build growth into the base budget as the MRP charge would exceed the adjusted budget of £4.361m. It is also important to remind Members that all of the projected costs in this report are based on the opening CFR balance as at the 1st April 2016 for both supported and

unsupported borrowing, plus assumed new borrowing of £17.550m. In reality, the level of new borrowing will be much higher in the medium to long-term and some of the one-off annual surpluses indicated in the table above may need to be built back into the base budget to support increased MRP charges arising from additional new borrowing.

- 4.6.10 The total MRP charge required to fully extinguish the CFR is the same under both the straight-line and annuity methods. However, the table below summarises the key points arising from adopting the straight-line or annuity method for calculating MRP based on the opening total CFR as at the 1st April 2016 of £191.819m and new borrowing of £17.550m. A revenue budget saving of circa £3.5m is assumed from 2017/18 to support the MTFP.

Straight-Line	Annuity
MRP charge applied equally over the life of assets.	MRP charge is lower in early years and higher in later years.
CFR fully extinguished by year 72.	CFR fully extinguished by year 72.
£3.858m one-off saving in 2016/17 to support the Capital Programme. Further one-off saving of £0.232m in 2017/18.	One-off savings totalling £15.509m in first 10 years to support the Capital Programme. These one-off savings would continue on an annual basis until 2045/46, albeit that the amount would reduce annually.
No budgetary growth required during 72 year period to fully extinguish the CFR.	Budgetary growth required annually from 2046/47 to 2065/66 to ensure that the CFR is fully extinguished during the 72 year period.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires that decisions made by Council today must not have a detrimental effect on future generations.
- 5.2 The options set out in this report essentially seek to charge MRP to the revenue account over a period which is commensurate with the estimated lives of assets. This approach ensures that the charge is applied over the period that benefit is being gained from the use of the assets.
- 5.3 Under the existing MRP policy the bulk of the MRP charge is applied in the early years, which means that current council tax payers are paying a premium for assets that will also benefit future generations. Furthermore, the reducing balance methodology currently adopted for supported borrowing results in the MRP charge being applied to the revenue account long after assets have reached the end of their useful lives.
- 5.4 The option of changing to a straight-line basis will ensure that the current CFR for both supported and unsupported elements is fully extinguished by year 72. This approach ensures that a consistent annual charge is payable throughout the life of assets.
- 5.5 The option of changing to an annuity basis will also ensure that the current CFR for both supported and unsupported elements is fully extinguished by year 72. A change in the MRP policy to an annuity basis would result in a lower MRP charge in the earlier years with an increase in the amount charged in later years, and therefore paid by future generations. However, the method does ensure that all generations pay a similar amount when adjusted for the time value of money.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken prior to final proposals being presented to Cabinet and Council in February 2017.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The projected MRP costs in this report are based on opening CFR balances as at the 1st April 2016 for both supported and unsupported borrowing totalling £191.819m, and assumed new borrowing of £17.550m. In reality, the level of new borrowing will be much higher in the medium to long-term and this will need to be considered as part of the annual budget setting process. The MRP policy will therefore continue to be kept under review annually.
- 7.2 The maximum annual MRP payable under the straight-line method is £4.335m. The charge for 2016/17 under the current policy is £7.861m so a budget reduction of £3.526m is achievable without compromising the budget required for future years. There will be no requirement to build growth into future years to deal with the MRP charge based on the existing CFR balances plus assumed new borrowing of £17.550m. However, additional borrowing in future years will attract further MRP charges and this will need to be considered as part of the annual budget setting process moving forward. A one-off saving of £3.858m will also be achieved in the 2016/17 financial year and this funding would be available to support the Capital Programme. Furthermore, an additional one-off saving of £0.232m is available in 2017/18.
- 7.3 The option of revising the MRP policy to an annuity basis would result in the 2017/18 charge being £5.347m lower than the charge under the existing policy. However, it would not be prudent to permanently adjust the budget based on the maximum savings achievable as this would mean that significant growth would be required in later years. An alternative approach would be to reduce the MRP budget by £3.5m to £4.361m from 2017/18 and utilise the excess savings above this sum to support the Capital Programme in future years. This would provide significant one-off resources and help to reduce the need to borrow in future years. Members should note that from the 2046/47 financial year it would be necessary to build growth into the base budget to deal with the higher MRP charges required in later years to fully extinguish the current CFR balances under the annuity method.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 The MRP policy is part of the Treasury Management Strategy, which is approved annually by Full Council. Any change to the MRP policy is therefore of interest to all Members. With this in mind a Members' Seminar has been scheduled for the 12th January 2017. This will provide an opportunity for all Members to be fully briefed on the proposed changes and Arlingclose will be in attendance to assist with dealing with questions that Members may raise. A report on the proposed changes will subsequently be presented to Cabinet on the 18th January 2017 and then Council on the 24th January 2017.
- 9.2 Discussions are ongoing with the Authority's External Auditor, Grant Thornton, regarding the proposed changes to the MRP policy.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked: -

- i) To consider and comment upon the content of this report.
- ii) To note that a Members' Seminar has been scheduled for the 12th January 2017 to enable all Members to be fully briefed on the proposed changes and to provide a further opportunity for views to be expressed and for questions to be raised.
- iii) To note that a further report on proposed changes to the MRP policy will subsequently be presented to Cabinet on the 18th January 2017 and then Council on the 24th January 2017.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To ensure that Members are provided with an opportunity to contribute to the process of agreeing changes to the Council's MRP policy.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 Local Government Acts 1972 and 2003.

12.2 Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (and subsequent amendments in 2008).

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Consultees: Nicole Scammell – Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151 Officer
Andrew Southcombe – Finance Manager, Corporate Finance
Nadeem Akhtar – Group Accountant (Financial Advice and Support)
Gail Williams - Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Background Papers:

- Council Report 24th February 2016 – Treasury Management Annual Strategy, Capital Finance Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2016/17.
- Cabinet Report 30th November 2016 – Draft Budget Proposals 2017/18.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 MRP Charges for Various Options

Review of Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (MRP)**MRP Charges for Various Options**

Year	Date	Current Policy (£)	Straight Line Basis (£)	Difference (£)	Annuity Basis (£)	Difference (£)
1	2016/17	7,861,064	4,003,151	(3,857,912)	2,320,640	(5,540,423)
2	2017/18	7,779,471	4,102,951	(3,676,519)	2,432,040	(5,347,431)
3	2018/19	8,003,927	4,334,715	(3,669,211)	2,602,600	(5,401,327)
4	2019/20	7,722,459	4,334,715	(3,387,744)	2,661,381	(5,061,079)
5	2020/21	7,452,251	4,334,715	(3,117,535)	2,721,643	(4,730,607)
6	2021/22	7,192,850	4,334,715	(2,858,135)	2,783,430	(4,409,420)
7	2022/23	6,943,826	4,334,715	(2,609,110)	2,846,787	(4,097,039)
8	2023/24	6,704,762	4,334,715	(2,370,047)	2,911,761	(3,793,002)
9	2024/25	6,475,261	4,334,715	(2,140,546)	2,978,399	(3,496,862)
10	2025/26	6,254,941	4,334,715	(1,920,225)	3,046,752	(3,208,188)
11	2026/27	6,043,433	4,334,715	(1,708,717)	3,116,872	(2,926,561)
12	2027/28	5,840,385	4,334,715	(1,505,669)	3,188,812	(2,651,573)
13	2028/29	5,645,459	4,334,715	(1,310,744)	3,262,628	(2,382,831)
14	2029/30	5,458,330	4,334,715	(1,123,615)	3,338,377	(2,119,953)
15	2030/31	5,278,687	4,334,715	(943,971)	3,416,120	(1,862,567)
16	2031/32	5,106,229	4,301,382	(804,847)	3,451,072	(1,655,156)
17	2032/33	4,874,669	4,243,491	(631,178)	3,447,140	(1,427,529)
18	2033/34	4,389,012	4,195,371	(193,641)	3,452,663	(936,349)
19	2034/35	4,156,912	4,169,131	12,219	3,489,901	(667,012)
20	2035/36	3,891,436	4,130,011	238,575	3,508,416	(383,020)
21	2036/37	3,750,818	4,130,011	379,192	3,584,353	(166,466)
22	2037/38	3,615,826	4,130,011	514,185	3,662,063	46,237
23	2038/39	3,486,233	4,130,011	643,778	3,741,593	255,360
24	2039/40	3,349,823	4,130,011	780,188	3,822,992	473,169
25	2040/41	3,022,390	4,130,011	1,107,620	3,906,310	883,920
26	2041/42	2,887,735	4,130,011	1,242,276	3,991,598	1,103,863
27	2042/43	2,777,665	4,130,011	1,352,345	4,078,908	1,301,243
28	2043/44	2,535,999	4,130,011	1,594,012	4,168,296	1,632,297
29	2044/45	2,434,559	4,130,011	1,695,452	4,259,817	1,825,258
30	2045/46	2,337,177	4,130,011	1,792,834	4,353,530	2,016,354
31	2046/47	2,243,689	4,130,011	1,886,321	4,449,495	2,205,806
32	2047/48	2,153,942	4,125,758	1,971,816	4,539,747	2,385,806
33	2048/49	2,067,784	4,084,320	2,016,536	4,558,214	2,490,430
34	2049/50	1,985,073	4,055,259	2,070,186	4,599,820	2,614,747
35	2050/51	1,905,670	4,010,620	2,104,950	4,610,394	2,704,724
36	2051/52	1,829,443	4,010,620	2,181,177	4,707,154	2,877,711
37	2052/53	1,756,265	4,010,620	2,254,354	4,806,039	3,049,774
38	2053/54	1,686,015	4,010,620	2,324,605	4,907,098	3,221,084
39	2054/55	1,618,574	4,003,357	2,384,783	4,995,680	3,377,106
40	2055/56	1,553,831	4,003,357	2,449,525	5,100,625	3,546,794
41	2056/57	1,491,678	4,003,357	2,511,679	5,207,878	3,716,201
42	2057/58	1,432,011	4,003,357	2,571,346	5,317,495	3,885,484
43	2058/59	1,374,730	4,003,357	2,628,626	5,429,530	4,054,800
44	2059/60	1,319,741	4,003,357	2,683,615	5,544,044	4,224,302
45	2060/61	1,266,952	4,003,357	2,736,405	5,661,094	4,394,142
46	2061/62	1,216,273	4,003,357	2,787,083	5,780,742	4,564,468

Year	Date	Current Policy	Straight Line Basis	Difference	Annuity Basis	Difference
		(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
47	2062/63	1,167,623	4,003,357	2,835,734	5,903,050	4,735,428
48	2063/64	1,120,918	4,003,357	2,882,439	6,028,084	4,907,167
49	2064/65	1,076,081	4,003,357	2,927,276	6,155,910	5,079,829
50	2065/66	1,033,038	3,901,479	2,868,441	6,062,106	5,029,069
51	2066/67	991,716	386,567	(605,149)	594,491	(397,225)
52	2067/68	952,048	286,767	(665,280)	451,696	(500,352)
53	2068/69	913,966	103,575	(810,391)	173,543	(740,423)
54	2069/70	877,407	103,575	(773,832)	181,513	(695,894)
55	2070/71	842,311	103,575	(738,736)	189,849	(652,462)
56	2071/72	808,618	103,575	(705,044)	198,568	(610,051)
57	2072/73	776,274	103,575	(672,699)	207,687	(568,586)
58	2073/74	745,223	103,575	(641,648)	217,226	(527,997)
59	2074/75	715,414	103,575	(611,839)	227,203	(488,211)
60	2075/76	686,797	103,575	(583,223)	237,638	(449,160)
61	2076/77	659,325	103,575	(555,751)	248,552	(410,773)
62	2077/78	632,952	103,575	(529,378)	259,968	(372,984)
63	2078/79	607,634	48,571	(559,063)	103,261	(504,373)
64	2079/80	583,329	48,571	(534,757)	107,908	(475,421)
65	2080/81	559,996	48,571	(511,424)	112,764	(447,232)
66	2081/82	537,596	48,571	(489,024)	117,838	(419,758)
67	2082/83	516,092	48,571	(467,521)	123,141	(392,951)
68	2083/84	495,448	48,571	(446,877)	128,682	(366,766)
69	2084/85	475,630	48,571	(427,059)	134,473	(341,158)
70	2085/86	456,605	48,571	(408,034)	140,524	(316,081)
71	2086/87	438,341	48,571	(389,770)	146,848	(291,493)
72	2087/88	420,807	48,571	(372,236)	153,456	(267,351)
73	2088/89	403,975	0	(403,975)	0	(403,975)

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CABINET– JANUARY 18TH 2017

SUBJECT: WELSH LANGUAGE STRATEGY 2017-2022

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT -

- 1.1 To seek endorsement of the Authority's draft 5-year Welsh Language Strategy as required by Standards 145 and 146 of the Welsh Language Standards (No1) Regulations 2015, prior to presentation to Council for approval.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Authority is required to develop a 5-year strategy that sets out how it proposes to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of the Welsh language in the area. The strategy must include a target for increasing or maintaining the numbers of Welsh speakers and a statement setting out how the target is intended to be reached. The strategy must be reviewed and revised on a 5-yearly cycle.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Welsh language strategy directly supports the local authority's duty to contribute to the National Well-being Goals to achieve '**A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language**'. In addition allowing people to communicate with public services in the language of their choice is an issue that impacts on 'A More Equal Wales', and 'A More Cohesive Wales'.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The Welsh language standards require the authority to develop a 5-year Welsh Language Strategy that sets out how it intends to promote the use of the Welsh language, and facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely in the area. The strategy must include a target (in percentage terms) for increasing or maintaining the number of Welsh speakers in the area by the end of the 5-year period. In addition, the strategy must include a statement setting out how the target will be met. The strategy must be reviewed and renewed at the end of each 5-year period (Standard 145).
- 4.2 At the end of each 5-year period the authority must assess the extent to which the strategy has been followed and the target met. The assessment, which must be published, must include the number of Welsh speakers in the area and the list of activities that have been undertaken to meet the aims of the strategy (Standard 146).
- 4.3 The appended draft strategy has been developed in conjunction with the members of the Caerphilly Welsh Language Forum. The strategy can only be effectively delivered in collaboration with other organisations operating in the area who also have a remit, either

through legislation or organisational policy, to increase and support the use of the Welsh language. The forum members have developed the draft strategy, in conjunction with the local authority, such that the actions and target are shared collaboratively. The members of the local Welsh Language Forum are:

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Coleg y Cymoedd (College of the Valleys/ Ystrad Mynach)
Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent (Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre)
Menter Iaith Caerffili (Caerphilly Welsh Language Initiative)
Merched Y Wawr (Welsh Women's Institute)
Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin (Welsh Playgroups)
Rhag (Parents of children in Welsh medium education)
Yr Urdd (Welsh Youth Movement)

- 4.4 The strategy proposes a target of 3% increase in Welsh speakers over the 5-year period. This target is recognised as aspirational and the actions within the document are a direction of travel for the local authority and its partners. It is set against the backdrop of the draft Welsh Government strategy to increase the number of Welsh speakers in Wales to 1 million by 2050.
- 4.5 The strategy is supported by a 2016 profile of the use of the Welsh language in the area developed by Menter Iaith Caerffili, Appendix 2 to this report.
- 4.6 The structure of the document follows 6 strategic areas; The Family, Children and Young People, Communities, Welsh Language Services, The Workplace and Infrastructure (Policies and Practices).
- 4.7 The Welsh language standards required that the strategy was published on the local authority's website by the 30th September 2016. Given the need to prepare a properly consulted and approved strategy a draft strategy, minus associated actions, was published in order to comply with Standard 145. Subsequent development has included consultation with service managers and partners on the proposed actions which are presented as part of the document for consideration. Consultation responses have been reflected in the final draft strategy, as appended. The actions are considered to be achievable within the 5-year time frame.
- 4.8 Progress against the actions set out in the strategy will be monitored by the Welsh Language Forum, in partnership with the local authority. In addition to assessment at the end of the 5-year period, reporting, on an annual basis, will be encompassed within the authorities annual Welsh Language Report. The 2021 Census will be the next official measure of the number of Welsh speakers in the area.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The strategy contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above. It is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act in that the strategy has been developed collaboratively with the local authority's language partners. The intention of the strategy is to take a long-term view of increasing the use of Welsh and preventing the decline of the language within the local authority's area. The strategy integrates the work of the local authority alongside the work of other organisations in the area that have the same aim. The actions in the strategy will involve local communities in assisting them in being able to access services in Welsh.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report introduces the first Welsh Language Strategy for the local authority. The authorities Strategic Equality Plan and Objectives 2016-2020 include as Equality Objective 6- Compliance with the Welsh Language Standards:

People living in Caerphilly county borough, council staff and visitors to the area, whether fluent Welsh speakers or learners have their rights to use the Welsh Language supported by Council service areas and not prevented in any way.

An EIA screening has been completed in accordance with the Council's Strategic Equality Plan and supplementary guidance. No potential for unlawful discrimination and/or low level or minor negative impact has been identified; therefore a full EIA has not been carried out.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications in this report. The actions within the strategy are intended to be achieved in partnership. Where actions fall wholly, or partly, within the responsibility of the local authority it is intended that they will be met within existing budgets.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no personnel implications arising directly from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That the draft Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022 is submitted to Full Council for approval.

11.0 REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 The strategy is a document required by the Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015. Standard 145 requires that a 5-year strategy be in existence. Section 146 requires that the progress towards the target set out in the strategy is assessed and published at the end of each 5-year period.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015
The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

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Consultees: Councillor Barbara Jones, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services
Councillor Nigel George, Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services
Councillor James Pritchard, Equalities Champion
Dave Street, Corporate Director, Social Services
Corporate Management Team
Heads of Service
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
Anwen Rees, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Draft Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022

Appendix 2 Menter Iaith Caerffili- Welsh Language Profile 2016

Welsh Language Strategy 2017 - 2022

Draft for Cabinet and Council

Version 6

**Prepared in line with the requirements of Welsh Language Standard 145
under the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015**

CONTENTS

SECTION	TITLE	PAGE
1	Introduction	1
2	The Welsh Language in Caerphilly County Borough	3
3	The Legislative Context	5
4	Local Partners	6
6	Strategic Area 1 – The Family	11
7	Strategic Area 2 – Children and Young People	12
8	Strategic Area 3 – Communities	14
9	Strategic Area 4 – Welsh Language Services	15
10	Strategic Area 5 – The Workplace	17
11	Strategic Area 6 – Infrastructure (Policies and Practices)	18
12	Conclusion	19
Appendix A	List of Consultees and Recipients	20
Appendix B	Caerphilly County Borough Language Profile 2016 (associated document)	-

CONTACT

If you would like to comment or contribute to this draft strategy, you can do so by contacting the following:

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ACCESSIBLE FORMATS

We can provide a range of accessible versions of this draft Welsh Language Strategy on request, including:

Large print version; Audio version; Braille version; British Sign Language version

Please contact us if you require any of the above.

1. INTRODUCTION

This draft has been prepared so that the Council can circulate it to its own internal departments and to its external partners. This also ensures that elected members are presented with a properly drafted and consulted document for formal approval.

Caerphilly County Borough Council has a long-standing tradition of developing and implementing Welsh Language Schemes, from the first that was published in November 1998 to its most recent, which ended in March 2016.

Changes in legislation meant that Welsh Language Schemes were no longer required and so for the period 2017-2022 the Council has embedded Welsh Language issues into its 2nd Strategic Equality Plan, both directly in its **Strategic Equality Objective (SEO) 6 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Standards**, but also indirectly under other SEOs in terms of communications access, staff training and monitoring and dealing with complaints.

The new Welsh Language Standards however, specifically Standard 145 under the first set of Welsh Language Regulations, places a new requirement on the Council:

You must produce, and publish on your website, a 5-year strategy that sets out how you propose to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely in your area; and the strategy must include (amongst other matters) (a) a target (in terms of the percentage of speakers in your area) for increasing or maintaining the number of Welsh speakers in your area by the end of the 5 year period concerned, and (b) a statement setting out how you intend to reach that target; and you must review the strategy and publish a revised version on your website within 5 years of publishing a strategy (or of publishing a revised strategy).

The task is therefore to develop a strategy that builds on our past successes, meets the needs of the Welsh speakers and learners in the county borough, meets the legislative requirements and most importantly, is meaningful, appropriate and achievable for everyone involved.

The Council's vision for the future of Caerphilly county borough is outlined in 'Caerphilly Delivers - the Single Integrated Plan' 2013-2017, which guides us in how we plan, deliver and review our services in partnership. From 2018 the current plan will be replaced by the Well-being Plan for the county borough. These plans are the responsibility of the Caerphilly Public Services Board the partners of which are Caerphilly County Borough Council, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Natural Resources Wales, Gwent Police, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent, National Probation Service, Wales Community Rehabilitation Company, Public Health Wales, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, and Welsh Government.

“Our long-term vision for Caerphilly is for sustainable communities, supported by actions that enhance the quality of life for all.”

‘Caerphilly Delivers’ further notes that it was developed based on a set of principles that included Equalities and Welsh language, so that the Council and its Public Services Board partners “all promote and mainstream equalities and the Welsh language in accordance with our legislative requirements and strategic equality objectives”. The replacement Well-being Plan will consider the national well-being goal for Wales to promote a “Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language” and this strategy directly contributes to this goal. We must also consider Welsh Government strategies or regulations that the Welsh Language links to, including “Mwy Na Geiriau / More Than Just Words” (the National Health and Social Care Welsh Language Strategy).

More Than Just Words is a strategic Framework for Promoting the Welsh Language in Health, Social Services and Social Care’ which was published in 2012. The aim of the framework is to ensure that organisations recognise that language is an intrinsic part of care and that people who need services in Welsh get offered them. This is called the ‘Active Offer’.

Developing a long-term language strategy is not an easy task, as many factors such as social circumstances and population movement can make the relevant information outdated very quickly; the most recent Census data is already 5 years old for example.

The Council cannot develop the strategy or reach any agreed targets without working in partnership with a number of other bodies and organisations in the county, the region and nationally within Wales. A concerted effort by all involved offers the chance to meet the aspirations of this strategy.

Menter Iaith Caerffili has prepared a 2016 Language Profile of the county borough (see Section 2 and Appendix B) and by working in partnership with them and using this as a starting point, we are confident that the data about the Welsh language is the best that is available in order for us to develop this 5-year strategy.

The draft is also based around the six themes identified nationally in the Welsh Government’s Welsh Language Strategy: ‘A living language: a language for living’ and also makes reference to the Welsh Government’s new consultation on ensuring a million Welsh speakers by 2050. This means that our draft strategy uses established national criteria but localises the information and targets.

Though it is the Council’s duty to publish the strategy, it cannot implement and deliver all the requirements alone. By consulting with so many local partners, it also means that the strategy in its final form will be “owned” by everyone; through working closely with partners, organisations, schools, individuals and communities, we are confident that delivering this strategy will successfully promote the Welsh language and support its continuing success in the county borough.

2. THE WELSH LANGUAGE IN CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH

The baseline for the draft Strategy has to be a current language profile, in order to be able to determine an achievable target increase in Welsh speakers that is required by Welsh Language Standard 145. Menter Iaith's Language Profile from May 2016 is the most up-to-date information regarding the county's situation and includes the national legislative context as well as links to existing plans and strategies.

According to the 2011 Census, Caerphilly county borough had 19,251 Welsh speakers (11.2% of the population) and according to the Pupil Level Annual School Census figures from January 2015, 16.9% of the primary school population and 12.7% of the secondary school population were in Welsh medium education.

There has been a significant increase in Welsh Medium provision within CCBC since its inception in 1996.

Pupil numbers in Primary schools have increased by over 60% to a current level in excess of 2900. During this 20 year period, 3 additional schools were established, with 7 of the 8 original schools either being replaced or receiving adaptations / extensions to increase capacity.

The pupil numbers at Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni have increased by circa 75% from 900 to 1600 pupils. The school moved to a new site in 2002 and further developed onto a 2nd site (Y Gwyndy) in 2013. The present capacity of both sites in combination is 2,348 which is expected to be reached around 2025.

CCBC's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2017-2020 proposes the following 7 key outcomes;

- Outcome 1: More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh
- Outcome 2: More learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary school to secondary school
- Outcome 3: More learners aged 14-16 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh
- Outcome 4: More learners aged 16-19 studying subjects through the medium of Welsh in schools, colleges and work-based learning
- Outcome 5: More learners with higher skills in Welsh
- Outcome 6: Welsh-medium provision for learners with Additional Learning Needs
- Outcome 7: Workforce planning and Continuous Professional Development

The National Centre for Learning Welsh is a national body responsible for all aspects of the Welsh for Adults education programme. It operates as a body at arm's length from Government and has a clear vision for the future.

The Centre will be a visible institution setting a national strategic direction for the Welsh for Adults sector provide leadership for Welsh for Adults providers raise standards in teaching and learning in Welsh for Adults develop an engaging, appropriate and high quality national curriculum and produce resources suitable for all kinds of learners.

Everyone living in Wales knows that the language is around them and Welsh belongs to us all. Approximately 11% of the population speak Welsh fluently, and another 12% less fluently. Every child and young person learns at least some Welsh and thousands of people register each year on Welsh for Adults courses. This is an excellent opportunity to bring everyone together to speak and use the language.

The aspirations of the Centre are to:

- Increase the numbers who **know** about Welsh lessons.
- Increase the numbers **learning** Welsh.
- Increase the numbers attaining **fluency**.
- Increase the numbers who **use** Welsh.

In 2013-14, 15,910 learners registered on various courses across Wales using the standard registration population. Distribution by centre was as follows:

Welsh for Adults Centre	No. of Learners
Aberystwyth University	2,125
Bangor University	5,405
Cardiff University	1,630
Coleg Gwent	2,105
Swansea University	3,165
University of South Wales	1,390

Source: Welsh Government Statistics website based on Data from LLWR and HESA

The former Welsh Government Strategy *Iaith Pawb* aimed to increase the number of people who spoke Welsh to 5%. Their new vision of having a million Welsh speakers by 2050 is shown in Section 3.

Caerphilly County Borough Council recognises this is an aspirational target which will be a challenge for us and our partners to achieve. Caerphilly County Borough Council has a positive approach to assisting to meet the aim; however, we have chosen to select a realistic target which we aim to achieve over the next 5 years. This will be based on what we expect the Welsh language capabilities of our population will be and the number of Welsh speakers leaving Welsh medium education.

This draft strategy therefore proposes a minimum 3% target increase in the number of Welsh speakers between 2017 and 2022.

This target therefore means that by the 2021 Census, Caerphilly county borough will have a minimum 14.2% Welsh speaking population*.

(* - no target population figure is proposed as population numbers change with inward and outward migration)

3. THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The 2016 Language Profile also sets out the broad Welsh Language legislative context and so is not repeated in the body of this strategy, however since the profile was published in May 2016, there has been a further development that must be referenced and noted.

The Council's 5-year strategy must be published by 30th September 2016, however in August the Welsh Government launched a new consultation on its updated 5-year strategy, which closes at the end of October.

Caerphilly County Borough Council has worked to similar timescales to allow for full and thorough consideration by partners. The aim is for the final version of the strategy to be ready by the end of January 2017.

Below are extracts from the consultation document:

Consultation on a Welsh Government draft strategy: a million Welsh speakers by 2050

Section 78(1) of the Government of Wales Act 2006 requires Welsh Ministers to adopt a strategy stating how they propose to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language. Section 78(4) requires the Welsh Ministers to keep the strategy under review and enables them from time to time to adopt a new strategy. Therefore, this consultation seeks your views on our proposals for the strategy which will supersede the current Welsh language strategy: *A living language: a language for living* (2012–2017) when that strategy's period comes to an end.

- **Development area 1: Planning and language policy**
- **Development area 2: Normalisation**
- **Development area 3: Education**
- **Development area 4: People**
- **Development area 5: Support**
- **Development area 6: Rights**

The legislative and policy framework supports the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the requirement for all public bodies in Wales to work collaboratively to promote a thriving Welsh language. Though the 6 development areas under consultation differ from the 6 used nationally over the last 10 years in the Welsh language strategy "A living language: a language for living", and which form the basis of the Council's draft 5-year strategy, they complement each other rather than conflict.

It is therefore proposed that the Council's draft strategy continues with the original 6 themes, but that in 2017, when the Welsh Government's own strategy is implemented, that the Council's strategy is reviewed and if necessary, updated and amended to align with the final national document.

4. LOCAL PARTNERS

In order to achieve the aims and objectives of this strategy it is essential that we work closely with our existing partners and new partners across the county. Through collaborative working we will be better placed to ensure that our vision within this strategy is achieved.

The following key partners are essential to fulfilling the county's vision.

Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili

Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili (Menter Caerffili) is a voluntary, community based organisation and a registered charity. Its principal aim is to increase the opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to use or learn the Welsh language within their local communities. In order to achieve this aim Menter Caerffili develop new and innovative community projects which stimulate and encourage community development and participation in addition to enabling communities to lead their own projects. Menter Iaith are now active in several fields including youth work, childcare, community training and volunteering opportunities, adult education and partnerships with the private sector. These projects enable people to use the Welsh language on a community level in a variety of ways. Previously, Welsh speakers and learners, both adults and children, were faced with a severe lack of services and opportunities to use the Welsh language outside education. During the past sixteen years, Menter Iaith has responded to this lack of equal opportunity by developing and providing projects which now enable people to use the Welsh language within their own communities. These projects work with young children within childcare and play schemes, young people through youth clubs and youth activities, adult Welsh learners through learners' groups and local businesses through advice and support.

All of our projects have developed through partnerships with other organisations such as schools and nurseries, GAVO, Caerphilly C.B. Council, Gwent Centre for Welsh for Adults, local businesses, voluntary organisations, Communities First Partnerships and various other organisations. Menter Caerffili work with communities throughout Caerphilly County Borough and engage with over 3000 Welsh speakers and learners at present in addition to 20+ organisations and societies.

Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili's Corporate Plan 2016-19 builds on the strengths of the organisation over the last sixteen years and much of the good work achieved during this period will continue, to ensure services make a difference regarding the Welsh language in Caerphilly creating a positive impact on the two following elements will be core to their work:

- Changing the use of language amongst individuals and organisations
- Changing the confidence, awareness and attitudes of families, children and young people and adults in relation to the Welsh language

Menter Caerffili's core work will be in the following sectors:

- Lead collaborative planning for Welsh medium services across the county
- Develop and deliver services and opportunities to use the Welsh language
- Influence for the benefit of the Welsh language on a county level
- Represent the voices of Welsh speakers and learners across the county
- Raise confidence and change people's attitudes towards the Welsh language
- Strengthen the Welsh language and its use amongst families
- Strengthen the Welsh language amongst young people aged between 3 and 24 years old through a range of services
- Develop Welsh medium community events and festivals to raise awareness of the Welsh language

Menter Caerffili is a key organisation, progressive and active, influencing and innovative in relation to the Welsh language in Caerphilly Borough.

The Urdd

The aim of the Urdd is to ensure an opportunity, through the medium of Welsh, for the young people of Wales to develop as rounded individuals; to also support them to play a constructive role in society by developing personal and social skills. The Urdd achieves this in a variety of ways.

Within Caerphilly County Borough the Urdd works closely with Welsh medium schools and Second Language schools, offering a range of activities for pupils throughout the year. The Urdd organises sports competitions, residential activities in their centres, Jamborees and the annual Eisteddfod.

In addition to this, the Urdd jointly employs a Youth Officer in Caerphilly with Menter Caerffili and Caerphilly County Borough Council. The officer develops social opportunities for young people in the county through the medium of Welsh. The officer develops these opportunities in a variety of ways, including youth clubs, community groups, one-day trips, trips abroad, volunteering opportunities and accreditation opportunities for young people.

These various activities provide opportunities for children and young people within Caerphilly to use the Welsh language outside of education and within their communities.

Cymraeg i Blant

Cymraeg i blant / Welsh for kids is a new project run by Mudiad Meithrin and funded by Welsh Government that focuses on increasing the number of nursery age children that are able to speak Welsh. It shares information, advice and support to parents on the benefits of being bilingual, the importance of introducing Welsh to children as early as possible and the advantages of Welsh medium childcare and education.

The local Cymraeg i blant officer runs weekly bilingual baby massage, baby yoga and Welsh rhymetime sessions for parents and young children across Caerphilly.

The officer works closely with the local Midwifery and Health Visiting teams to ensure that parents receive these key early messages and local information about Cymraeg i blant groups as well as Mudiad Meithrin's provision of local Ti & Fi groups (parent & toddler groups) and Cylchoedd Meithrin during the ante-natal and post-natal period so that parents are aware of the bilingual journey available for their child.

Welsh Language Forum

Menter Caerffili coordinates and leads a Forum of organisations and individuals who work through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. The Forum aims to provide an opportunity to work in partnership, share good practice and to develop a strong local voice on behalf of the Welsh language. The Forum meets quarterly and a range of topics and issues are discussed during meetings including the importance of services for children and young people. It is hoped that the Forum will continue to develop and provide an opportunity to convey a strong and influential voice in support for the Welsh language locally in addition to working on a strategic level to support the delivery of this strategy.

Coleg y Cymoedd

The current priorities of Coleg y Cymoedd are to extend the range, type and level of Customer Care courses, *Yr Iaith ar Waith* through the medium of Welsh in order to allow us to offer this additional qualification across more subject areas at a variety of levels and within different skill areas – speaking/reading and writing.

- Phase 1 took place during 2014-15 when the course was introduced to Childcare/Health and Care/Catering students.
- Phase 2 2015-16 – Business/Transport and Tourism (and the subjects within Phase 1)
- Phase 3 2016-17 – The Creative Industries (and subjects from Phase 1 & Phase 2)
- Phase 4 2017-18 – Engineering/Building (and subject from Phase 1-3).

In addition, units across core subject areas are becoming bilingual (for example Business during 2016-7) in order to provide a real choice to the college's Welsh speaking students.

The College works closely with Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini. The school invites the College into school to speak to the students who are likely to attend College at 16 years old and the College is also invited to have a stand during their Information Evening for Year 11. The school pupils have benefited from attending Welsh medium one day courses at the College (in Car mechanics, Catering and French) which have been funded by the Cross County Forum. Welsh Government will not continue to fund the Forums; therefore it is difficult to plan without funding. The College is in discussion with schools in Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taf to discuss if it's possible to continue this work.

The College provides training (Welsh classes) for its staff as part of its Linguistic Skills Strategy and used an audit of staff Welsh language skills and the requirements of Managers to identify any recruitment needs.

Every student has to attend an induction session as they join the College and a section about the Welsh language is part of this. It provides the following information:

- Students have a right to present their written work through the medium of Welsh (dependent on the requirements of the Awarding Body) regardless of the fact that their tutor does not speak Welsh.
- Students are able to request notes/assessments in Welsh.
- Bilingual booklets are available which provide Mathematical terms bilingually to assist students, particularly during the period when they transfer from school to college.

There are opportunities for students to maintain and improve their language skills informally within a variety of activities, for example coffee mornings, visiting the set of the 'Jonathan' show at the BBC Studios, Urdd activities such as Outdoor Activity days and competing in the Urdd Eisteddfod, an opportunity to contribute to Welsh theme days such as 'Diwrnod Shwmae Su'mae and the Welsh medium activities which are held during Welsh Week (Welsh gigs have been held with Mistar Phormula and Y Ffug and more recently with the singer Emma Hickey from the band 'Beti Galws'). Students themselves also perform

The College is also eager to progress its curriculum in addition to providing opportunities which will appeal to its learners which are Welsh speakers and allow them to maintain and improve their language skills in an informal way. Working in partnership with their partners such as Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili and the Urdd is a continuing.

Mudiad Meithrin

Mudiad Meithrin is a voluntary organisation and is the main provider of Welsh Medium early years care and education in the voluntary sector in Wales.

Our aim is to give every young child in Wales the opportunity to benefit from early years care and education experiences through the medium of Welsh.

We employ 200 staff nationally and an additional 1500 staff work in Cylchoedd Meithrin (Welsh Medium playgroups) throughout Wales.

In Caerphilly, we have 15 Cylchoedd Meithrin and 7 Cylchoedd Ti a Fi (Welsh medium Parent and toddler groups). We believe that Welsh language acquisition is an advantage to every child and that transition from our settings to Welsh Medium Schools is imperative. The Cylchoedd in Caerphilly receive guidance and practical advice for staff, volunteers and parents at Cylchoedd Meithrin from our designated Support Officers. In addition, the Regional Manager and her deputy offer specialist advice on a wide variety of subject matters including HR advice, finance and management.

We work closely with our funders (Welsh Government) and in partnership with the Local Authority and other stakeholders such as Menter Iaith.

Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion Gwent

Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent works across Caerphilly Borough providing Welsh for Adults classes.

Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent aims to:

- Increase the numbers of adults learning Welsh in the area by providing and developing a broad programme of courses for learners of all levels from beginners (Mynediad level) to those who are reasonably fluent (Hyfedredd level).
- Increase the numbers starting courses and continuing to learn Welsh in the area.
- Increase the numbers becoming fluent in the area.
- Increase the numbers who are aware of Welsh classes in the area and raise the profile of the sector.
- Increase the opportunities for learners to use the Welsh language in the area.

Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent specialise in intensive courses – 4 hours (3 hours within the class and 1 hour completing activities through the internet to reinforce class learning). In addition, a further intensive course is offered – 9 hours a week to those who wish to learn Welsh quickly.

In addition to the regular classes provided by *Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent*, a number of informal learning activities are provided which offer opportunities for learner of all levels to use and practice their Welsh in a social situation outside the classroom. This is an increasing development which is essential to those learning Welsh. *Dysgu Cymraeg Gwent* work closely with Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili to ensure that the learners within Caerphilly Borough are able to access opportunities to practice the Welsh they have learnt within the class and use their Welsh with other speakers.

5. STRATEGIC AREA 1 - THE FAMILY

Vision:	Promoting use of the Welsh language within the Family.
Outcome:	Increase in the number of families where the Welsh language is spoken with the children.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend regular informal opportunities for parents to develop their Welsh language skills so as to assist their children to acquire and gain confidence in their ability to use the Welsh language. • Create a consistent message across the sector, in order to promote the benefits of transferring the Welsh language within the family and of allowing children to acquire the Welsh language. • Raise awareness about the importance and availability of providing Welsh-medium activities for families.
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of children, in primary school reception classes, who are learning Welsh. • Number of events run by the Council and partner organisations for the Family where Welsh can be used as part of a family activity.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, "More than Just Words"
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	CCBC departments (Education, Social Services, Families First programme, Leisure, Corporate Policy); Menter Caerffili, Welsh medium schools, Mudiad Meithrin, Cymraeg i Blant, Urdd, Caerphilly Public Services Board partners

Number	Action	Date
1.1	Promote Welsh language organisations such as Menter Caerffili, the Urdd, Mudiad Meithrin, Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre and in particular their family activities and services (through social media, Council publications, Family Information Service)	
1.2	Events evaluation forms to include questions regarding language use.	
1.3	Develop a comprehensive information resource (booklet/online resource) which shows the services available through the medium of Welsh for families and the Welsh medium education journey in addition to the advantages of bilingualism.	
1.4	Newsline to develop a Welsh medium services feature (twice a year) highlighting the Welsh medium activities and services available locally through the Council and partner organisations.	

6. STRATEGIC AREA 2 - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Vision:	Increase the use of the Welsh language amongst children and young people, improve their awareness of the value of Welsh, and ensure better access to Welsh-medium social events and services.
Outcome:	Children and young people increasingly speak Welsh as part of their everyday routine, improve potential career prospects and realise the value of the language.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support educators (teachers, youth workers etc.) to allow them to be able to promote the extra-curricular activities available through the medium of Welsh, in order to increase the social use of the Welsh language. • Work with young people to raise their awareness of the Welsh language as a valuable skill for training and employment. • Raise awareness amongst staff that come into contact with children and young people of the need to foster positive attitudes towards the Welsh language. • Increase the number of children accessing Welsh medium education. • Develop bilingual leadership skills amongst young people to help them develop to become champions of the language within their communities.
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Year 6 pupils showing an increase in their use of Welsh at the end of their time in primary school. • % of Year 11 pupils who are studying for five or more qualifications through the medium of Welsh. • % of 16-19 learners who study courses through the medium of Welsh. • Attendance numbers of children and young people for Welsh language activities, such as events organised by partner organisations.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, NEET Strategy
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	CCBC departments (Education, Leisure and Tourism), Caerphilly Youth Forum, Menter Caerffili, the Urdd, Mudiad Meithrin, Cymraeg i Blant, Caerphilly Public Services Board partners.

Number	Action	Date
2.1	Audit current Welsh medium opportunities and services for children and young people in order to identify gaps and areas of high demand.	
2.2	Promote Welsh language organisations such as the Urdd and Menter Caerffili widely and in particular their services for children and young people.	

2.3	Work in partnership with a range of organisations such as the Urdd, Menter Caerffili, Careers Wales and Caerphilly Youth Service in order to raise awareness of the value of Welsh language skills as a career or employment opportunity.	
2.4	Develop Welsh language awareness training for staff working with children and young people in addition to a resource pack to support provisions to promote Welsh language and local heritage.	
2.5	Consult and create a campaign to attract young people to be involved in youth work, sport and art activities as leaders.	
2.6	Plan, coordinate and promote a calendar of Welsh medium care, play and recreational activities for children between the ages of 11-18 years old.	
2.7	Plan, coordinate and promote a calendar of Welsh medium care, play and recreational activities for children between the ages of 4-11 years old.	

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7. STRATEGIC AREA 3 - COMMUNITIES

Vision:	Support community groups and help them to increase the use of the Welsh language within their localities.
Outcome:	Community groups are aware of, and can access, Welsh language services across many different sectors.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support existing Welsh-language community activities and share good practice. • Support community groups to mainstream the use of the Welsh language and offer learners the opportunity to practice it. • Provide specific support to community initiatives in order to enable them to realise their plans to promote the Welsh language.
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Welsh language activities which are arranged and held within communities across the county borough. • The number of people who attend those Welsh medium events.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015,
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	GAVO, Menter Caerffili, Community Councils, CAB, Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Caerphilly Public Services Board partners

Number	Action	Date
3.1	Promote the availability of bilingual services by ensuring Welsh speakers and learners within service areas wear appropriate lanyards and or badges showing their skill, this will gradually encourage the public to speak Welsh when accessing services.	
3.2	Plan and coordinate a campaign to distribute Welsh speaking badges and signs across businesses and organisations in order to support local people to use the Welsh language.	
3.3	Support the development and promotion of a directory of Welsh medium services available locally.	
3.4	Support and promote the development of Ffiliffest, Menter Caerffili's annual festival which celebrates the Welsh language and local heritage. This would include support from departments such as Tourism, Leisure, Arts Development, Youth Service and Communications.	
3.5	Ensure Welsh language input and activities within Caerphilly County Borough's community events programme e.g. Big Cheese, Blackwood Beach Party, and Christmas Markets etc.)	

8. STRATEGIC AREA 4 - WELSH LANGUAGE SERVICES

Vision:	Promote and improve the availability of Welsh-medium services in Caerphilly county borough.
Outcomes:	More Welsh-medium services available to the public. More use made of the services that are available through the medium of Welsh. Welsh language support groups are included in directories of community and voluntary groups. The Welsh language integrated in collaboration arrangements.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant language standards being operated. • Senior council managers should show a strong commitment to the Welsh language in collaboration arrangements, and 3rd party contract and commissioning documents. • Welsh language classes made available to council staff and partner organisations.
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The % and number of staff able to provide Welsh language services to the public in line with Standards 127 and 151. • Number of complaints received relating to non-compliance of Standard as required by Standard 147.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, "More than Just Words" (the Strategic Framework for Welsh language services in Health and Social Services),
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	Caerphilly County Borough Council (all departments), Caerphilly Public Services Board partners, Menter Caerffili, Cymdeithas yr Iaith.

Number	Action	Date
4.1	Continue to encourage all council departments to use the Iaith Gwaith badges and lanyards (Standard 68).	
4.2	Support and encourage the Council's Welsh speaking staff and learners to use their skills in the workplace.	
4.3	Plan to improve service provision based on feedback and the number of complaints received	
4.4	Award scheme for Welsh learners' courses – Learner of the Year / Most Improved Service Area etc.	
4.5	Group meetings/events for Council learners to practice.	
4.6	Contact partner organisations to determine how many Welsh Essential posts they have, the nature of the posts and how they are currently filled.	
4.7	Contact partner organisations to determine how many currently provide Welsh Language Awareness Training to staff and how that training is provided.	
4.8	With the information collated above, develop a marketing programme including an annual Welsh Language job fair to raise awareness among	

	the community and young people of the potential career opportunities for Welsh speakers.	
4.9	All council departments to log/record details when a member of the public indicates that they wish for all their telephone calls to be conducted through the medium of Welsh (Standard 21).	
4.10	Raise awareness of Welsh Language provision of services in order to meet the requirements of a positive offer and raise awareness of the ability to contact the local authority in Welsh by telephone, face to face or via written communication	
4.11	Develop improved partnerships between Council Departments and partners.	

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9. STRATEGIC AREA 5 - THE WORKPLACE

Vision:	Increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language in the workplace.
Outcome:	An increasing number/percentage of the workforce uses the Welsh language in the workplace.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Welsh language skills and awareness amongst local managers. • Increase knowledge about the linguistic skills of staff who work within the Council and partner organisations. • Increase recognition that the Welsh language is a valuable skill in the workplace. • Increase awareness of the importance of the Welsh language as a skill when recruiting, amongst those who are responsible for jobs and employment. • Enable and support fluent staff and staff who are learning, to use the Welsh language in the workplace. • Compliance by Commissioned Services and Independent Third Party Provision
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of staff employed by partners who use the Welsh language in the workplace. • The number of staff learning Welsh.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Diwrnod Shwmae,
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	Caerphilly County Borough Council (all departments), Caerphilly Public Services Board partners, Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre (via the local community learning centres), Job Centre Plus,

Number	Action	Date
5.1	Increase partnership work between partners and the Council in order to promote the value of the Welsh language.	
5.2	Encourage businesses and the voluntary sector to use the Iaith Gwaith badges and lanyards and to develop a bilingual image.	
5.3	Develop a joint campaign raising awareness of all partner organisations' existing Welsh language services e.g. phone lines, self-service machines etc.	
5.4	Ensure appropriate Welsh language training is available to staff to learn Welsh from basic to advanced/proficient	
5.5	Establish promoting Welsh as a recognised objective for managers so that they are able to provide evidence of the work undertaken to increase Welsh speaking staff and promote Welsh medium services.	
5.6	Create a resource and App that lists all the businesses and services available locally through the medium of Welsh in order to highlight opportunities to use the language across community life.	
5.7	Promote the opportunities to follow a career through the medium of Welsh locally as a partnership of organisations.	

10. STRATEGIC AREA 6 - INFRASTRUCTURE (POLICIES AND PRACTICES)

Vision:	Organisations and services integrate the Welsh language into policies and activities.
Outcome:	The Welsh language integrated appropriately in Council and partners' strategies, policies, and practices.
Strategic Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the impact assessment processes consider Welsh language issues in line with Welsh Language Standards 88-90. • Ensure that the Council's policy development practices comply with the relevant Policy Making Standards. • Ensure that the review of this Strategy is undertaken in 5 years as required by Welsh Language Standard 146.
Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % and number of policies that have been impact assessed in line with the requirements of Welsh Language Standards 88-90.
Existing legislation, policies, plans or strategies:	The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations. 2015, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Welsh Government Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (2013), the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011,
Partners: (internal council departments and external organisations)	Caerphilly County Borough Council (all departments), Caerphilly Public Services Board partners, Menter Caerffili,

Number	Action	Date
6.1	Welsh language to be further embedded in consultation practices/exercises (as an element for consideration in addition to the organisations that are consultees).	
6.2	Welsh language as an integral part of developing and impact assessing proposed Caerphilly County Borough Council policies.	
6.3	Establish Welsh language implications as an integral part of planning developments in terms of housing and education expansion, particularly in terms of Welsh medium school places.	
6.4	Encourage wider partners to have the Welsh language as an integral part of developing and impact assessing proposed policies and practices.	

11. LOOKING FORWARD

This strategy is the first Welsh language strategy developed by Caerphilly County Borough Council in collaboration with its partners. The target to increase the Welsh speaking population by 3% over the duration of the strategy is an aspirational one. However, the actions contained herein are considered to be both realistic and achievable.

Progress against the stated aims will be monitored by the local Welsh Language Forum in conjunction with the local authority, with accountability shared across all partners who are responsible for delivering stated actions.

The local authority will report progress on an annual basis as part of its Welsh Language Report required by Welsh Language Standard 158.

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APPENDIX A - LIST OF CONSULTEES and RECIPIENTS

Consultees

- Caerphilly County Borough Council Cabinet Members
- Caerphilly County Borough Council Senior Managers
- Menter Caerffili
- Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre
- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin
- The Urdd
- GAVO
- Merched y Wawr (Women's Institute)
- RhAG (Parents of Children in Welsh Medium Education)

Recipients

- Other Local Authorities in Wales
- Grŵp Deddf

DRAFT

Menter Iaith Caerffili

Welsh Language Profile 2016

May 2016

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1. Introduction

This profile examines the position of the Welsh language in the County Borough of Caerphilly, and the way that Welsh speakers in the area use the Welsh language in their communities.

The aim is to look at the context of the Welsh language in the area today so that ways of increasing opportunities for Welsh speakers to use the language can be considered. It will help the Menter to plan strategically and operate as an influential partner as organisations are faced with the task of meeting the statutory requirements in relation to the Welsh language in their areas.

**Caerphilly has
19,251 Welsh
speakers,
which is 11.2%
of the
population**

This profile is based on the 2011 Census statistics; the Welsh Government's 2013-15 Language Use Survey; the Welsh Government Pupil Level Annual School Census 2015; Use of the Welsh Language in the Community: Research Study, Bangor University 2015; with reference also to the results of a survey held in Mentrau areas in the South East region during February and March 2016, with 733 responses.

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Context	3
3. Welsh speakers in Caerphilly.....	8
4. Welsh Language Use	12
<i>i In the home</i>	15
<i>ii The Community</i>	17
<i>iii Education</i>	20
<i>iv Learning Welsh</i>	24
<i>v Workplace</i>	26
<i>vi Public, private and voluntary bodies</i>	28
<i>vii Social Media</i>	30
5. Conclusion	32
6. Recommendations	34
7. Useful Resources.....	42

2. Context

The county of Caerphilly is a beautiful area with a rich history. It encompasses industrial and rural areas and provides a variety of leisure and cultural opportunities. However, some parts of the county are among the 10% most disadvantaged areas in Wales, and the county has a higher than average rate of unemployment and economic inactivity. There are also challenges in relation to skills development, with a higher than average number of 18-19 year olds leaving full time education. So there are some fundamental challenges in relation to health, welfare, employment and skills among the local population.

Menter Iaith Caerffili was established in 1999 to fulfil the need to promote and increase the use of the Welsh language in the area by creating opportunities and services to enable the county's residents to use the language in their local communities. The Menter focusses its core activities on the following areas:

- Childcare schemes and various opportunities for children during school holidays
- Supporting and encouraging childcare providers to increase their use of Welsh language.
- Providing a health advice and information service for children and young people through the medium of Welsh.
- Social activities for families.
- Social activities for Welsh learners
- Formal and informal learning activities.
- Ffiliffest – Welsh medium Summer Festival

The Menter has a host of partners across the County which include Caerphilly County Borough Council, the Urdd, Mudiad Meithrin, Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre, Merched y Wawr, CADW, schools, colleges and businesses. The two key partners responsible for funding a large part of the services the Menter provide are the Welsh Government and the County Council.

The Menter, with its partners in the county Language Forum, acts as a source of expertise in relation to promoting the Welsh language in the area. It is a key partner of the Local Authority in terms of the support it provides in realising the aim of maintaining and increasing the number of Welsh speakers in the coming years.

In addition to increasing opportunities for Welsh speakers to widen their use of the language in their everyday lives, the Council together with its partners will need to plan strategically for the long term so as to increase the number of speakers. In the South East region, increasing opportunities for Welsh medium education is crucial, and alongside this, it is essential that the bilingual workforce which is created by the education system has the opportunity to use the language in their work. Another important element is to encourage new Welsh language learners and boost their confidence in the skills that they have at whatever level, and progression and support are crucial for this.

In relation to the policy and legislative context in which the Menter laith operates, there is clear national focus on the Welsh language in several areas, and the Local Authority, the Health Board and others have a responsibility to meet these requirements at a local level. These are the main areas:

Welsh Language Schemes and Language Standards

Welsh language schemes will be superseded by a new system of requirements which will come into force following the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. As well as ensuring official status for the Welsh language, the Measure, through its regulations, sets statutory Standards in relation to the Welsh language for bodies in Wales.

These include Promotion Standards (Standards 145 and 146) which mean that Caerphilly County Borough Council has to:

- Set targets to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely in the area, and maintain or increase the number of Welsh speakers.
- Publish the results of this as well as a list of activities which have been arranged or funded to promote the use of the Welsh language.

The Welsh Government Strategy for the Welsh Language 2012-17: *A Living Language: A Language for Living*

The Government published the *Moving forward* policy statement in August 2014 which builds on *A Living Language: A Language for Living*. Alongside the statutory duties imposed on the Council, the Health Board and others by the Welsh Language Standards, in this document the Government sets out its focus up to 2017, which includes:

- the Welsh language and the economy
- better strategic planning for the Welsh language
- the use of Welsh in the community
- changing linguistic behaviour.

As part of its aim of strengthening the use of the Welsh language in the community, the Government notes its expectations for Wales' *Mentrau Iaith*, which are that they:

- promote and facilitate the use of Welsh among local residents, societies and organisations
- operate as a county-wide and local information exchange
- identify needs and collaborate with local authorities to ensure provision is made in accordance with county language strategies
- undertake specific projects to respond to local needs and, where appropriate, support specific communities.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 lists seven aims for the well-being of future generations in Wales. They include ensuring a *‘Wales with a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language’*.

According to the Welsh Government: *“The well-being plans which we intend local authorities to prepare as a result of the Well-being of Future Generations Bill will provide an important vehicle to ensure that the goal of a thriving Welsh language is a central consideration in future public policy.”*

More than Just Words

‘More than Just Words...’ is the Welsh Government’s framework for improving Welsh language services in health, social services and social care. The aim of the targets set for Local Authorities and Health Boards to improve their Welsh language services is to meet people’s linguistic needs and improve the quality of care.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013)

The Welsh Government expects local authorities to respond to the targets set in the Welsh Medium Education Strategy:

- More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh
- More learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school
- More learners studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh
- More learners aged 16–19 studying subjects through the medium of Welsh
- More learners with higher-level Welsh-language skills

In Caerphilly County Borough Council’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, the Council notes the following:

‘By 2017, Caerphilly will:

- *Continue to proactively offer early years provision to stimulate parental demand, and then continue to meet parental demand for Welsh-medium education.*
- *Conduct annual parental demand surveys in the autumn term. Subsequently, demand will be assessed and an action plan produced and reviewed annually.*
- *Reduce the number of Welsh-medium primary schools with over 10% surplus places from 5 out of 11 to 3 out of 11 schools by meeting parental demand stimulated in the Early Years.*
- *Develop Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni's Y Gwyndy site to include sixth form provision and relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Caerphilly to the site.'*

Communities First

The aim of the Welsh Government's Communities First Programme is to improve health, prosperity and access to education and learning, and to support people in the most disadvantaged areas of Wales.

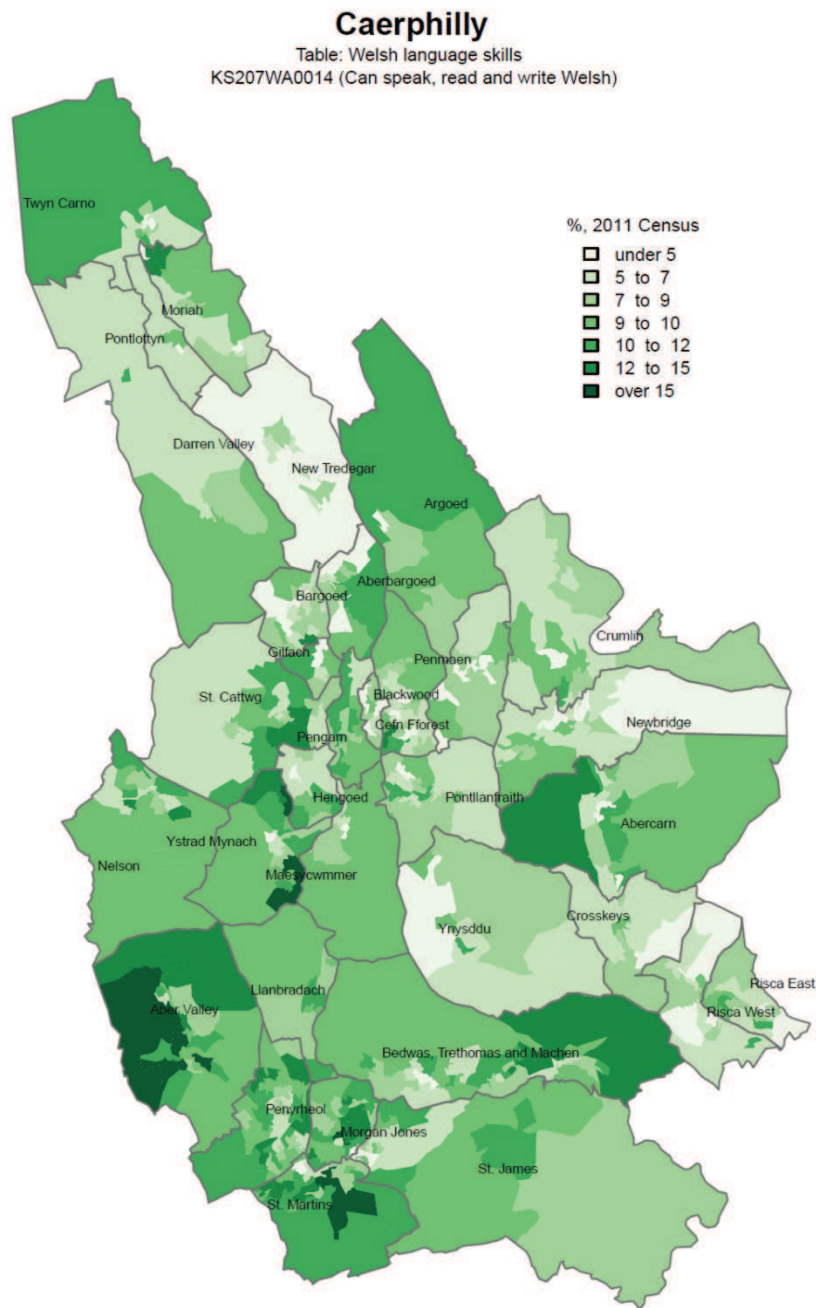
The Government has noted the importance of key partnerships in this context. In its Response to the Review of the work of the Mentrau Iaith (March 2014) and specifically to the recommendation that '*There should be a strengthening of the relationship between the organisations and community development organisations such as Communities First*', it notes:

We agree there is scope to strengthen the relationship between organisations that promote the Welsh language and community development organisations. That includes Communities First as well as organisations such as local authorities and third sector organisations working in the field of community development and regeneration.

There is a clear link between opportunities to use the Welsh language and tackling poverty programmes like Communities First and Sure Start, and the Government expects the Communities First clusters to foster a relationship with the Menter Iaith for advice and support as to the best way of developing use of the language, as well as operating bilingually.

3. Welsh speakers in Caerphilly

This map shows the Welsh language skills of people in the Caerphilly area in 2011:



The maps show percentages within Census 2011 output areas, within electoral divisions

Map created by Hywel Jones. Variables KS208WA0022-27 corrected

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The 2011 Census results showed a decline in the number of Welsh speakers in Wales since 2001. Despite this decrease across Wales and in

the percentage of Welsh speakers in the South East region itself, the percentage of Welsh speakers in the Caerphilly area remained constant.

Table 1: Comparison in the number and percentage of Welsh speakers between 2001 and 2011

	Can speak Welsh Number		Can speak Welsh Percentage of the population	
	2001	2011	2001	2011
Caerphilly	18,237	19,251	11.2	11.2
Region	173,445	174,782	11.6	10.9
Wales	582,368	562,016	20.8	19.0

Table 2: Number and percentage of Welsh speakers in Caerphilly Communities from the 2011 Census

Community	Population over 3 years old	Welsh speakers	PERCENTAGE
Cwm Aber	6456	1020	15.8
Sant Martin	8134	1132	13.9
Morgan Jones	6495	875	13.5
Caerphilly	13,311	1,760	13.2
Ystrad Mynach	4838	3902	13.2
Pen-yr-heol, Trecennydd and Energlyn	11,949	1571	13.1
Pengam	3687	466	12.6
Nelson	4502	553	12.3
St Cattwg	7523	899	12
Llanbradach	4222	502	11.9
Maes-y-cwmwr	2175	223	11.9
Aber-carn	5139	600	11.7
Bedwas, Tretomas and Machen	10,361	1186	11.4
Argoed	2652	290	10.9
Hengoed	5322	577	10.8
Twyn Carno	2354	255	10.8
St James	5748	614	10.7
Moriah	4329	459	10.6
Aberbargod	3471	366	10.5
Blackwood	8242	869	10.5
Riska East	6228	652	10.5
Cwm Darran	2,512	260	10.4
Crymlyn	5756	590	10.3
Ynys-ddu	3802	387	10.2

Pen-maen	5044	510	10.1
Pontllan-fraith	8237	831	10.1
Bargod	5946	587	9.9
Gilfach	1995	190	9.5
Cefn Fforest	3,749	358	9.5
Crosskeys	3156	285	9
Riska West	5073	457	9
Newbridge	6285	557	8.9
Pontlottyn	1862	145	7.8
New Tredegar	4,728	346	7.3

Table 3: The communities that saw an increase in Welsh speakers

Community	2001	2011	Increase
Aber-carn	9.1%	11.7%	2.6%
Maes-y-cwmwr	8.9%	10.3%	1.4%
Nelson	11.0%	12.3%	1.3%
Pengam	11.7%	12.6%	0.9%
Pontllan-fraith	9.5%	10.1%	0.6%
Caerphilly	13.2%	13.7%	0.5%
Pen-yr-heol, Trecennydd ac Eneu'r-glyn	12.7%	13.1%	0.4%
Gelligaer	11.7%	12.0%	0.3%
Bargod	9.8%	10.0%	0.2%
Cwm Aber	15.7%	15.8%	0.1%

Table 4: Comparison in numbers/percentages across age ranges – between 2001 and 2011

Age group	% Welsh speakers 2001	% Welsh speakers 2011	Number of Welsh speakers 2001	Number of Welsh speakers 2011
All (over 3)	11.2	11.2	18,237	19,251
3-4 years	13.0	20.7	570	925
5-9 years	31.9	33.4	3,674	3,481
10-14 years	39.8	38.8	4,853	4,265
15-19 years	26.5	26.5	2,847	2,994
20-24 years	11.4	12.8	1,059	1,384
25-29 years	8.4	10.6	924	1,032
30-34 years	6.5	9.4	822	1,032
35-39 years	5.1	7.6	649	864
40-44 years	4.2	5.6	483	737
45-49 years	3.8	4.4	414	568
50-54 years	3.7	3.2	446	372
55-59 years	3.4	3.2	341	345
60-64 years	2.9	3.0	245	350
65-69 years	2.5	2.7	192	250
70-74 years	2.6	2.2	168	166
75-79 years	3.4	2.2	190	124
80+ years	5.9	2.8	360	200

There is a clear increase in the early years and children – the percentage of speakers is higher among 3-14 year olds than among their parents' generation (25-49 years). The 5 to 14 age range represents school pupils – this is the highest percentage of Welsh speakers. This shows the influence of Welsh medium education and second language Welsh education, and we shall look at this in more detail in the next chapter.

4. Welsh Language Use

In November 2015, the Welsh Government and the Welsh Language Commissioner published the results of the 'Welsh Language Use in Wales' survey. Also in 2015 Bangor University published the results of its research study on Welsh language use in communities in Wales. Both studies provide valuable data and an illustration of the way that people

Between the 2004-6 and the 2013-15 language use surveys, Caerphilly has seen an increase of 1000 fluent speakers and an increase of 8,900 non-fluent speakers.

use the language.

The Language Use Survey shows that fluent people are more likely to speak Welsh in everyday life. According to the Language Use Survey, fluent Welsh speakers are also twice as likely to attend a social or cultural event in Welsh than non-fluent people.

Despite the increase in the number of people who say that they can speak Welsh in the Caerphilly area, the Language Use Survey shows that the percentage of people in the area who speak Welsh every day has fallen from 46% to 38%.

As part of creating this profile, a survey of Welsh speakers in the South East was conducted between 12 February and 11 March 2015. A short questionnaire was shared electronically and on paper by all Mentrau in the region. The survey's main aim was to learn about the experiences of Welsh speakers in the area and the opportunities that they have to use the Welsh language.

66% of responses in Caerphilly were from women and 40% of all responses in the Caerphilly area were from 26-50 year olds.

In all, 733 people responded to the questionnaire. Of those responses, 10% were from Caerphilly. We must bear in mind that those who responded are not representative of all Welsh speakers in the area. The questionnaire was promoted mainly through the Menter mailing list and we can therefore assume that these are a cohort of the area's Welsh speakers, who already have some sort of link or willingness to engage with the

Menter. However, this is the Menter's natural audience, and the responses are useful in relation to planning for them.

Almost three quarters of the responses from the Caerphilly area were from people who could speak, read and write Welsh.

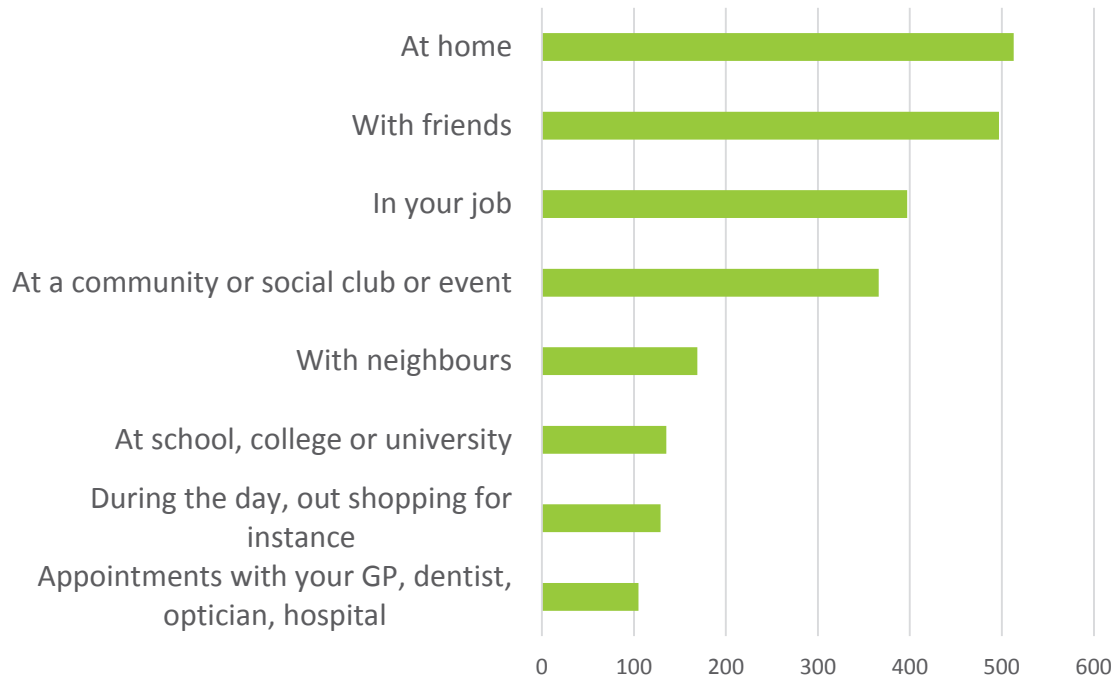
For 67% of those who responded from Caerphilly, the Welsh language was part of their everyday life most of the time.

Although many of those surveyed said that Welsh was part of their everyday life, in the Caerphilly area and the whole of the South East most of the opportunities to use Welsh were in the home or with friends. In this area, any opportunities beyond these must be sought, and although there may be a variety of social events available, the lack of opportunity to use Welsh in informal daily interactions/contact in wider circles than the Welsh speakers that we know means that the use of Welsh is not normalised at a community level. This in turn means that it is very difficult to ensure an increase in use.

So the challenge for all the partners and stakeholders is to target efforts in these wider areas; to consolidate and broaden opportunities for fluent speakers; to develop the confidence of non-fluent speakers and facilitate ways of including them; to promote further use of Welsh in workplaces and in public-facing institutions and businesses to make it easier to use Welsh in unfamiliar or new areas.

The results of the survey of Welsh speakers across the region also represents how often Welsh speakers in Caerphilly are presented with an opportunity to use the language:

Where is the Welsh language part of your everyday life (south east)



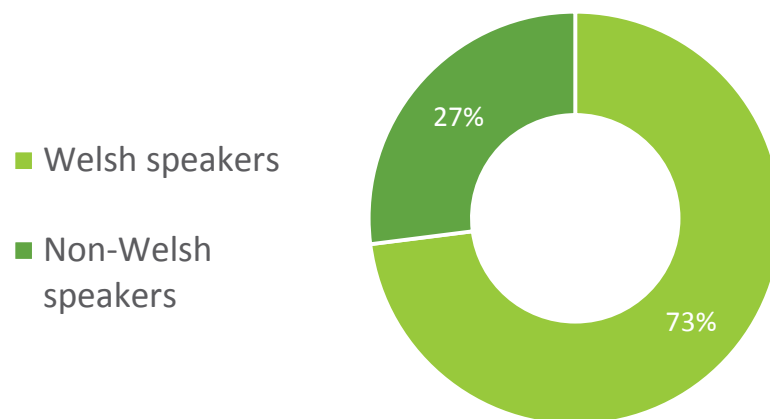
i In the home

For those from Caerphilly who noted Welsh as a feature of their everyday life, opportunities to use Welsh occur mostly in the home and with friends. 70% of all respondents indicated that they spoke Welsh regularly at home.

Fluent Welsh speakers are also nurtured in the home – they are more likely to be fluent than those who learnt to speak Welsh at school.

In Wales, language transmission – the rate at which the language is passed on to children – in households where two parents can speak Welsh, is 82%. In Caerphilly, this rate is 73%. This means that in households with children aged 3 to 4 years, with both parents able to speak Welsh, 73% of the children were introduced to the language in the home. In 2001, this figure was 64%.

Language transmission in households where both parents speak Welsh



Source: Welsh Language Commissioner / Statiaith

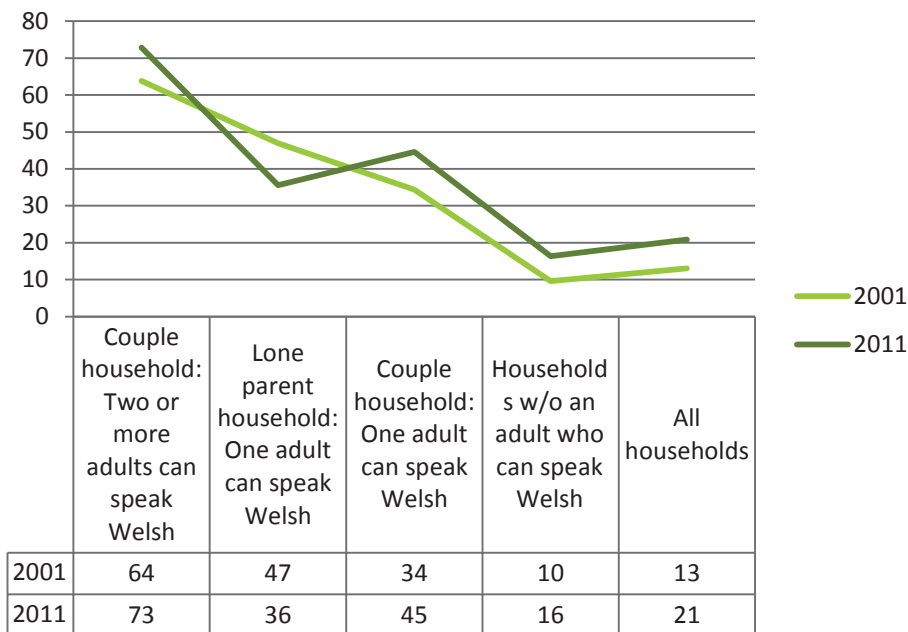
It is also worth noting the increase in the transmission rate in households where one of the two parents speaks Welsh – from 34% to 45%, which corresponds to the national rate of 45%.

With this upward trend it would seem that there is potential for further work to extend influence in this area amongst the 27% of Welsh couples

noted, and those homes where one of the couple speaks Welsh, as well as with their extended families. This may highlight further opportunity for the Menter, together with other organisations that provide family services locally – Cymraeg for Kids, Mudiad Meithrin, Families First, Menter Iaith, Urdd, Welsh for Adults, Flying Start and Communities First – to collaborate to ensure even more influence in this area by exploring opportunities across the sector.

Table 5: Language Transmission to children in the home

Caerphilly: % of children aged 3 to 4 who can speak Welsh



[Source: Welsh Language Commissioner/Statiath]

ii The Community

In the South East, where Welsh is a minority language in each geographical area, it is essential to maintain and facilitate communities of Welsh speakers across each age range to ensure a future for the language.

Of course, the word community has several meanings when we refer to Welsh speakers. A community is more than a geographical location, it exists across the boundaries of an area and a region, and now, with social media, it could be argued that there are no boundaries to such a Welsh language community. The Welsh language unites people socially and culturally. It is an added factor to identity that creates a link between people and stimulates activity and interaction.

85% of respondents said that they had attended an event organised by Menter Iaith Caerffili. In light of the fact that the questionnaire was mainly promoted through the Menter mailing list, this figure demonstrates that the Menter has further potential to promote events and services to its supporters. 47% of respondents in Caerphilly also said they had been to an event organised by a Menter Iaith in another area.

Menter Caerffili's Prosiect Llais is a project in collaboration with GAVO to give a voice to communities that up until now haven't had much representation within the County.

The aim of the project is to engage and consult with Welsh speakers and learners of all ages within the County Borough, in order to strengthen their commitment to their communities and ensure that Welsh speakers have input into the way services are planned for them. The purpose is to identify the needs of the Welsh speakers within the borough of Caerphilly and what additional provision they would like to see for fluent Welsh speakers and learners.

Research shows that several factors influence Welsh language use in the community. Firstly, even though the language has official status, it is a minority language and is therefore not prominent as a community

language in this area. This, of course, means that opportunities to use Welsh are rare.

- ‘Doctor, dentist, optician, most of the shops speak English only. Not everyone speaks Welsh in our hobby clubs, so we have to turn to English.’

Another obvious factor is people’s confidence in using the language and whether they are used to using Welsh – we know that people who aren’t fluent are less likely to speak Welsh every day and attend Welsh language events, and the results of the questionnaire show that this is true for some in Caerphilly:

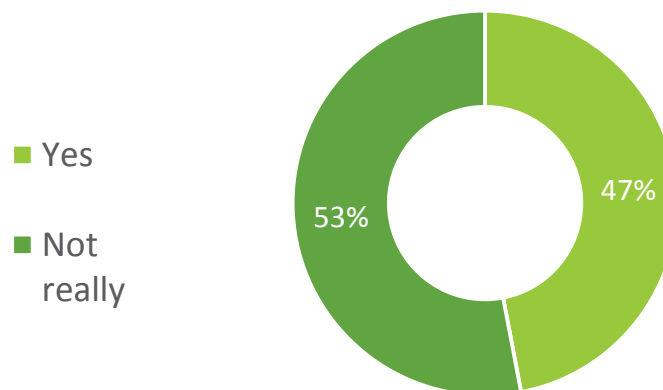
- ‘I have been learning Welsh since 2010, but still find it difficult to talk to fluent Welsh speakers with confidence’
- ‘I am nervous to attend some events as I worry that my Welsh will not be good enough and I will struggle to understand what is being said’

The questionnaire asked what would help to extend the use of Welsh in the community and many answers from Caerphilly echoed the same themes:

- More family and social events
- Support in the workplace to develop Welsh language skills
- A means of identifying Welsh speakers in shops, banks, surgeries etc, with 'Working Welsh' badges for example
- Local centre for socialising in Welsh
- More prominence on the internet – websites and apps
- Create a directory of services/shops/cafés etc offering services in Welsh
- Some say there is a need for more events during the day and others that there is a need for more events after office hours
- Opportunities for 20-40 year olds to meet and socialise

In terms of participation, it is worth noting that 47% of the respondents say that they take part voluntarily in their community (which corresponds to the figure for the region).

Do you take part in your community on a voluntary basis?



The voluntary activities varied greatly and highlighted a broad range of skills and interests: work for the local Welsh language newspaper; local food bank; charity committees; school governors; 'siop siarad' for Welsh learners; chapels and churches; Welsh language nurseries; community orchestra; Gwawr and Merched y Wawr clubs; and many more.

The main reason given by those who noted that they did not participate voluntarily in the community was lack of time because of family and work commitments. However, it is worth noting that many were keen to contribute in some way:

- 'Too much going on during the day for the elderly and unemployed but not enough for people after office hours'
- 'Not aware of the opportunities. I would be very happy to do so.'
- 'Not interested in local councils but I would be happy to support the Menter Iaith'

So the willingness to volunteer exists amongst those who don't at present, which suggests a possible opportunity for the Menter to expand and promote opportunities to volunteer in different areas and perhaps in different ways to the usual concept of volunteering.

iii Education

As has been noted by Caerphilly Council in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, it is vital to encourage further demand for Welsh medium provision during the early years. Caerphilly is an area that is continually developing and any developments in terms of new housing will lead to increasing demand on the local Welsh medium education system.

At present, there is a Cylch Meithrin or Ti a Fi group within reach to the majority of communities in the area and the Menter has an important role in developing provision in future that is led by the results of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. It is therefore important that the strength of the Menter and its work with its partners in this area continues to promote provision as well as looking into new opportunities to expand and collaborate.

Transition between nursery provision and primary schools is a key area. Across the county, generally, the rate of transition from Cylchoedd Meithrin to primary provision is noted as 80% and the Council notes a transition of 100% of children in the Welsh medium Flying Start childcare provision to a Welsh medium primary school. Because of challenges related to geography and travel distances, it is essential to ensure that Welsh medium provision is accessible to all within their local communities.

Across Wales as a whole, around 22% of children attend Welsh medium primary education, with 17% of pupils attending Welsh medium secondary education. But in the further education sector, the percentage is less than 5%, and this is similar in relation to higher education too.

Between 2001 and 2011 there was an increase in the number of children receiving Welsh medium education in Caerphilly.

Table 6: Percentage of 7 year old children in the Caerphilly area receiving Welsh medium education

2001	2011
11%	17%

Despite this increase, in order to reach the goal set by the Welsh Government, the Council has set a target of ensuring that 18.98% of 7 year olds receive Welsh medium education by 2017.

Across Wales, there has been a general drop of 14% in the number of school age children between 2001 and 2011. The fact that an equivalent drop has not been evident in the number of children receiving Welsh medium education highlights the extent of the demand.

Looking at the figures for Welsh medium education in Caerphilly and the region as a whole, one issue becomes apparent, and this creates different challenges for the local authority and its partners. On the other hand, there is also scope to focus on possible opportunities.

Looking at the percentage of 5-14 year old Welsh speakers in Table 4, we see that there are more Welsh speakers amongst school age children in Caerphilly than there are receiving Welsh medium education. It is therefore likely that some parents of children who have Welsh lessons in English medium schools have noted on the Census that their children can speak Welsh. It could be argued that this reflects pride in the language and faith in education to provide those skills.

While this pride and faith may exist, it appears that the system of teaching Welsh as a Second Language fails to live up to parent aspiration. This is shown in the following table that notes the number of 10-14 year-olds speaking Welsh in 2001, and the same cohort of the population 10 years later:

Welsh Speakers in Caerphilly	2001	2011
10-14 years old	39.8%	
20-24 years old		12.8%

These figures suggest that a number of school pupils who were 10-14 years old in 2001 have not retained their Welsh language skills after leaving school. Of course, the latter figure is closer to the percentage of the population that receives Welsh medium education.

There is, of course, more than one factor responsible for the change, such as Welsh speakers leaving the area, but it underlines the point that education should not be too heavily relied upon to create and maintain Welsh speakers without there being strategic planning between the many agencies and partners involved to improve the education itself, and to extend opportunities beyond education and into the workplace.

The period when young people leave education is a crucial one in terms of establishing patterns of language use. According to the Language Use Survey, *'it is already evident that 16 to 29 year olds are less likely than any other age group to speak Welsh every day.'*

According to research by Bangor University, there is an obvious gap in Welsh medium provision for older young people:

'It could be argued that this endangers the language progression and progress of the education sector and reinforces the perception that Welsh is the language of education only.'

Many of those who responded to the questionnaire noted that opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside education were rare:

- 'Since they cannot see Welsh being used in everyday life they perceive the language as a language to be used in school only – this is a huge barrier!'
- 'From the point of view of my children and with young people in mind, there isn't enough provision regarding Welsh medium play and leisure opportunities for them in the local community.'

In addition to the work of the Menter with this age group, organisations like the Urdd contribute substantially to the use of Welsh among young people in the area and there are also opportunities for the Council's

youth services to collaborate and utilise the expertise of the Menter and others. With appropriate investment, the Menter could assist the Council to do more with this age range in Welsh. It may be possible to utilise existing volunteering programmes in education, such as the Welsh Baccalaureate and the Duke of Edinburgh award, to introduce young people to the idea of contributing to their communities through volunteering, expanding the work the Menter is already doing in encouraging young volunteers with initiatives such as Ffilifest.

iv Learning Welsh

At present, the Council works in partnership with Gwent College to develop and maintain the Welsh for Adults provision. The programme includes various classes across the County's communities in adult learning centres, Coleg Ystrad Mynach, classes in the workplace and Welsh classes for the family.

Of those who responded to the questionnaire in the Caerphilly area, 26% of them had noted that they were learners. It is clear from the responses that there is a great desire to practice and expand the opportunities to speak Welsh. It is also clear that there is a need for a variety of activities and opportunities outside the more formal provision provided by Welsh for Adults. This highlights possible opportunities for the Menter and informal learning officers from the Welsh for Adults Centre to work jointly to arrange more varied activities, or to work in partnership with others to offer volunteering opportunities to learners in small projects or initiatives locally to gain confidence and to encourage them to use the language in the community.

Welsh learners in Caerphilly also note the barriers they face:

- In my experience I am put off going to some events because of lack of confidence
- I also think there needs to be better engagement with younger learners, perhaps by having a greater presence on social media. I met lots of really nice people... but I often found that I was the youngest in the group by 30-40 yrs. Whilst I have no problem with this, it's nice to have a balance of ages within a group
- I would like more social opportunities for using Welsh for example I can't make the coffee mornings as they are usually when I am in work
- More confidence classes
- More support at work to develop my Welsh language skills
- I had difficulty in maintaining commitments as many activities ran during the day or on weekends I think there should be more

opportunities for midweek evening events, like pub quizzes, bowling or even just a pint or two.

The survey also asked everyone for their experiences in respect of various events, with 85% saying that they had attended an event by the Menter and 68% saying that they had gone to a learners' event. There may be potential for more collaboration along with creating more opportunities to involve learners. There may also be opportunities for facilitating the learners' understanding of some events, which could increase their confidence and enjoyment.

v Workplace

In 2013, research was carried out into the need for Welsh language skills in eight sectors in Wales, and it was noted:

Even though Welsh medium education provision is in itself an all-important part of the effort to promote and increase Welsh language use, it is considered that Welsh language use in the workplace is essential in order to move towards a bilingual society.

Childcare is a clear example where Welsh speakers are sought for a particular workplace to meet clear needs in an area of work where demand is constantly increasing. The Menter itself has initiatives to promote employment and work opportunities for a Welsh language workforce, and this offers a strong basis for further discussion with stakeholders, especially in the context of the Welsh Language Standards.

The Welsh Language Standards require that Welsh is given a more prominent place in the workplace, and the County Council is getting to grips with this with more opportunities to learn and use Welsh at work.

According to the Language Use Survey, Welsh speakers working in the public sector are more likely to use Welsh with colleagues, compared to Welsh speakers working in the private sector.

In the survey of the eight sectors in 2013, it was noted that ‘two thirds (66 per cent) of employers had staff with Welsh language skills, and slightly more than a third said that Welsh was used in the workplace (35 per cent)’.

In terms of the survey held before this profile was drawn up, 54% of those who responded noted that they had the opportunity to use Welsh at work, with one learner noting:

- ‘At work, I am fortunate to have contact with Welsh policy staff who encourage me to converse in Welsh. I also use Welsh when emailing people I know who are Welsh speakers, which helps.’

It would seem that the profile of Welsh in the workplace is increasing gradually, with the help of the Welsh Language Standards and promotion work at a local level.

According to the Language Use Survey, almost three quarters of workers in the public sector thought their employer was supportive of using Welsh, compared to 41% in the private sector

But this positive shift should not be taken for granted. There is still work to be done, to protect the rights of Welsh speakers in the workplace and increase awareness of the value of Welsh as a skill.

Another learner reminds us of this in responding:

- ‘there is negativity in work towards Cymraeg’

In the Employers’ Skills Survey 2013, it was noted that a lack of skills is a problem for employers in Wales, with planning and organising skills counting for 57% of the skills’ deficit, but the lack of Welsh language skills (oral and written) was attributed at least in part, to over a quarter of all the skills’ deficit in jobs in Wales. In this context there may be a case for strengthening work with partners to promote and develop skills for the workplace specifically.

On the other hand, as has already been noted, many of the questionnaire’s respondents emphasised the need to be able to recognise Welsh speakers when dealing with people face to face in public organisations and in businesses and shops. There is a need to further promote ‘Working Welsh’ badges to ensure that they are used in the most effective way possible – best practice would be to discuss this with staff, ensuring that they are aware of the need to promote Welsh language services as well as giving them reassurance over any possible issues that may arise.

- ‘I’ve had conversations in English in many shops because I didn’t know that the other person spoke Welsh. All those who are willing to speak Welsh in the workplace should wear a badge saying that they are happy to deal with the customer in Welsh.’

vi Public, private and voluntary bodies

Recent research by Citizens Advice Cymru has highlighted the barriers to using Welsh medium services and what affects people's faith in services. These barriers included a lack of a clear Welsh language choice, a lack of information and consistency, and the fact that very often English is presented as the main language or the default language.

According to the Language Use Survey, a little over half of Welsh speakers try to use Welsh when dealing with public bodies, and Welsh speakers who speak the language every day are twice as likely to do so.

The questionnaire asked respondents how much faith they had in various bodies to do their best for them in terms of the Welsh language and the responses varied from area to area. Due to the low numbers in the local sample, it is clear that the responses reflect personal perception or experience, but it is interesting to see the image these organisations have amongst this group of Welsh speakers.

Table 7: People's faith in organisations to do their best for the Welsh language (Total 'very much' – 'moderate')

Body	Caerphilly	Regional
County Council	51%	41%
Community Council	22%	20%
Welsh Government	73%	74%
Health Service	21%	36%
Charities	39%	34%
Supermarkets	28%	27%
Banks	21%	27%
Post Office	26%	30%
Agencies such as the DVLA	34%	42%
UK Government	11%	12%

Respondents in Caerphilly noted a variety of experiences with different sectors:

'I appreciate it when a company/individual tries to speak Welsh.... But normally I get the answer 'Sorry, I dun speak Welsh' without having the choice to speak Welsh with someone else – this normally happens at reception desks in local authorities.'

'I managed to contact the Electricity and Phone companies immediately using the Welsh option.'

'I received a questionnaire from the new rector in church asking what changes I would like to see in church. I wrote that I would like to have more Welsh. The rector then went ahead and learnt Welsh. He gives me Communion in Welsh and tries his best to use a little Welsh with me face to face and in e-mails.'

vii Social Media

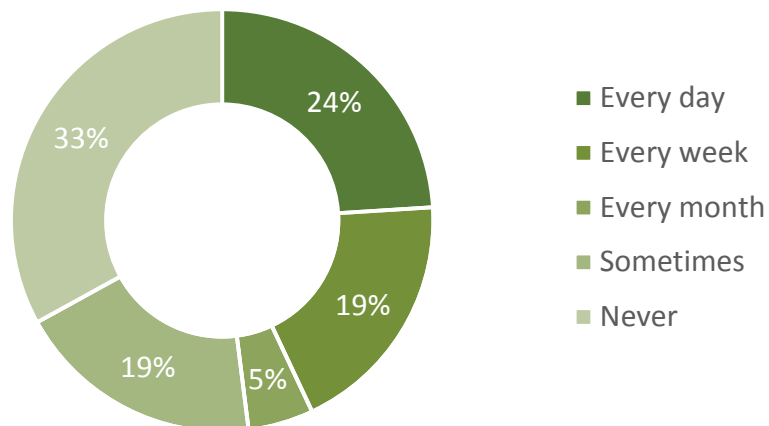
Of course, as noted above there are community networks that are not geographical in nature. It is worth referring to Welsh speakers' habits in respect of their use of the internet, either as a means of communicating between family and friends, or further in terms of the possible use the Menter and others could make of social media in communication and promotion work.

According to Bangor University's research *Use of the Welsh Language in the Community*, the existence of an online Welsh speaking community is noted 'as a new location for using the language and developing extended language networks'.

The Language Use Survey also looks at social media in the context of language use, noting that a little over half the fluent Welsh speakers use at least as much Welsh as English when sending text messages and that between 12-18 per cent of all Welsh speakers who use Twitter and Facebook use at least as much Welsh as English.

In respect of the Welsh speakers in the Caerphilly area who responded to the questionnaire, 43% say that they use Welsh with other people on social media such as Twitter or Facebook regularly (either weekly or daily). This compares with 48% of the whole South East region.

How often do you use Welsh on social media, like Facebook and Twitter?



Technology is a key area to facilitate the use of Welsh in all aspects of life. Menter Caerffili has identified the potential of new media to attract Welsh language speakers through the e-chlysur mailing list and the use of survey monkey to gather opinion on what's needed. It will be important to continue to expand methods of communication (Twitter, Snapchat etc), to ensure that there are plenty of options for young people to engage best with those methods of communication they are familiar with.

5. Conclusion

This profile has brought together

- key statistics of Welsh speakers in the area
- the main statutory requirements relevant to the Menter's key partners
- a number of research findings on Welsh language patterns of use by Welsh speakers in the area
- the results of the survey held as part of this work that highlight the experiences of Welsh speakers and learners in the area

The key messages that emerge from the experiences of Welsh speakers, together with the formal data, highlight a number of areas that need to be addressed, for instance:

- the need for more opportunities for young people to use their Welsh outside school and after leaving school (from leisure to the workplace)
- the need for more experiences to increase the confidence and use of the language amongst learners and those Welsh speakers with little or no confidence to use their Welsh in new situations
- the need for employers to recognise the value of the language for their workplaces, ensuring support for Welsh speakers
- the need to ensure that the language is more prominent in the community in order to promote wider use – both the spoken word and visually

The work of Menter Caerffili is based on a sound understanding of its communities and the needs of its communities, and the Menter is able to address those needs in a creative and flexible way. The ability of the Menter to respond innovatively to local needs through projects with partners old and new, is reflected in local projects and the Ffiliffest festival for example.

Another aspect that becomes apparent in the work of the Menter is that it is not just responding to targets set by the Welsh Government. The activities and services provided by the Menter also act to strengthen and

enrich what is taking place on a local statutory level to promote the Welsh language and establish rights for Welsh speakers.

The local authority and partners need to respond to the Welsh Language Standards, the Well-being of Future Generations Act and More than Just Words – a host of requirements leading to the improvement of services and increasing the use of the Welsh language. They will also be required to respond to future local government reorganisation and the implications of this to services across the region. Therefore, there has never been a more crucial time to emphasise the importance, strength and expertise of the Menter and partners as a source of advice and guidance.

Partners and bodies are able to turn to the Menter to plan strategically together across a number of sectors to promote and increase the use of the Welsh language in the area, with opportunities for collaboration and coproduction across a number of areas, eg:

- Education
- Youth Services
- Leisure
- Health and Social Care
- Tackling Poverty
- Economic Development
- Work and Skills
- Volunteering

The aim of the recommendations that follow is to highlight those issues that need to be addressed in order ensure an increase in the number of Welsh speakers and use of the language in communities across the area. These are not the responsibility of the Menter alone. Many encapsulate what is required to happen at a wider level than the Menter itself, in order to create a stronger basis for the Menter to be able to continue to develop and extent its provision in the most strategic and effective way.

6. Recommendations

These recommendations summarise the areas where further attention is required and are relevant to all local, regional and national partners involved in increasing opportunities to use the Welsh language:

General

1. The Welsh Government should ensure that regional needs are fully considered and incorporated into the next Language Strategy, and should recognise the potential for growth in numbers and the percentage of Welsh speakers in this region.
2. Local Authorities should plan and implement Strategies to Promote and Facilitate use of the Welsh language with their local Menter Iaith and other partners. There are opportunities to collaborate with the local Menter to coordinate projects or research into gaps in services and provision across the area.
3. On the basis of their plans/strategies, Local Authorities and the Welsh Government should safeguard adequate resources for Welsh language services, and adequate resources to promote and facilitate use of the Welsh language in the community.
4. The Welsh Government should ensure that Local Authorities consider the Welsh language and the needs of Welsh speakers effectively in their response to their statutory requirements under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
5. Mentrau Iaith and their partners should explore how the role of Language Forum could be strengthened to make full use this body's potential to assist them in a dynamic and strategic way to the future.

The Home

6. Clarity should be established in relation to planning and strategic collaboration both locally and regionally between all bodies providing family services, including Cymraeg for Kids, Mudiad Meithrin, Families First, the Urdd, Welsh for Adults, Flying Start and Communities First. The Government should ensure further

clarity when allocating targets and funding to bodies in this area of work.

7. Schemes to support parents using Welsh in the home should be developed and supported to improve their confidence and ability to speak Welsh.
8. Childcare settings should be planned strategically with partners to develop comprehensive Welsh medium childcare provision in response to the needs of families in the local area.
9. The Mentrau and partners should collaborate in organising social events to promote the Welsh language to families.

The Community

10. Local Authorities and the Mentrau should discuss and plan effectively targeted community activities and events to facilitate and increase the use of Welsh with their other partners.
11. Tackling Poverty schemes, including Communities First, Families First and Flying Start should plan Welsh-medium programmes and operational developments in partnership with local Welsh language partners.
12. The Mentrau and partners should consider how to provide a greater variety of volunteering opportunities including opportunities for young people and learners.

Education

13. Local authority policies should highlight access to Welsh-medium education as a priority ensuring fair and equitable access to all, and should also ensure that any proposed transport cuts would have no detrimental effect on the numbers able to access Welsh-medium education.
14. The Government needs to provide clear guidance for local and regional WESPS in terms of setting far-reaching targets when planning growth and progression in Welsh-medium education and increasing Welsh-medium provision.

Children and Young People

15. Local Authorities and the Welsh Government should work together with the Mentrau to ensure that investment and growth in Welsh-medium education in the region is enhanced and supported by a variety of leisure and community opportunities for children and young people.
16. Local Authorities should consider the geographical challenges faced by Welsh-medium comprehensive schools in their areas in targeting young people outside school because of the size of their catchment areas and should respond to those needs practically.
17. Partners should discuss together to ensure that specialist providers in the field in Wales (Children in Wales, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs etc) provide Welsh-medium activities and training
18. The Mentrau and partners should offer clear guidance to Local Authority Youth Services in relation to providing adequate Welsh-medium services including weekly opportunities, specialist support services and opportunities to consult and participate.
19. The voice and opinions of young Welsh speakers themselves should be sought and heard when planning, organising and providing, so that they can participate fully.

Learning Welsh

20. In collaboration with Welsh language partners, Local Authorities and Schools, there is scope for Welsh for Adults Centres to provide a programme of classes and activities that are not focused on qualifications, but rather on volunteering and using the language in the community.
21. Free provision and opportunities need to be ensured for people in deprived areas who wish to learn Welsh.

The Workplace

22. In partnership with the Mentrau, Local Authorities and the Welsh Government should ensure appropriate support for the far-reaching plans of the Welsh Language Labour Market scheme across the region.
23. The Mentrau should continue to promote use of Working Welsh badges by employers to target, identify and celebrate locations where Welsh speaking workers are employed.

Social Media

24. The Welsh Government should continue to invest in the growth and availability of Welsh medium social media use and promote local schemes and projects at Mentrau level.
25. In collaboration with the Mentrau, Welsh language partners and social media developers and the Welsh media, local schemes should be developed and implemented at grass roots level to broaden the use of social media in Welsh.

Local recommendations

In addition to the general recommendations previously noted, Menter Caerffili has identified the following additional areas that merit further attention and action on a local level in the Caerphilly area:

General

1. The Council should form an agreement with Menter Caerffili in order to plan, advise and provide relevant and far reaching developments locally.

At home

2. Local partners should provide an 'Information service for families' where relevant, useful information can be given to families in order to support them to access services and support through their chosen language.
3. Any programmes of projects providing support to families should include Welsh medium or bilingual provision where necessary and should collaborate with the most appropriate Welsh language partner locally to deliver this service.

The Community

4. Caerphilly Council should discuss, fund and plan community activities and events that promote and facilitate the Welsh language together with the Menter.
5. Communities First and Families First should plan Welsh medium programmes and developments.
6. Partners should research the needs of particular areas and implement schemes and projects specifically to meet those needs.
7. All partners should clearly include the Welsh language within their various community activities.

8. Caerphilly Council should continue to develop the partnership with Menter Caerffili within the RDP ensuring that the Welsh language is an intrinsic part of the programme locally.

Education

9. Caerphilly Council's WESP should be responsive to robust guidance from the Government in setting far-reaching targets and planning the growth in Welsh medium education.
10. The Council should plan for Welsh medium primary schools in new areas where the demand and need is highest, and consider the effect of future housing developments eg. Risga, Blackwood and Bedwas/Threthomas/Machen.

Learning Welsh

11. Welsh for Adults, together with partners should promote, encourage and ensure that their learners are provided with and take up Welsh medium volunteering opportunities within the County and encourage them to join local committees or societies in the area to extend their opportunities to use the language socially.
12. The informal learning provision provided by Welsh for Adults should include a wider variety of evening activities and these should be planned in partnership with the Menter where appropriate

The workplace

13. The Menter together with its partners, should ensure strong links with the language and the workplace by developing the following initiatives:

- Supporting local businesses to increase their use of Welsh and promote those who are able to provide services through the medium of Welsh.
- Promoting a Working Welsh badge scheme to target, identify, distribute and celebrate businesses who employ Welsh speakers within their workforce
- Supporting the implementation of a Welsh language labour market scheme locally
- Working with programmes locally in order to support Welsh speakers seeking work in order to promote their skills as Welsh speakers
- Planning, publishing and promoting a directory of businesses who offer local services through the medium of Welsh.
- Arranging events for young people to meet with local employers who need Welsh speakers on their workforce.

Social Media

14. The Menter should develop links through social media especially with the older youth group. It should extend the current network and continue to respond to new methods of communication.
15. The Menter should seek information and opinion from local residents regarding ways of communicating on social networks. The Menter should plan projects in this area through materials, skills development and communication.
16. The Menter should ensure the presence of national media in the area and ensure the value of developing audiences through direct engagement and promotion is realised
17. The Menter should receive the latest information on new resources from the Government.

Children and Young People

18. Welsh medium childcare and play scheme provision should continue to be developed within the County in close partnership with Caerphilly Council, Mudiad Meithrin and GAVO.
19. Welsh medium childcare settings should be planned strategically with partners to ensure wide access to provisions
20. Partners should respond strategically and practically to the funding challenges/cuts in this area and ensure that it is possible to provide services for 16-25 year olds
21. Key partners (Menter Caerffili, the Urdd, Careers Wales and Caerphilly Youth Services) should develop a targeted programme to provide effective careers advice and information in Welsh to emphasise the Welsh language skills of young people.
22. Welsh medium volunteering, training and employment opportunities for young people should be developed through the network of partners including Menter Caerffili, the Urdd, Careers Wales and Caerphilly Youth Services and GAVO.

7. Useful Resources

Statiath website

Welsh language use in Wales, 2013-15 Welsh Government and Welsh Language Commissioner; November 2015

Welsh language use in the community: Research study Bangor University on behalf of the Welsh Government; October 2015

English by default: Understanding the use and non-use of Welsh language services CAB; March 2015

Moving forward Welsh Government; 2014

A Review of the Work of Mentrau Iaith, Language Action Plans and the Aman Tawe Language Promotion Scheme Cardiff University, 2013

Communities First and Bilingualism: Meeting the Challenge Menter a Busnes

Welsh language skills needs in eight sectors Welsh Government 2014

Census Ward Profiles 2011 Caerphilly County Borough Caerphilly County Borough Council

Strategic Equality Plan 2016-2020 Caerphilly County Borough Council

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017 Caerphilly County Borough Council

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