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Am unrhyw ymholiad yn ymwneud â'r agenda hwn cysylltwch â Rebecca Barrett
(Rhif Ffôn: 01443 864245 E-bost: barrerm@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Dyddiad: Dydd Mercher, 1 Rhagfyr 2021

Annwyl Syr/Fadam,

Bydd cyfarfod o'r **Pwyllgor Craffu yr Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd** yn cael ei gynnal trwy Microsoft Teams ar **Dydd Mawrth, 7fed Rhagfyr, 2021 am 5.30 pm** i ystyried materion a gynhwysir yn yr agenda canlynol. Gall cynghorwyr a'r cyhoedd sy'n dymuno siarad am unrhyw eitem wneud hynny drwy wneud cais i'r Cadeirydd. Mae croeso i chi ddefnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg yn y cyfarfod, a dylid rhoi cyfnod rhybudd o 3 diwrnod gwaith os ydych yn dymuno gwneud hynny.

Bydd y cyfarfod hwn yn cael ei recordio a bydd ar gael i'w weld trwy wefan y Cyngor, ac eithrio trafodaethau sy'n ymwneud ag eitemau cyfrinachol neu eithriedig. Felly, bydd delweddau/sain yr unigolion sy'n bresennol ac/neu sy'n siarad yn ystod ar gael i'r cyhoedd trwy'r recordiad ar wefan y Cyngor yn www.caerffili.gov.uk

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Harrhy'.

Christina Harrhy
PRIF WEITHREDWR

A G E N D A

Tudalennau

- 1 I dderbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb
- 2 Datganiadau o Ddiddordeb.

Atgoffi'r Cynghorwyr a Swyddogion o'u cyfrifoldeb personol i ddatgan unrhyw fuddiannau personol a/neu niweidiol mewn perthynas ag unrhyw eitem o fusnes ar yr agenda hwn yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000, Cyfansoddiad y Cyngor a'r Cod Ymddygiad ar gyfer Cynghorwyr a Swyddogion

A greener place Man gwyrddach



I gymeradwyo a llofnodi'r cofnodion canlynol:-

- | | | |
|---|--|--------|
| 3 | Pwyllgor Craffu yr Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd a gynhaliwyd ar 26ain Hydref 2021. | 1 - 8 |
| 4 | Ystyried unrhyw fater a gyfeiriwyd at y Pwyllgor hwn yn unol â'r drefn galw i mewn. | |
| 5 | Blaenraglen Waith Pwyllgor Craffu yr Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd. | 9 - 20 |
| 6 | I dderbyn ac ystyried yr adroddiadau* Cabinet canlynol:-

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Strategaeth Tai Leol 2021-26 - 27ain Hydref 2021;2. Cynllun Prosiect Digartrefedd - 10fed Tachwedd 2021;3. Gorchymynion Diogelu Mannau Cyhoeddus - Rheoli Cŵn ar Gaeau Chwaraeon - 10fed Tachwedd 2021;4. Gorchymyn Diogelu Mannau Cyhoeddus - Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol ac Yfed mewn Man Cyhoeddus - 10fed Tachwedd 2021. | |

**Os oes aelod o'r Pwyllgor Craffu yn dymuno o'r adroddiad Cabinet uchod i gael eu dwyn ymlaen ar gyfer adolygiad yn y cyfarfod, cysylltwch â Rebecca Barrett, 01443 864245, erbyn 10.00 a.m. ar dydd Llun, 6ed Rhagfyr 2021.*

I dderbyn ac ystyried yr adroddiadau Craffu canlynol:-

- | | | |
|---|---|---------|
| 7 | Map Rhwydwaith Teithio Llesol. | 21 - 40 |
| 8 | Economi a'r Amgylchedd 2021/22 Adroddiad Monitro Cyllideb (Cyfnod 5). | 41 - 56 |

Cylchrediad:

Cynghorwyr M.A. Adams, A. Collis, D.T. Davies (Cadeirydd), C. Elsbury, M. Evans, A. Gair, A. Hussey (Is Gadeirydd), S. Kent, Mrs A. Leonard, B. Owen, D.W.R. Preece, J.E. Roberts, J. Scriven, J. Simmonds, Mrs J. Stone a T.J. Williams

A Swyddogion Priodol

SUT FYDDWN YN DEFNYDDIO EICH GWYBODAETH

Bydd yr unigolion hynny sy'n mynychu cyfarfodydd pwyllgor i siarad/roi tystiolaeth yn cael eu henwi yng nghofnodion y cyfarfod hynny, weithiau bydd hyn yn cynnwys eu man gweithio neu fusnes a'r barnau a fynegir. Bydd cofnodion o'r cyfarfod gan gynnwys manylion y siaradwyr ar gael i'r cyhoedd ar wefan y Cyngor ar www.caerffili.gov.uk. ac eithrio am drafodaethau sy'n ymwneud ag eitemau cyfrinachol neu eithriedig.

Mae gennych nifer o hawliau mewn perthynas â'r wybodaeth, gan gynnwys yr hawl i gael mynediad at wybodaeth sydd gennym amdanoch a'r hawl i gwyno os ydych yn anhapus gyda'r modd y mae eich gwybodaeth yn cael ei brosesu. Am wybodaeth bellach ar sut rydym yn prosesu eich gwybodaeth a'ch hawliau, ewch i'r [Hysbysiad Preifatwydd Cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor Llawn](#) ar ein gwefan neu cysylltwch â Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol drwy e-bostio griffd2@caerffili.gov.uk neu ffoniwch 01443 863028.



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 26TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor A. Hussey (Vice-Chair Presiding),

Councillors:

M.A. Adams, A. Collis, D.T. Davies, C. Elsbury, M. Evans, A. Gair, J. Gale, A. Leonard, B. Owen, J.E. Roberts and T.J. Williams

Cabinet Members:

N. George (Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene), J. Pritchard (Infrastructure and Property), A. Whitcombe (Sustainability, Planning and Fleet), R. Whiting (Learning and Leisure)

Together with:

M.S. Williams (Corporate Director – Economy and Environment), R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services), M. Headington (Green Spaces and Transport Services Manager), N. Kenny (Community Safety Officer), M. Jacques (Scrutiny Officer), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer) R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer), J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer)

Also present:

Councillor K. Etheridge (Blackwood Ward), Dr D. Platt (Local Resident)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Committee were advised that Councillor A. Hussey (Vice-Chair) would be acting as Chair for the meeting, as Councillor D.T. Davies (Chair) had still not fully recovered from his recent illness. It was noted that Councillor Davies would be present, but that Councillor Hussey would take on all the Chairing responsibilities on this occasion, in case Councillor Davies was unable to stay for the duration of the meeting and in order to provide continuity for Members.

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Acting Chair reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed and would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). Members were advised that voting on decisions would take place via Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Kent, D.W.R. Preece, J. Scriven and J. Simmonds.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES – 14TH SEPTEMBER 2021

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2021 be approved as a correct record and by way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 6 for, 0 against and 4 abstentions) this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee held on 14th September 2021 (minute nos. 1 – 10) be approved as a correct record.

Councillors A. Hussey and A. Gair confirmed that they had abstained from voting on the minutes as they had not been present at the last meeting, and Councillor D.T Davies also abstained as he had not been present for the whole of the meeting.

4. CALL-IN PROCEDURE

There had been no matters referred to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.

5. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Mark Jacques (Scrutiny Officer presented the report, which outlined details of the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme (FWP) for the period October 2021 to March 2022.

Members were asked to consider the FWP alongside the Cabinet work programme and suggest any changes prior to publication on the Council's website.

The Scrutiny Committee were advised that a request had been received for a report on domestic electric charging points. However, the advice from Officers is to wait for the outcome of the Cardiff Capital Region Challenge Fund bid before preparing any reports in relation to this matter. The Corporate Director for Economy and Environment further explained that CCR have established the Challenge Fund with the intention of solving problems or potential problems of regional or national significance. The provision of domestic charging points in the future presents significant challenges, particularly around terraced, high rise and student properties and is an issue that many local authorities and central government will have to solve if there is to be a move to electric vehicles. Therefore the Corporate Director felt that it would be premature to bring forward a report on this matter until the outcome of the Challenge Fund bid is known.

It was moved and seconded that the report recommendation be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 11 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions) this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Forward Work Programme as appended to the meeting papers be published on the Council's website.

6. CABINET REPORTS

It was confirmed that there had been no requests for any of the Cabinet reports listed on the agenda to be brought forward for discussion at the meeting.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION – NINE MILE POINT PLANNING DECISION

Councillor K. Etheridge introduced his Notice of Motion which requested that a full investigation into the Hazrem planning decision takes place. Councillor Etheridge outlined the reasons for the motion and made reference to a letter sent to Chris Evans MP in relation to the matter under consideration which contained information he felt to be relevant to the Scrutiny Committee's deliberations on the motion. He asked Members to accept the motion, the call for a full public inquiry and appointment of an independent person to take the matter forward.

Dr D. Platt (local resident) then addressed the Scrutiny Committee with the permission of the Chair, and detailed the actions he had undertaken in terms of the Judicial Review process, the outcome of the Judicial Review process and why he had taken his matter forward on behalf of the community. Dr Platt believed the conversion of thousands of tonnes of waste into fuel on this site would cause environmental issues to the detriment of the residents in the area. He advised Members that an Environmental Impact Assessment had not been undertaken when the planning application had been submitted and furthermore the application had erroneously referred to the proposal as an industrial process rather than a waste disposal process. He advised that Legal Services had confirmed this as a waste disposal installation in April 2021. He also referenced the letter to Chris Evans MP outlined by Councillor Etheridge and the acknowledgement of this as a waste disposal plant.

Dr Platt felt that the lack of an Environment Impact Assessment was a blunder by Caerphilly County Borough Council, and he could not understand why the site was not correctly identified at the time. He also did not understand why Caerphilly County Borough Council had refused to acknowledge this error for so long and believed that this mistake would have serious consequences for the residents who had to live in the area. Furthermore, as a rate payer he expected more from his local authority.

It was confirmed that Dr Platt would be allowed to answer questions from the Scrutiny Committee. A Member of the Scrutiny Committee who had also been a Member of the Planning Committee at the time of the application, advised that he had attended a site visit prior to the Planning Committee meeting when this application was first considered. The Member queried the opinion of waste recovery or waste disposal and the difference between both and how they can be applied, which he believed could be interpreted either way and which he found confusing. He also sought clarification if the new application to extend the five-year limit had become obsolete, as work had commenced on site within that 5 years, and so did this even come into play in 2020. He also asked Dr Platt if he was aware of the 6-week period before the Judge used it for his determination that there was no

case to answer.

Dr Platt confirmed that there was some room from interpretation here, however Legal Services had confirmed this in a letter that the argument put forward that it was a waste disposal plant was correct and in Dr Platt's view should therefore be subject to an EIA. The Member was correct that the developer was able to start works and the application to extend was withdrawn. But also, in 2020, 3 pre-commencement conditions were complied with and so works could commence, and Dr Platt advised that the legal challenge was based on these aspects as he believed that these should all have been subject to an EIA. He confirmed that he was aware of the deadline, but this matter was subject to the Judge's discretion. However in this case the Judge determined that due to the economic detriment that this would place on the Operator, an extension would not be allowed in this instance. He confirmed that at the moment the site was agreed to be a waste disposal plant but he claimed that as the plant also does drying then it should also be considered to be undertaking chemical treatment and therefore be subject to an EIA, and in this aspect of the case CCBC disagrees.

The Corporate Director for Economy and Environment confirmed that the Operator has submitted an application for a non-material amendment to their planning permission on the basis that they will not be undertaking any drying on the site.

A Member urged the Scrutiny Committee to consider the impact on residents and support the motions' call for an independent external investigation into the matter in the form of a public inquiry.

The Scrutiny Committee were reminded of the internal investigation process led by Mr Richard Edmunds as an independent Corporate Director, and the next stage in the process should the complainant not be happy with the outcome of the internal investigation would be to refer the matter to the Ombudsman. Should Dr Platt be minded to do so, he can take advantage of this mechanism and take the matter forward to the Ombudsman for his consideration.

Having fully considered the Notice of Motion and the evidence presented, and with the motion having been moved and seconded, the Scrutiny Committee took a vote on the motion and by way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 4 for, 7 against and 1 abstention) the motion was declared lost. It was therefore

RECOMMENDED to Council that the Notice of Motion not be supported.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

8. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER - DOG CONTROL ON SPORTS PITCHES

The Cabinet Member for Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene introduced the report, which updated Scrutiny Committee on the outcome of a 10-week public consultation regarding a proposed amendment to the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to include the exclusion of dogs from marked sports pitches. The report also sought Scrutiny Committee views on the proposed amendment to the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to include the exclusion of dogs from marked sports pitches on a seasonal basis prior to presenting a draft Order to Cabinet for approval.

Members were advised that Public Spaces Protection Orders 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, these Orders provide an opportunity to enhance the Council's enforcement ability to respond to public opinion regarding dog fouling. The existing PSPO excludes dogs from all enclosed children's play and multi-use games areas, requires dogs to be kept on leads in enclosed memorial gardens, requires dog owners to remove dog faeces in public places and have an appropriately receptacle for dealing with the waste, and requires dogs to be put 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.

At its meeting on 22nd July 2020, Cabinet received a report presenting a review of the current position regarding dog fouling. Since implementation of the original Order, Cabinet resolved to undertake a 10 week public consultation exercise on the proposal to amend the Public Spaces Protection Order to include a provision to exclude dogs from marked sports/playing pitches. In view of the impacts of the pandemic this was to be done when it became possible to carry out meaningful consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders.

On 11th June 2021 a full public and stakeholder consultation was carried out for a period of 10 weeks by way of an online questionnaire and was preceded by wide scale communication and engagement via the local press media and the Council's website and social media accounts. 85% of respondents to the survey agreed with keeping the current restrictions within the PSPO. 53.5% of the respondents agreed with the proposal of banning dogs from marked sports pitches whilst 43.8% disagreed, while 2.7% did not know.

Having regard to the requirements of the Act and the responses to the consultation it is considered that the conditions required to retain the existing provisions of the Public Spaces Protection Order and the addition of the exclusion of dogs from marked sports pitches have been satisfied. The views of the Scrutiny Committee were therefore sought on the proposed PSPO included at Appendix 2 of the report prior to its presentation to Cabinet.

The Scrutiny Committee discussed the report and were pleased to note the extensive level of responses to the public consultation. One Member questioned the logic of only applying the Protection Order to marked sports pitches. He felt that extending the order to all sports pitches would allow irresponsible dog owners to be challenged during the summertime when posts were removed and pitches were unmarked. The Member held the view that sports pitches should be treated equally all year round and that the effects of dog excrement remained in the soil for a period of 2 years.

Rob Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services) advised that restrictions on an all-year round basis had been considered, but it was felt that applying the restrictions to sports fields that were unmarked in the off-season would be confusing for dog owners. However he explained that if it was the view of Scrutiny Committee that the restrictions should apply all year round then these comments would be passed to Cabinet for consideration.

Several Members voiced their support for the proposals but expressed the need for consistency by having a year-round PSPO with a blanket ban across all pitches. One Member outlined how his local rugby club started pre-season training on their pitch in late summer when it was still unmarked. Another Member explained how many cricket pitches were unmarked, with the boundary only marked out on the matchday itself, and he felt that the current proposal did not sufficiently protect those playing cricket. One Member

expressed the view that an all-year round PSPO for all sports pitches would make the Protection Order much easier for officers to enforce.

Having considered and discussed the report and provided views on the draft Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) attached at Appendix 2 to include the exclusion of dogs from marked sports pitches, the Scrutiny Committee noted that their views and comments will be reported to Cabinet when the draft Order is presented to Cabinet for approval.

9. GRASS CUTTING REGIMES

The Cabinet Member for Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene introduced the report, which sought the views of the Scrutiny Committee prior to a further report to Cabinet in relation to grass cutting regimes across the county borough and proposals to enhance and promote biodiversity following consultation with local members.

Members were reminded that the national lockdown imposed in March 2020 required the Council to transform to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic and many services across the Council were paused, including grass-cutting measures. The national and local lockdowns forced residents to interact with their surroundings in a new way and appreciation for local county and urban parks along with other open green spaces heightened, which benefitted residents with both their physical and mental wellbeing. In addition, throughout the summer of 2021, a consultation exercise was undertaken with local members to identify suitable areas within their respective wards which could be allowed to flourish during the summer period and be marked with a wooden plaque thanking residents for allowing the dedicated areas to grow into eco-friendly spaces.

The Scrutiny Committee were therefore asked to recommend to Cabinet that the approach adopted during the 2021 cutting season be adopted as the standard going forward in relation to the Council's highway verges and by-pass routes where mowing is kept to a minimum, that urban areas such as housing estates, older person accommodation and cemeteries are maintained at the current cutting frequencies, and that the Scrutiny Committee endorse the list of areas nominated by local members within their respective wards which could be allowed to flourish during the summer period. Officers will continually work with local members to identify areas as the programme is expanded.

Mike Headington (Green Spaces and Transport Services Manager) highlighted the unexpected and welcome impact on the environment brought about by the pause in the grass-cutting programme due to the lockdown. Members were advised that the Green Spaces team are continually striving to ensure that the Council are continually transforming and evolving to ensure they are meeting the ever-changing needs of communities and doing all that they can to respond to the Climate Emergency declared by the Authority in 2019. It was also explained that the management of green and blue spaces should be directed by the Green Infrastructure Strategy formally adopted in November 2020.

The Scrutiny Committee were advised that the Council participated in the 'No Mow May' campaign in May 2021, which encouraged local individuals, councils, and stakeholders to help bees, butterflies, and other wildlife by letting wildflowers grow on lawns and green spaces throughout May instead of mowing them. Across the county borough, cutting along highway verges and roundabouts were kept to a minimum, although grass cutting still took place in order to maintain road visibility and safety, maintain margins and access on footways and cycle paths, and maintain parks, sports grounds, cemeteries, housing estates, play and recreational green open spaces. Members were referred to Appendix 1 of the report containing photographs taken along both the Risca and Newbridge by-pass routes in June 2021, which illustrate the success of the approach.

Mr Headington highlighted the consultation that took place with local ward members in Summer 2021 to identify suitable areas within their respective wards which could be allowed to flourish during the summer period. Areas in Risca, Gelligaer, Pontllanfraith, Trethomas and Llanbradach were nominated, with the specific locations set out at Section 5.8 of the report and aerial photographs of these areas set out at Appendix 2 of the report. Mr Headington also confirmed that additional locations had since been suggested by a Newbridge ward member and he would work with the Member to assess the suitability of these locations for the eco-friendly scheme.

The Scrutiny Committee discussed the report and a Member praised the commitment to allow the growth of wildflowers but raised the issue of road safety if visibility was reduced as a result of policy at highway locations such as roundabouts. Mr Headington provided assurances that the policy would not impede traffic safety and outlined how verges along principal roads such as bypass routes are cut twice a year to ensure that sight lines are maintained. A Member also requested contact details for Parks Officers in relation to the eco-friendly spaces scheme and these were provided to the Scrutiny Committee.

Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that the following recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet for approval. By way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 12 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions) this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-

- (i) The approach adopted during the 2021 cutting season be adopted as the standard going forward in relation to our highway verges and by-pass routes where mowing is kept to a minimum;
- (ii) Urban areas, such as housing estates, older person accommodation, cemeteries etc. are maintained at the current cutting frequencies;
- (iii) the list of areas nominated by local members within their respective wards which could be allowed to flourish during the summer period, be endorsed. Officers will continually work with local members to identify areas as the programme is expanded.

10. PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS - ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DRINKING ALCOHOL IN A PUBLIC PLACE

The Cabinet Member for Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene presented the report, which updated the Scrutiny Committee on the outcome of a public consultation regarding the extension and proposed amendments to the existing Public Space Protection Orders for anti-social behaviour (ASB) and drinking alcohol in a public place. The report also sought Scrutiny Committee views on the variation of some existing PSPO areas to include anti-social behaviour restrictions and on introducing a number of new areas prior to presenting draft Orders to Cabinet for approval (Appendices 3-5).

Members were reminded of the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders in 2014 and their use by local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour problems in a geographical area by imposing conditions on the use of an area. On 22nd June 2021 the Environmental and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee endorsed a proposed public consultation on proposed extension and amendments to the existing PSPO for ASB and drinking alcohol in a public place. A public consultation was launched on 23rd July 2021 for a period of six weeks, with the latest report detailing the outcome of the consultation and proposed draft

PSPOs at Appendices 3-5 for the Committee's consideration prior to presenting the draft Orders to Cabinet for approval.

Natalie Kenny (Community Safety Officer) expanded on the consultation and explained that a total of 127 surveys were completed online. The majority of respondents were supportive of the proposed changes and extension to the existing PSPO, with 94% agreeing with the proposal to extend the current PSPOs for a period of three years and 96% agreeing to vary some areas to include restrictions for anti-social behaviour.

The Scrutiny Committee discussed the report and one Member raised the number of anti-social behaviour complaints received by Gwent Police for Blackwood Bus Station and asked if the nature of complaint had changed over the three years, or if it was dominated by one factor. Mrs Kenny explained that complaints were mainly associated with youth annoyance and drug-taking, and highlighted that this location was a priority area for the Community Safety team.

A Member sought clarification on the proposed PSPO extension as he was unable to locate the information for specific wards within the report. Mrs Kenny outlined how the PSPO would be extended in all existing areas for a further 3 years, and explained that further areas had been suggested as part of the consultation process and that some of these locations would now be covered by the PSPO.

One Member highlighted a reference in the report to anti-social behaviour at Crossways in Pantside but believed that the ASB issue was instead in an alternative location behind the nearby shops in the centre of Pantside. Mrs Kenny explained that a problematic area had initially been identified around the Crossways bus shelter following discussion with the police, but that the Community Safety team would now take into consideration the car park area behind the shops owing to recent reports around anti-social behaviour in this area.

Having considered and discussed the report and provided views on extending the existing PSPOs for a period of 3 years, varying several areas to include anti-social behaviour restrictions, and introducing a number of new areas, the Scrutiny Committee noted that their views and comments will be reported to Cabinet when the draft Orders are presented to Cabinet for approval.

The meeting closed at 6.48 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2021.

CHAIR



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7TH DECEMBER 2021

**SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND
CORPORATE SERVICES**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Forward Work Programmes are essential to ensure that Scrutiny Committee agendas reflect the strategic issues facing the Council and other priorities raised by Members, the public or stakeholder.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members consider any changes and agree the final forward work programme prior to publication.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To improve the operation of scrutiny.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee forward work programme includes all reports that were identified at the scrutiny committee meeting on Tuesday 26th October 2021. The work programme outlines the reports planned for the period December 2021 to March 2022.
- 5.2 The forward Work Programme is made up of reports identified by officers and members. Members are asked to consider the work programme alongside the

cabinet work programme and suggest any changes before it is published on the council website. Scrutiny committee will review this work programme at every meeting going forward alongside any changes to the cabinet work programme or report requests.

- 5.3 The Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1, which presents the current status as at 29th November 2021. The Cabinet Work Programme is attached at Appendix 2. A copy of the prioritisation flowchart is attached at appendix 3 to assist the scrutiny committee to determine what items should be added to the forward work programme.

5.4 **Conclusion**

The work programme is for consideration and amendment by the scrutiny committee prior to publication on the council website.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 No assumptions are necessary.

7. **SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 As this report is for information only an Integrated Impact Assessment is not necessary.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report.

9. **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no specific personnel implications arising as a result of this report.

10. **CONSULTATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been included in this report.

11. **STATUTORY POWER**

- 11.1 The Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Mark Jacques, Scrutiny Officer jacqu@carphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Mark S. Williams, Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services/ Monitoring Officer

Lisa Lane, Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer,
Legal Services
Councillor Tudor Davies, Chair of Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny
Committee
Councillor Adrian Hussey Vice Chair of Environment and Sustainability
Scrutiny Committee

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme
- Appendix 2 Cabinet Forward Work Programme
- Appendix 3 Forward Work Programme Prioritisation Flowchart

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Forward Work Programme - Environment & Sustainability				APPENDIX 1
Date	Title	Key Issues	Author	Cabinet Member
07/12/21 17:30	Budget Monitoring Report (Period 5)	To inform Members of the most recent budget monitoring position for 2021/2022 for Communities Directorate Service Divisions	Roberts, David;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;
07/12/21 17:30	Active Travel Network Map Review and Consultation	Review of the statutory consultation process/responses and approval of the ATNM prior to submission to WG by the 31st December 2021.	Lloyd, Marcus;	Cllr. Pritchard, James;
08/02/22 17:30	Budget Monitoring Report (Period 7)	To inform Members of the most recent budget monitoring position for 2021/2022 for Communities Directorate Service Divisions	Roberts, David;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;
08/02/22 17:30	PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ZONES (SCHOOL STREETS) SCRUTINY REPORT		Lloyd, Marcus;	Cllr. Pritchard, James;
08/02/22 17:30	Economy & Environment Directorate Performance Report – Six Month Update 2021		Williams, Mark S;	Cllr. Whitcombe, Andrew;
22/03/22 17:30	Information Item - Budget Monitoring Report (Period 9)	To inform Members of the most recent budget monitoring position for 2021/2022 for Communities Directorate Service Divisions	Roberts, David;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;

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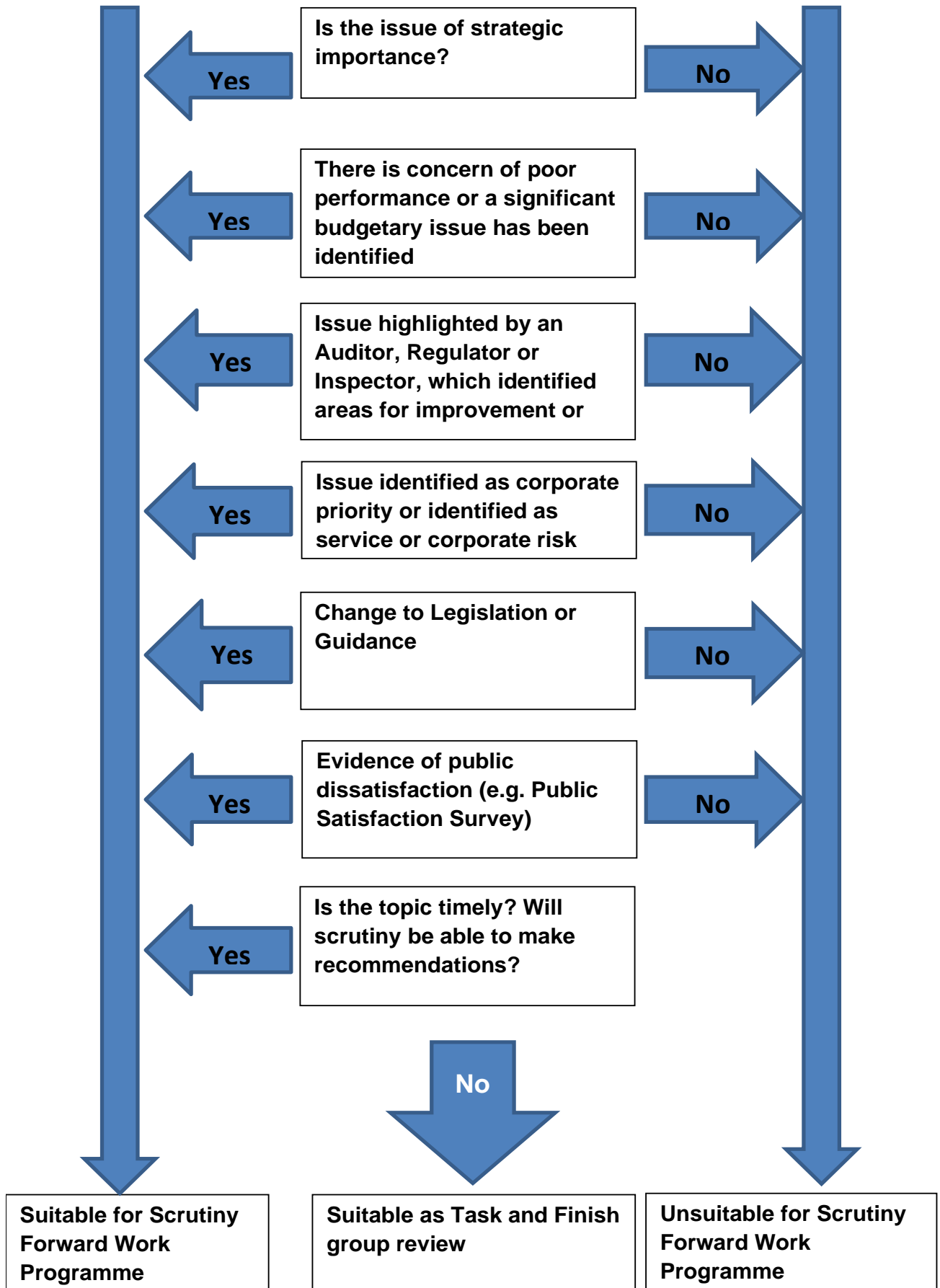
08/12/2021 10:30	Economic Recovery Framework Report	To update Cabinet on our strategic approach in relation to assisting businesses across the county borough to recover from the pandemic and to provide information on progress to date.	Hudson, Paul;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;
08/12/2021 10:30	Council Tax base for 2022/23	For Cabinet to agree the calculation of the Council Tax base for 2022/23.	O'Donnell, Sean;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;
08/12/2021 10:30	Procurement and Implementation of a Hybrid Meeting solution	To seek Cabinet approval to appoint a preferred supplier of a hybrid meeting solution for the Council.	Edmunds, Richard (Ed);	Cllr. Gordon, Colin J;
08/12/2021 10:30	Welsh Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032	For Cabinet to consider and approve the new 10- year plan.	Cole, Keri; Mutch, Sarah;	Cllr. Whiting, Ross;
08/12/2021 10:30	Grass Cutting Regimes	To seek the views of Cabinet in relation to grass cutting regimes across the county borough and proposals to enhance and promote bio-diversity following consultation with local members and presentation to Scrutiny Committee.	Headington, Mike;	Cllr. George, Nigel;
12/01/2022 10:30	Active Travel Network Map Review and Consultation	Review of the statutory consultation process/responses and approval of the ATNM prior to submission to WG by the 31st December 2021.	Lloyd, Marcus; Campbell, Clive;	Cllr. Pritchard, James;

12/01/2022 10:30	Newbridge to Risca Regeneration Masterplan	To obtain approval to consult on the Draft Newbridge to Risca Corridor Masterplan, the 4th of the Masterplans aligned under the regeneration Strategy "A Foundation for Success", which sets out the regeneration aspiration for the area for the next five years and beyond.	Kyte, Rhian;	Cllr. Whitcombe, Andrew;
Special Cabinet 19/01/2022 10:30	Draft Budget Proposals for 2022/23	To present Cabinet with details of draft budget proposals for the 2022/23 financial year to allow for a period of consultation prior to final decision by Council on the 24th February 2022.	Harris, Stephen R;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;
Page 16 26/01/2022 10:30	21st Century Schools – Band B - Phase 2: Consultation Report / Statutory Notice	For Members to consider the contents of 21st Century Schools consultation report prior to determination to proceed to Statutory Notice by Cabinet in December 2021.	West, Andrea; Richards, Sue;	Cllr. Whiting, Ross;
09/02/2022 10:30	HRA Charges (rent increase) report	Members to agree the level of rent increase for council tenants effective from April 2022.	Harris, Stephen;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;
09/02/2022 10:30	Report from Task and Finish Group on Non-Residential Care Charges	This report outlines the findings and recommendations of the task and finish group established to review charges for non-residential care set by Caerphilly County Borough Council.	Jacques, Mark;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;

09/02/2022 10:30	Pedestrian and Cycle Zones (School Streets)	To update Cabinet on the effectiveness and outcomes of the experimental pedestrian and cycle zone traffic regulation orders implemented outside three primary schools within the borough.	Lloyd, Marcus; Smith, Dean;	Cllr. Pritchard, James;
23/02/2022 10:30	Oakdale Housing Development	For Cabinet to consider the development options presented by Willmott Dixon on behalf of Caerphilly Homes, on the basis of need and viability with regard to the site of the former Oakdale Comprehensive School.	Roberts-Waite, Jane;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;
23/02/2022 10:30	Low Cost Home Ownership	The LCHO (Low Cost Home Ownership) report will document the formulation, implementation and the publication of a new policy which governs the process by which the Council will sell homes to people living and/or working in the borough wanting to access homeownership but cannot afford to do so without some form of public subsidy.	Roberts-Waite, Jane;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;
23/02/2022 10:30	Ty Darren site in Risca	To discuss with Cabinet the proposed development plan and construction contract for the former Ty Darren site in Risca by Caerphilly Homes.	Roberts-Waite, Jane;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;

23/02/2022 10:30	Welsh Government Lease Scheme Proposal	To discuss the WG lease scheme proposal in comparison to Caerphilly Keys and to seek a decision on which scheme we take forward for PRS option to assist in the discharge of statutory Homeless Duties.	Denman, Kerry;	Cllr. Cook, Shayne;
23/02/2022 10:30	Budget Proposals for 2022/23	To present Cabinet with details of draft budget proposals for the 2022/23 financial year to allow for a period of consultation prior to final decision by Council on the 24th February 2022.	Harris, Stephen R;	Cllr. Stenner, Eluned;

Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme Prioritisation



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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7TH DECEMBER 2021

SUBJECT: ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK MAP

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Members' views on the draft Active Travel Network Map and to report responses from the public consultation, prior to its presentation to Cabinet for approval.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 requires all local authorities in Wales to continuously improve their active travel routes and plan how routes will join up to form networks so that people can more easily get around by bicycle or as a pedestrian for their everyday journeys to work, school and other local destinations. The original Integrated Network Map (INM) for Active Travel routes and proposals in Caerphilly county borough was adopted in 2018. The Act requires a periodic review of the INM to develop what is now termed the Active Travel Network Map (ATNM).
- 2.2 A three-stage public consultation was undertaken, the final stage of which encompassed a statutory 12-week public consultation to seek residents' and stakeholders' views on the existing and proposed new routes. Approval of the final version of the ATNM is required to enable submission of the map to Welsh Government (WG) by their deadline of the 31st December 2021.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To seek Members' views on the draft ATNM and proposed changes following the public consultation, prior to reporting to Cabinet for approval.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To enable Caerphilly County Borough Council's ATNM to be submitted to WG by the 31st December 2021 deadline and meet the Council's statutory obligations.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 requires all local authorities in Wales to continuously improve their active travel routes and plan how routes will join up to form networks so that people can more easily get around by bicycle or as a pedestrian for their everyday journeys to work, school and other local destinations.
- 5.2 Active travel means walking and cycling, including the use of mobility scooters, for everyday journeys. This includes journeys to school, to work, to the shops or to access services, such as health or leisure centres. Active travel does not include walking and cycling for recreational purposes, however, there are obvious benefits from such routes. Active travel is important in promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing the negative impacts of traffic upon our neighbourhoods and communities.
- 5.3 The Act aims to make active travel the most attractive option for shorter journeys. In addition to producing active travel maps, the Act requires LAs in Wales to deliver year on year improvements in active travel routes and facilities, to make enhancements to routes and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in new road schemes, to have regard to the needs of walkers and cyclists in a range of other highway authority functions and to promote active travel.
- 5.4 The Act only applies to specific 'designated' areas in Wales, which have been determined by WG and are based on the population size of settlements. Those communities/ areas included within the Act within Caerphilly County Borough are as follows:
- Aberbargoed, Abercarn, Abertridwr, Bargoed, Blackwood, Caerphilly, Cwmfelinfach, Llanbradach, Machen, Nelson, New Tredegar, Newbridge, Pontllanfraith, Pontlottyn, Rhymney, Risca, Wattsville, Ynysddu, Ystrad Mynach.
- 5.5 The first stage of the Act required local authorities to produce an Existing Routes Map (ERM) by early 2016. The map shows routes within the area that are suitable for active travel and meet standards set by WG. As such the ERM does not show all available walking and cycling routes within the area. The Council's ERM was submitted to WG by the deadline and approved in April 2016. The ERM was well received by WG and was one of only five LA submissions to be approved immediately.
- 5.6 The next stage of the Act required all LAs in Wales to produce an Active Travel Integrated Network Map (INM) in 2017. This sets out the Council's plans for improving active travel routes and facilities over the next 15 years. The map shows the proposed future network of key walking and cycling routes and includes short, medium and longer term schemes. The INM is an aspirational map and the development and delivery of the routes shown on the INM are dependent on the availability of funding for active travel schemes.
- 5.7 The Act requires the INM to be reviewed at least every three years and a recent revision to the Active Travel Act Guidance requires the ERM and INM to be incorporated into a single Active Travel Network Map (ATNM). Because of the Covid pandemic WG extended the deadline for the submission of this review to the 31st December 2021. The purpose of the review is to seek residents' and stakeholders' views on Active Travel routes throughout the borough. This was carried out through the following three-stage consultation throughout 2021:

- Stage 1 – sought views concerning existing and potential Active Travel Routes.
 - Stage 2 – sought to obtain public feedback on the proposed draft ATNM. This was very successful with over a 1000 people participating. The feedback provided was carefully considered and an additional 216km of routes were added compared to the approved INM.
 - Stage 3 – was the statutory 12-week consultation and sought views on the proposed ATNM.
- 5.8 Views were sought via the Commonplace website (an on-line mapping tool), provided by WG for all Local Authorities throughout Wales, for all three stages. This format was utilised given the Coronavirus pandemic restrictions. In addition, social media was utilised to promote engagement and over 300 groups/organisations were contacted (many of them representing people with protected characteristics) through GAVO and statutory consultees. Part of the consultation process enabled the Council to identify groups that were not well represented in the feedback given, such as young people and older persons. This enabled the Council to focus targeted consultation on these groups e.g., through the Youth Forum.
- 5.9 The consultation version of the draft ATNM is available at [Link to Community Forum – Caerphilly 3 – Commonplace](#) The map includes details of:
- The existing active travel routes already approved by WG following submission of the INM.
 - Future proposals for improving and expanding the active travel network.
- 5.10 Details of the consultation exercise are laid out in section 10 of this report together with a summary of the responses, but there was broad support for the proposals of the ATNM as presented. Therefore, it is proposed to submit the ATNM as it stands for Cabinet and WG approval, subject to any comments received from the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny committee.
- 5.11 The development and delivery of the proposals will be dependent on funding continuing to be available for active travel schemes, primarily from WG. The requirements of future funding opportunities for active travel may influence which schemes are progressed in the short-term, in order to ensure those schemes that have the greatest likelihood of obtaining funding are prioritised.
- 5.12 The ATNM routes were prioritised in accordance with the prioritisation matrix set out within the WG Active Travel Guidance. An outline of this process is included in Appendix 1. The detailed list of proposed prioritised routes arising from this process is included in Appendix 2. This process will continue to be used for any new routes that may come forward between formal reviews alongside consideration of deliverability issues (e.g. funding, design, land ownership, individual scheme consultation etc.).
- 5.13 The final version of the ATNM (subject to approval by Cabinet) is required to be submitted to WG for approval by 31st December 2021. The final approved version will in turn need to be reviewed and resubmitted within a three-year period.
- Conclusion**
- 5.14 The Council has followed WG and statutory guidance as outlined in the Active Travel Act (2013) in reviewing the adopted INM. The Council has built upon the approved INM and after seeking residents' and stakeholders' views has developed the ATNM. It is recommended that the current version of the ATNM is submitted for approval by

Cabinet and WG.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 The 216km of new routes added were based upon a desk top study. Upon further investigation not all routes might be compliant with the Active Travel design guide. Potential routes will be further analysed and developed before funding bids are submitted to WG for delivery.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment was developed and maintained throughout the three stages of consultation and engagement. To view the Integrated Impact Assessment in full, please click on the link

[Link to Integrated Impact Assessment](#)

Summary Below.

- 7.2 The statutory Active Travel consultation has helped to develop the Council's proposed ATNM that aims to remove impediments to walking and cycling through the Borough of Caerphilly. Its delivery will improve physical and mental well-being, help connect communities, reduce harmful emissions from carbon borne journeys and help offer sustainable forms of transport for those who wish to utilise it. Active Travel will also potentially help reduce socio-economic deprivation and offer more educational and employment opportunities to those who are unable to afford motorised forms of transport.
- 7.3 One negative aspect is the lack of face-to-face engagement however, this was mitigated by the use of media, social media, digital on-line consultation and reaching out to protected groups through stakeholder contact lists. Unfortunately, due to Coronavirus restrictions this was the most appropriate form of engagement and has been mitigated by ensuring protected groups were not excluded. Evidence that this approach is a viable alternative can be witnessed in the Stage 1 consultation carried out where targeted engagement with vulnerable groups was undertaken.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The Council will submit funding bids to WG in order to progress Active Travel routes.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications for this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 All responses from consultations have been incorporated in the report.

- 10.2 The principles embedded within the WG Active Travel guidance consider that Active Travel Networks developed with communities and by existing and future users, are more likely to be used and therefore the impact of any infrastructure delivered is likely to be greater.
- 10.3 The guidance suggests a multi-phased approach to engagement, with the first opportunity being at route identification stage. A second opportunity for engagement should take place following completion of the outline design to provide stakeholders a further opportunity to refine the scheme design. For ATNM's developed under the Active Travel Act, there must be a statutory 12-week public consultation period.
- 10.4 The first phase of the ATNM consultation in the Caerphilly borough ran for five weeks between 3rd February and 10th March 2021 and was accessible through the online engagement platform Commonplace. Commonplace is a platform recommended and procured by Welsh Government, to be used by local authorities for these consultations. The initial consultation asked specifically about barriers people face on their everyday journeys when walking or cycling.
- 10.5 The initial phase has seen a significant response rate, especially when considering the difficult circumstances for public engagement due to Covid-19 restrictions. In total, the consultation has seen:
- 704 respondents,
 - 2947 visitors,
 - 621 individual comments,
 - 2355 agreements with existing comments.
- 10.6 The second phase of the consultation sought to obtain public feedback on the proposed Active Travel Draft Network Map. The second phase received a lower number of responses but can still demonstrate considerable levels of engagement. Again, the stage 2 consultation was made available through Commonplace and it was online for almost four weeks from 20th May to 15th June 2021. In total, the consultation has seen:
- 139 people actively participating,
 - 923 visitors,
 - 118 individual comments,
 - 143 agreements with existing comments.
- 10.7 During the third phase Statutory Consultation, the consultation platform has received:
- 89 respondents
 - 1730 visitors
 - 123 contributions (98 comments, 25 agreements).

Stakeholder mapping

- 10.8 An in-depth stakeholder mapping process formed the starting point of the consultation to make sure all audiences suggested within the Active Travel Delivery Guidance were included (i.e., children and young people, seldom heard groups, groups with protected characteristics, people who feel unable to travel actively now, as well as key stakeholders, delivery partners, wider public and persons that had requested to be consulted). An anonymised version of the stakeholder list was shared with the local Sustrans volunteer network in the Caerphilly area to identify missing stakeholder groups.

Engagement Activities

Email Campaign

- 10.9 To accompany the launch of the consultation an email campaign reached out to over 110 local groups, community hubs, charities, sports clubs, businesses, adjoining local authorities, community partnerships, Elected Members, Community and Town Councillors, etc. In collaboration with the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations the launch was promoted among an additional 370 local groups and organisations.

Social media

- 10.10 The launch was promoted through a press release across print and online media in the Caerphilly borough and across the Sustrans social media channels (Twitter and Facebook) through five repeated media posts. In total, 71 local groups were contacted directly through personal messages via Facebook.

Paper copies of Consultation map and survey

- 10.11 To ensure accessibility of the consultation for as many people as possible, a paper version of the consultation map and survey in both English and Welsh was made available through mail to individuals upon request.

Flyers/Posters

- 10.12 Digital flyers/ posters of the Phase consultation were produced and attached to emails going out to stakeholders.

Meeting with Cabinet Member

- 10.13 On 20th April 2021 the Active Travel draft network map was presented to the then Cabinet member John Ridgewell, to receive feedback at an early stage, before releasing the draft network to Elected Members and the public.

Webinar for Elected Members and CCBC Officers

- 10.14 On 7th May 2021 Elected Members and CCBC officers were invited to an online webinar, giving an overview on the ATNM consultation process, and introducing them to the Active Travel Draft Network Map. A link to the draft network maps was shared with them and they were given the opportunity to give feedback on the network plans before they were released to public in the Phase 2 consultation. The webinar took place on Microsoft teams and was attended by 17 people.

Engaging people with protected characteristics

- 10.15 On behalf of Caerphilly County Borough Council, Sustrans reviewed the demographic, geographic and equalities data on respondents after the first phase of engagement, matching them with Census 2011 data in order to identify underrepresented groups/areas to help focus further engagement activities during statutory consultation. The results showed overall good matches between respondents and population data, with only small discrepancies in the engagement levels of people under 24 and people over 65. As a result, engagement activities in Phase 2 focused more on these two underrepresented groups.
- 10.16 The Royal Institute for the Blind, Guide Dogs Cymru and the Welsh Council for the Blind were consulted with on several occasions to provide opportunities for **visually impaired people** to give their feedback. Coordinated through the Wales Vision Forum, people with sight loss gave their feedback through an online questionnaire, by post, at virtual member forums and over the telephone. To receive specific

feedback on barriers from **people who are living with deaf blindness**, direct conversations took place with a member of Deafblind Cymru.

- 10.17 In order to promote engagement among **people with disabilities**, an easy read questionnaire of the consultation was created with the support of several organisations working with people with learning disabilities. The easy read questionnaire was shared with 28 organisations specifically working with less able audiences.
- 10.18 In order to promote the consultation among **young people** and **vulnerable groups**, conversations and meetings took place with the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, the Children's Commissioner for Wales and the Council for Voluntary Youth Work.
- 10.19 In addition to this, a promotional video targeted at young audiences was made and shared through social media specifically with groups and organisations working with young people.
- 10.20 To promote engagement among **young and older people** as well as **women**, a bilingual flyer and poster was shared specifically with groups with a focus on young people and on older people, such as the Caerphilly Youth Cabinet, the Family Information Service Caerphilly, the Colleges, local U3A groups, etc. Again, the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) helped promote amongst the 370 organisations in their network.

Engagement with schools

- 10.21 Engagement with schools was undertaken separately to the consultations on commonplace and it combined a variety of activities: All Primary, Secondary and Special schools across the Caerphilly County Borough were contacted in an initial email campaign on 26th May 2021 and students of Y5 and older, families and carers were invited to provide their input through an online survey, which was individualised for each school.
- 10.22 If teachers wished to expand on the consultation and Active Travel in general during their lessons, they were provided with additional material, such as a bilingual lesson plan on Active Travel and the ATNM consultation, a home learner guidance (guidance for students currently unable to attend school) as well as bilingual instructional/informative videos that could be shown in the classroom.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 This is to identify the enabling statutory power(s) for the decision under consideration. It should also state whether the power(s) are the responsibility of full Council or Cabinet and if it has been delegated to officers. If you have any queries on powers, please consult the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal Services.

Author: Andrew Vick, Senior Engineer; Vicka1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Cllr D T Davies, Chair of Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee
Cllr A Hussey, Vice Chair of Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee
Cllr J. Pritchard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Property

Mark S Williams, Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration & Planning
Stephen Harris, Head of Financial Services & S.151 Officer
Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community & Leisure Services
Clive Campbell, Transportation Engineering Manager
Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Chris Adams, Highway Engineering Group Manager
David Roberts, Principal Group Accountant
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities, Welsh Language and consultations)
Shaun Watkins, Principal Personnel Officer

Background Papers:

None.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: ATNM route prioritisation methodology

Appendix 2: ATNM proposed route prioritisation

Appendix 1: ATNM route prioritisation methodology

Route Prioritisation Summary

The proposed Active Travel future routes were prioritised for development based on the potential impact the route will have on encouraging Active Travel. This approach was developed using the WG Prioritisation Matrix (Appendix K of the Active Travel Guidance) and meets the requirements of part of the 'Access to Facilities' section.

All future routes were provided with a unique identification reference that enabled calculation of a priority scores (short term, medium term, long term) predominately based on Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019) data and route proximity to key trip attractors, such as schools and healthcare facilities. Routes that passed through areas with the highest concentrations of several types of deprivation, within close proximity to key trip attractors, would score highly on the prioritisation model. These routes are recommended for short-term development. This process is outlined below:

Step 1: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation Methodology

*'The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) is the Welsh Government's official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in Wales. It identifies areas with the highest concentrations of several different types of deprivation. WIMD ranks all small areas in Wales from 1 (most deprived) to 1,909 (least deprived). It is a National Statistic produced by statisticians at the Welsh Government. Small areas are Census geographies called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs).'*¹

A deprivation score (0-2) was first calculated based on the deprivation rank of the LSOA that the route passed through:

1. Calculate tercile values for all LSOAs for indices of multiple deprivation. This means the top 33% most deprived LSOAs (tercile 1) are assigned a deprivation score of 2.
2. Assign tercile values corresponding deprivation scores as in Table 1. This means the higher the deprivation score the more deprived the LSOA.

Table 1. Deprivation scores based on WIMD tercile

Tercile Value	Deprivation Score
1	2
2	1
3	0

3. Identify the LSOAs that intersect with each individual future route:
 - a. If the route intersects with only one LSOA, assign that corresponding deprivation score.
 - b. If the route intersects with multiple LSOAs, identify the highest deprivation score the route intersects with and assign the route that deprivation score.

E.g., if a route passes through multiple LSOAs with different deprivation scores (1, 0, 2, 2), the route will be assigned the highest deprivation score encountered (2).

¹ <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Community-Safety-and-Social-Inclusion/Welsh-Index-of-Multiple-Deprivation>

Step 2: Trip Attractors

Each future route was assigned a score based on proximity (see Table 2) to the following criteria:

- Education Setting
- Employment Site
- Leisure Facilities
- Health Facilities
- Transport Interchange

Scoring table:

Table 2. Prioritisation score based on proximity in metres.

Proximity (m)	Score
0 – 400	2
400 – 800	1
>800	0

Step 3: Prioritisation Calculation

The scores for each criterion and the WIMD deprivation were calculated to give a total score out of 12 and assigned a prioritisation status (see Table 3).

Table 1. Scoring thresholds and corresponding status.

Prioritisation Score	Priority Rank	DMW Priority
0 – 4	Low	Long Term
4 – 8	Medium	Medium Term
8 – 12	High	Short Term

This scoring method and resultant priorities are then entered into DataMapWales.

Appendix 2: ATNM proposed route prioritisation

Route Name	Route Use	Route Classification	Priority
C49	shared_use	primary	low
INMC1	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC2a	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC2b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC3	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC4	shared_use	local	med
INMC5a	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC5b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC6	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC7	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC8	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC9	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC10	walking	local	med
INMC11	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC12	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC13	shared_use	primary	med
INMC14	walking	primary	med
INMC15	walking	secondary	high
INMC16	walking	secondary	med
INMC17a	walking	primary	low
INMC17b	walking	primary	med
INMC18a	shared_use	primary	high
INMC18b	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC19	shared_use	primary	high
INMC20	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC21	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC22	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC23	shared_use	primary	med
INMC24a	shared_use	primary	med
INMC24b	shared_use	primary	med
INMC25	cycling	primary	high
INMC26	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC27	shared_use	primary	med
INMC28a	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC28b	shared_use	local	low
INMC29	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC30	shared_use	primary	med
INMC31	cycling	primary	high
INMC32	cycling	primary	med
INMC33	walking	secondary	med
INMC34a	walking	secondary	med
INMC34b	walking	local	med

INMC34c	walking	local	med
INMC34d	walking	local	med
INMC34e	walking	local	med
INMC35	shared_use	local	med
INMC37	cycling	primary	high
INMC38	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC39	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC40a	shared_use	local	med
INMC40b	shared_use	local	low
INMC41	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC42	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC43	walking	primary	med
INMC44	walking	primary	med
INMC45	shared_use	local	med
INMC46	shared_use	primary	med
INMC47	walking	secondary	med
INMC48	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC50	shared_use	local	med
INMC51	shared_use	primary	med
INMC52	shared_use	secondary	low
INMC53	shared_use	primary	med
INMC54	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC55	shared_use	primary	med
INMC56	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC57	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC58	walking	secondary	high
INMC59	shared_use	local	med
INMC60	walking	secondary	high
INMC61	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC62	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC63	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC64	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC65a	shared_use	local	med
INMC65b	shared_use	local	low
INMC66	shared_use	secondary	low
INMC67	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC68	walking	secondary	low
INMC69a	shared_use	primary	low
INMC69b	shared_use	primary	med
INMC70	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC71	walking	secondary	high
INMC72a	shared_use	primary	high
INMC72b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC73	shared_use	primary	low
INMC74	shared_use	local	med
INMC76	shared_use	secondary	med

INMC77	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC78	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC79	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC80a	shared_use	primary	med
INMC80b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC81	shared_use	secondary	low
INMC82	shared_use	primary	low
INMC84	walking	primary	low
INMC85a	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC85b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC86	shared_use	local	med
INMC87	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC88	shared_use	primary	med
INMC89a	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC89b	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC101	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC103	cycling	local	low
INMC104	shared_use	primary	low
INMC105	shared_use	primary	med
INMC106	walking	local	med
INMC107	shared_use	primary	low
INMC108	walking	primary	med
INMC109	walking	secondary	med
INMC110	shared_use	primary	med
INMC111	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC112	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC113	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC114	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC115	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC116	walking	primary	med
INMC117	shared_use	primary	med
INMC118	shared_use	primary	med
INMC119	walking	primary	med
INMC120	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC121	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC122	walking	primary	med
INMC123	walking	primary	med
INMC124	walking	secondary	med
INMC125	walking	secondary	med
INMC126	walking	secondary	med
INMC127	walking	primary	med
INMC128	walking	primary	med
INMC129	walking	secondary	med
INMC130	walking	secondary	med
INMC131	shared_use	primary	med
INMC132	shared_use	secondary	med

INMC133	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC134	walking	primary	med
INMC135	shared_use	primary	high
INMC136	walking	secondary	high
INMC137	walking	primary	high
INMC138	walking	secondary	med
INMC139	walking	secondary	high
INMC140	cycling	secondary	med
INMC141	shared_use	primary	low
INMC142	walking	secondary	high
INMC143	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC144	walking	local	high
INMC145	walking	primary	high
INMC146	walking	local	med
INMC147	shared_use	primary	med
INMC148	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC149	shared_use	primary	med
INMC150	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC151	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC152	shared_use	local	med
INMC153	shared_use	primary	high
INMC154	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC155	walking	secondary	med
INMC156	walking	local	med
INMC157	walking	secondary	med
INMC158	shared_use	secondary	med
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INMC164	walking	primary	high
INMC165	walking	secondary	high
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INMC168	shared_use	primary	high
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INMC170	shared_use	primary	med
INMC171	walking	secondary	high
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INMC174	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC175	walking	secondary	med
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INMC177	walking	secondary	med
INMC178	walking	secondary	med

INMC179	walking	secondary	med
INMC180	shared_use	secondary	low
INMC181	shared_use	primary	high
INMC182	walking	secondary	high
INMC183	walking	secondary	high
INMC184	shared_use	primary	med
INMC185	cycling	primary	med
INMC186	shared_use	primary	med
INMC187	shared_use	primary	med
INMC188	shared_use	primary	med
INMC189	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC190	shared_use	local	med
INMC191	shared_use	primary	high
INMC192	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC193	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC194	shared_use	secondary	med
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INMC197	walking	primary	med
INMC198	walking	secondary	low
INMC199	walking	secondary	low
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INMC202	shared_use	local	low
INMC203	shared_use	local	med
INMC204	shared_use	secondary	med
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INMC206	walking	secondary	med
INMC207	walking	secondary	med
INMC208	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC209	walking	secondary	med
INMC210	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC211	shared_use	primary	high
INMC212	shared_use	primary	high
INMC213	walking	primary	high
INMC214	walking	primary	med
INMC215	shared_use	primary	med
INMC216	walking	local	med
INMC217	walking	primary	med
INMC218	shared_use	primary	med
INMC219	shared_use	local	high
INMC220	shared_use	secondary	high
INMC221	walking	primary	high
INMC222	shared_use	primary	high
INMC223	shared_use	primary	med
INMC224	shared_use	secondary	low

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INMC226	shared_use	secondary	low
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INMC259	walking	secondary	high
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INMC269	walking	local	med
INMC270	walking	local	med

INMC271	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC272	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC273	shared_use	local	med
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INMC280	shared_use	secondary	med
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INMC282	shared_use	primary	high
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INMC289	walking	secondary	high
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INMC302	shared_use	primary	med
INMC303	walking	primary	med
INMC304	walking	local	med
INMC305	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC306	walking	primary	med
INMC307	walking	local	med
INMC308	walking	local	med
INMC309	shared_use	primary	med
INMC310	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC311	walking	secondary	med
INMC312	shared_use	local	low
INMC313	shared_use	primary	med
INMC314	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC315	walking	secondary	high
INMC316	walking	secondary	med

INMC317	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC318	shared_use	secondary	high
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INMC321	shared_use	secondary	med
INMC322	shared_use	primary	med
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INMC386	shared_use	secondary	med
INM-ROG-0011	shared_use	local	med
INM-ROG-0015	shared_use	primary	high
LLAN2/1	shared_use	primary	med
LLAN3/1	shared_use	primary	med
MT48	shared_use	primary	high
MT49B	shared_use	primary	high
RCT-INM-S32	shared_use	primary	low
WS01	shared_use	secondary	high

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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7TH DECEMBER 2021

**SUBJECT: ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT 2021/22 BUDGET MONITORING
REPORT (PERIOD 5)**

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform members of projected revenue expenditure for the Economy & Environment Directorate for the 2021/22 financial year. Service Divisions include Regeneration & Planning Division, Infrastructure Services Division, Public Protection Division and Community & Leisure Services Division.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report summarises the most recent budget monitoring projections for 2021/2022 based on the latest available financial information.
- 2.2 The attached appendices outline more detailed budget monitoring figures for each of the Council Fund Services outlined in paragraph 1.1 above

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee Members are requested to note the contents of this report and the detailed budget monitoring pages that follow in respect of the Infrastructure Services Division, Public Protection Division and Community & Leisure Services Division which all fall within the remit of this Scrutiny.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Council Budget is based on the achievement of both expenditure and income targets. To ensure that these are met, and the Council's financial integrity is maintained Directors are required to review income and expenditure trends.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The report outlines the revenue budget position for each of the service Divisions that form

part of the Economy & Environment Directorate based on the most current financial information available. Projected outturn figures for the financial year are compared with the budget to show the anticipated under/overspends. More detailed budget monitoring figures are shown in the appendices 1a to 1d.

5.1.2 The table 1 below summarises the present budget monitoring position, with an overall Directorate underspend of £1,149k, but exclusive of ring-fenced budgets is projecting an underspend of £430k. Appendices 1a to 1d provide more detail on the budget variation projections for each Service Division.

TABLE 1	Estimate 2021/2022	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Outturn 2021/2022	Variance 2021/2022
Regeneration & Planning Division	2,866	2,866	2,609	258
Infrastructure Division	20,694	20,694	20,169	525
Public Protection Division	7,543	7,543	7,180	363
Community & Leisure Services Division	22,284	22,284	22,230	54
Directorate General	178	178	229	(51)
NET DIRECTORATE	53,565	53,565	52,417	1,149
Home to School Transport - ring fenced under spend				351
Social Services Transport – ring fenced under spend				166
Cemeteries Task & Finish – ring fenced under spend				202
NET DIRECTORATE under spend (excluding ring fenced budgets)				430

5.2 INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

5.2.1 Infrastructure is overall reporting an underspend of £525k, after excluding budget variations in relation to Home to School Transport (£351k underspend) and Social Services Transport (£166k under spend) which will be ring fenced and appropriated back to the Service Directorates, there is an underspend of £8k, this includes WG funding for lost income in some service areas.

5.2.2 Highway Services is reporting an overspend of £3k. This is due in the main to highway core services projecting an underspend of £37k mainly due to delays in filling vacant posts, street lighting energy together with contractor/consultants' costs (partly due to backlog from covid delays) partially offset by reductions in income on permits. SAB (sustainable drainage) is projecting an overspend of £40k at this time due in the main to reduction in income which is partially offset by savings on contractor payments. At present winter maintenance costs are difficult to predict but it is assumed the full budget of £1.16 million) will be spent.

5.2.3 EPG (Engineering Projects Group) is reporting underspend of £24k with reductions in fee income being more than offset by reduced salary costs, agency costs and travel.

5.2.4 Transportation Engineering overall is projecting a net overspend of £51k after adjusting for the agreed use of the Covid 19 reserve to fund the Car Park income loss endorsed by Cabinet. This overspend is due in the main to a shortfall in income for On-Street Car Parking of £10k, Shortfalls in income generated from Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) of £64k (after WG funding for lost income and a reduction in CPE operational costs) along with £29k grant fee income. There are also underspends in relation vacant posts in Traffic Management

£20k (which offsets most of the grant fee income shortfall) along with school crossing patrols of £51k due to vacant posts linked to sites not meeting Road Safety GB criteria.

- 5.2.5 Passenger Transport is reporting an underspend of £37k, with underspend in relation to bus subsidies and operator payments after grant income of £41k due to reduced service operation and additional grant income (BSSG). Also, underspend in staffing costs of £36k and management fee (Electronic Ticketing Machine Scheme) income of £10k, which is offset by an overspend on Bus Shelter/Bus Station costs of £38k. Bus Station Departure income has a net overspend of £17k which assumes WG funding for the first six months.
- 5.2.6 At this stage Network Contracting Services (NCS) is anticipating a breakeven budget this will be monitored closely during the year.
- 5.2.7 Home to School Transport is presently projecting underspend of £351k on a £7.9million budget, in the main due to a £328k underspend in contractor costs linked to reduced service operation and WG funding for PPE costs assumed for the first 6 months.
- 5.2.8 Social Services Transport is projecting under spend of £166k including £47k on salaries, £115k for service operators and a small underspend in vehicle costs of £5k offset by additional costs to support agile working. There is risk of operator failure leading to increased cost in future although this is partly an in-house operator function rather than private contractor.

5.3 PUBLIC PROTECTION

- 5.3.1 Public Protection is presently projecting underspend of £363k on their overall revenue budget details below.
- 5.3.2 Environmental Health is currently projecting a net underspend of £172k. The main variances are: -
- Community Safety Wardens is forecasting a £9k underspend mainly due to salary underspends for reduced hours and Airwave contract savings.
 - Enforcement is forecasting an underspend of £3k mainly due to salary underspend from staff on reduced hours and delayed filling of vacant posts, along with vehicle costs, which are more than offsetting reduction in income/fees.
 - Food Team is predicting a small underspend of £48k due to salary underspend from staff on reduced hours and delayed filling of vacant posts.
 - Pollution Control are predicting an underspend of £101k partly due to vacant posts, but primarily due to £92.5k grant received from WG to fund staffing costs linked to Hafodyrynys. At this stage it is unlikely this will be required to fund any shortfall in the purchase/compensation Capital grant received from WG to fund the acquisition and payment of compensation for the houses at Hafodyrynys, as this was practically completed in 2020/21. Hafodyrynys Compensation/Acquisition has been funded by a ring-fenced reserve of £268k (from prior to 2020/21 grant) and an RCCO in 2020/21 of £34k (from 2020/21 grant). There are also a number of other ongoing issues in respect of air quality, pollution, and contaminated land and these are being closely monitored as any increases in this area would impact on the overall financial position.
 - Health Division is predicting an underspend of £5k due in the main to reduced staff cost for additional hours.
 - Community Safety Partnership is predicting a small underspend of £2k.
 - Emergency Planning is predicting a £1k underspend.
- 5.3.3 Trading Standards (including Corporate and Democratic Services costs) are projecting a £17k (£15k Trading Standards & £2k Corporate and Democratic Services costs) underspend

due in the main to delays in filling vacant posts and staff not at the top of the incremental scale.

- 5.3.4 Licensing are projecting a £17k underspend mainly due to Staffing underspends of £28k partly offsetting reduced net income of £12k (assumes WG fund lost income for first six months) due to reductions in numbers of temporary events notices and changes to Premises and Personal licences associated with pubs and clubs and street trading applications.
- 5.3.5 Registrars are projecting a £15k underspend mainly due to reduced running costs of £25k that has been offsetting net reduced income of £10k. The service income and costs can be greatly affected by Covid Restriction changes if the current covid level (Zero) is raised during the year.
- 5.3.6 CCTV services are projecting an underspend of £2k with salary underspend offsetting additional infrastructure cost.
- 5.3.7 Catering Services are projecting a net underspend of £141k. The underspend is due in the main to salary underspends due to delays in filling vacant posts offset by reduced income levels. This is after adjusting for the agreed use of reserves for the Cashless catering system and an officer post. The income will be monitored during the year especially as WG have lifted some of the restrictions in schools. There have been no amendments for loss of income from September as the guidance at present is unclear but as this is updated this will be addressed in future monitoring reports.

5.4 COMMUNITY & LEISURE SERVICES

- 5.4.1 The Community & Leisure Division is presently projecting overall a net overspend of £172k, this overspend is noted below.
- 5.4.2 Waste Management is overall presently reporting an overspend of £541k on a £10m budget. There is a possibility that some of the overall increased tonnage costs shown below can be claimed back via WG Hardship fund at year end.
- Residual Waste is projecting an overspend of £325k due in the main to additional vehicles costs, increased costs of waste treatments (£250K) and increased staff costs due to redeployments from cleansing see 5.5.3 below.
 - Organic recycling is projecting a £323k underspend due to salary savings on vacant posts, reduced additional agency staff, reduced vehicle costs together with savings on contractor payments for treatment costs.
 - CA sites are projecting a £20k underspend due in the main to ongoing proof of residency policies and significant reductions in out of County waste, this has been partially offset by the additional wood treatment costs.
 - Waste Transfer Station is projecting a £11k overspend due in the main to increased transport costs
 - Dry Recycling is forecasting a £568k overspend due in the main to increased costs (£321k) due to the fire at a contractor recycling depot and vehicle costs (£112k) due to damage and vehicle repairs.
 - RCCO (revenue contribution to capital outlay) is forecast to be £78k underspend due to no anticipated expenditure on vehicle acquisitions.
 - Bulky Waste is projecting a £8k overspend
 - Commercial Waste is projecting a £107k overspend due in the main to underachievement of income.
 - Other Waste is projecting a small £16k underspend.
 - Trehir is projecting a £7k underspend due to reduced maintenance costs

- Sustainable Waste Management Grant (SWMG) from WG is showing a £16k overspend as a result of revisions to WG allocations.
 - HQ staff predicted an underspend of £49k which is due to a vacant posts and reduced vehicle costs.
- 5.4.3 Cleansing Services is overall presently reporting an underspend of £364k. This is due in the main to a combination of staff vacant posts and staff continuing to be redirected to help cover waste collection rounds due to covid related and general sickness absence combined with reduced vehicle and treatment costs.
- 5.4.4 An underspend of £455k is projected for Parks & Countryside, Outdoor Facilities and Cemeteries.
- Cemeteries is reporting a £202k underspend, this underspend in the main is due to increased income levels. Any underspend in relation to cemeteries is ring fenced for future investment in cemetery development and infrastructure improvements.
 - Parks, Allotments and Playgrounds are reporting underspend of £42k due in the main to increased income levels offset by additional agency staff being extended to try to reduce the backlog.
 - Outdoor facilities are reporting £1K overspend in the main due to reduced staff costs, includes pavilion attendants' costs and reduced pavilion maintenance costs
 - Countryside is reporting an underspend of £203k due in the main to staff vacancies and career break that have not yet been replaced, reduced seasonal staff costs, reduced contractor costs and additional one-off income of £112k.
 - HQ is projecting a small underspend of £9k primarily due to lower plant repair costs after the purchase of new machinery in March 2021.
- 5.4.5 Leisure Centres are reporting overspend of £112k. The leisure centres have had limited opening this year to date due to Covid restriction. This is accentuated by the fact that staffing costs are still being incurred and an element of other operating expenditure is fixed cost in nature and cannot easily be reduced while the centres have been closed. The overspend projection does however include WG funding for net lost income, assumed to year end based on 2019-20 net figures. This overspend is still anticipated because historically over the past few years leisure centres have underachieved income budget although budget growth and lifting of restrictions may aid the overspend. This will be monitored during the year. The overspend on Leisure Centres is part offset by a £38k underspend in Leisure HQ, primarily due to vacant posts and reduced spend on marketing and training.
- 5.4.6 Community Centres are at present projecting a breakeven position with any reductions in operating costs they hope to utilise to bring forward maintenance on these buildings.
- 5.4.7 Caerphilly Adventures is reporting an underspend of £24k.
- 5.4.8 Sports Development is projecting a slight overspend of £13k due in the main to reduced numbers of direct GP referrals. The National Exercise Referral Scheme (NERS) online live virtual sessions have not been chargeable, as restrictions are lifted and with additional referrals from DWP it is hoped the income levels will increase. There maybe an opportunity to seek WG lost income funds nearer year end.
- 5.4.9 Vehicle Maintenance & Fleet Management is currently projecting overspend of £140k, primarily due to a reduction in repair work. The outturn position will be dependent on the value of work through the workshop over the next few months and the ability to finance fixed overheads.

5.4.10 Building Cleaning is at present reporting underspend of £17k. Building Cleaning work has been affected by the Covid 19 crisis, with limited or no cleaning for a period being undertaken at Council buildings such as schools, leisure centres, tourism venues and libraries. However, building cleaning have needed to provide enhanced cleaning to school hubs and corporate offices and increased cleaning regimes at schools in preparation for schools reopening for the autumn term and during the autumn term. The decision was also made for all Council internal charges to be levied, so Building Cleaning services are still generating the income needed to cover staffing costs.

5.5 Conclusion

5.5.1 Members are advised that Economy & Environment Directorate provides a very diverse range of front-line services to residents and businesses. The overall Directorate has a budget totalling £53.565m. with a projected net overspend of £8k in a very turbulent year where service provision and ability to achieve income has been significantly disrupted. Financial pressures this year, have been further significantly increased by the impact the Covid 19 crisis has had on service provision, with a number of services not being provided or being significantly curtailed and some services experiencing significant reductions in income generation. The operational managers will endeavour to ensure however that service net expenditure does not exceed the budget available and where applicable income loss claims will be submitted to WG.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 Assumptions linked to this report were detailed in the budget report to Council on 24th February 2021.
- 6.2 The projected outturn position is based on actual income and expenditure details to the end of August 2021.
- 6.3 Forecasts have been made following discussions with Managers based on current information available.
- 6.4 All assumptions are linked to Covid 19 and the possible lifting of any restrictions that take place.
- 6.5 An exercise took place to advise WG of net external income losses for April to September 2021, in the context that these will be funded by WG. Further claims are expected and projections are included where applicable in this report.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An IIA is not necessary for this Information Only Report.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 As detailed throughout the report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER.

11.1 Local Government Acts 1972 and 2003 and the Council's Financial Regulations.

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Consultees

Councillor D.T Davies Chair Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee
Councillor A Hussey Vice Chair Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee
Christina Harray, Chief Executive
Mark S Williams, Corporate Director for Economy & Environment
Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community & Leisure Services
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer
Jane Southcombe, Education Financial Services Manager
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning & Strategy
Paul Adams, Senior Assistant Accountant
Mike Jones, Interim Financial Services Manager Social Services
Cllr J. Pritchard, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Property
Cllr N. George, Cabinet Member for Waste, Public Protection & Street Scene
Cllr R. Whiting, Cabinet Member for Learning & Leisure
Cllr A. Whitcombe, Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Planning & Fleet

Appendices:

Appendix 1A Budget Monitoring Report - Regeneration and Planning
Appendix 1B Budget Monitoring Report - Infrastructure Services Division
Appendix 1C Budget Monitoring Report - Public Protection Division
Appendix 1D Budget Monitoring Report - Community and Leisure Services

Link to Background Papers:

[Council \(24/02/21\) – Budget Proposals for 2021/22 and Medium-Term Financial Outlook](#)

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Economy and Environment Directorate	Estimate 2021/2022	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Outturn 2021/2022	Variance 2021/2022
<u>REGENERATION & PLANNING</u>				
Regeneration & Planning Senior Management Support	149,217	149,217	196,425	(47,208)
Use of Reserves For Placeshaping Officer	0	0	(51,757)	51,757
Regeneration & Planning Administrative Support	548,803	548,803	516,259	32,544
Support Services				
Business Support & Urban Renewal	563,905	563,905	506,983	56,922
Events	79,001	79,001	55,473	23,528
Property Operations	(1,218,726)	(1,218,726)	(1,149,341)	(69,385)
Town Centre Management	197,933	197,933	209,708	(11,775)
Tourism Venues				
Tourism Venues Management Support	75,117	75,117	74,474	643
Llanciach Fawr	466,596	466,596	504,839	(38,243)
Winding House & Museum	159,305	159,305	142,439	16,866
Caerphilly Visitor Centre	62,944	62,944	118,446	(55,502)
Cwmcarn Visitor Centre	245,061	245,061	280,195	(35,134)
Blackwood Miners Institute	305,955	305,955	273,583	32,372
Arts Development	158,322	158,322	133,061	25,262
Community Regeneration				
Use of Reserves for Apprentice Gateway Scheme	0	0	(39,460)	39,460
Children & Communities Grant				
Expenditure	819,003	819,003	738,302	80,701
Grant Funding	(819,003)	(819,003)	(738,302)	(80,701)
C4W Grant				
Expenditure	603,010	603,010	515,298	87,712
Grant Funding	(603,010)	(603,010)	(515,298)	(87,712)
Communities for Work Plus Additional Funding				
Expenditure	412,399	412,399	221,883	190,516
Grant Funding	(412,399)	(412,399)	(221,883)	(190,516)
Planning Services				
Planning Services Management	144,154	144,154	146,234	(2,080)
Strategic Planning	334,958	334,958	220,646	114,312
Transfer to Community Infrastructure Levy Ringfenced Reserve			83,792	(83,792)
Development Control	199,691	199,691	184,243	15,448
Building Control	76,191	76,191	(6,177)	82,368
Land Charges	14,171	14,171	(2,196)	16,367
GIS & Land Gazetteer	163,198	163,198	148,720	14,478
TOTAL NET BUDGET	2,866,410	2,866,410	2,608,694	257,716

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Economy and Environment Directorate	Page No	Estimate 2021/2022	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Outturn 2021/2022	Variance 2021/2022
<i>INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION</i>					
<i>HIGHWAY SERVICES</i>		9,225,831	9,225,831	9,228,653	(2,822)
<i>ENGINEERING PROJECTS GROUP</i>		(93,085)	(93,085)	(117,223)	24,138
<i>TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING</i>		516,492	516,492	1,227,706	(711,214)
Agreed Use of Covid 19 Reserve to fund Car Park income		0	0	(660,000)	660,000
<i>PASSENGER TRANSPORT</i>		1,665,286	1,665,286	1,628,124	37,162
<i>HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT</i>		7,923,081	7,923,081	7,571,682	351,399
<i>SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORT</i>		1,564,373	1,564,373	1,398,111	166,262
<i>NETWORK CONTRACTING SERVICES</i>		(127,514)	(127,514)	(127,514)	0
<i>ENGINEERING - GENERAL</i>		19,482	19,482	19,252	230
<i>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</i>		20,693,946	20,693,946	20,168,791.00	525,155

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Economy and Environment Directorate	Page No	Estimate 2021/2022	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Outturn 2021/2022	Variance 2021/2022
<u>PUBLIC PROTECTION DIVISION</u>					
TRADING STANDARDS		773,421	773,421	758,585	14,836
LICENSING		98,218	98,218	81,567	16,651
REGISTRARS		54,532	54,532	39,524	15,008
CCTV		423,218	423,218	421,578	1,640
COMMUNITY WARDENS		232,077	232,077	222,784	9,293
CORPORATE AND DEMOCRATIC COSTS (CDC)		57,633	57,633	55,784	1,849
HEALTH DIVISIONAL BUDGET		295,082	295,082	290,125	4,957
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP		47,865	47,865	45,784	2,081
ENFORCEMENT		663,822	663,822	660,178	3,644
POLLUTION		402,007	402,007	300,758	101,249
FOOD TEAM		639,679	639,679	591,071	48,608
		(50,946)	(50,946)	(50,946)	0
EMERGENCY PLANNING		106,705	106,705	104,854	1,851
CATERING		3,799,763	3,799,763	3,848,171	(48,408)
Approved Use of Reserves -Cashless Catering Officer		0	0	(13,823)	13,823
Approved Use of Reserves - Cashless Catering System		0	0	(176,267)	176,267
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE		7,543,076	7,543,076	7,179,727	363,349

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Economy and Environment Directorate	Page No	Estimate 2021/2022	Revised Estimate 2021/2022	Outturn 2021/2022	Variance 2021/2022
<u>COMMUNITY & LEISURE SERVICES</u>					
WASTE MANAGEMENT					
<i>Residual Waste</i>		2,676,976	2,676,976	3,002,107	(325,131)
<i>Organics recycling</i>		1,232,664	1,232,664	910,067	322,597
<i>Civic Amenity Sites</i>		3,015,585	3,015,585	2,994,955	20,630
<i>Waste Transfer Station</i>		119,329	119,329	130,397	(11,068)
<i>Dry Recycling</i>		2,539,307	2,539,307	3,107,161	(567,854)
<i>RCCO</i>		77,933	77,933	0	77,933
<i>Bulky Waste</i>		133,874	133,874	142,279	(8,405)
<i>Commercial Waste</i>		(351,696)	(351,696)	(244,628)	(107,068)
<i>Other Waste</i>		23,322	23,322	7,500	15,822
<i>Trehir</i>		132,437	132,437	124,991	7,446
<i>Sustainable Waste Management Grant</i>		(849,804)	(849,804)	(833,848)	(15,956)
<i>HQ Staff</i>		1,248,937	1,248,937	1,199,816	49,121
CLEANSING					
<i>Street Cleansing</i>		4,284,763	4,284,763	3,920,161	364,602
GROUND MAINTENANCE AND PARKS					
<i>Cemeteries</i>		(202,692)	(202,692)	(404,202)	201,510
<i>Allotments</i>		38,088	38,088	33,313	4,775
<i>Parks and Playing Fields</i>		1,778,529	1,778,529	1,740,782	37,747
<i>Playgrounds</i>		278,610	278,610	278,642	(32)
<i>Outdoor facilities</i>		238,864	238,864	239,478	(614)
<i>Countryside</i>		951,755	951,755	749,133	202,622
<i>HQ Staffing</i>		1,002,709	1,002,709	993,756	8,953
LEISURE SERVICES					
<i>Leisure Centres</i>		2,966,166	2,966,166	3,077,706	(111,540)
<i>Sports & Health Development</i>		21,875	21,875	34,874	(12,999)
<i>Outdoor Education</i>		249,038	249,038	224,548	24,490
<i>Community Centres</i>		361,758	361,758	361,758	0
		21,968,327	21,968,327	21,790,746	177,581
<i>Building Cleaning</i>		594,603	594,603	577,628	16,975
<i>Vehicle Maintenance & Fleet Management</i>		(278,651)	(278,651)	(138,417)	(140,234)
Total net expenditure Community & Leisure Services		22,284,279	22,284,279	22,229,957	54,322

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