



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH JANUARY 2022 AT 10:30AM

PRESENT:

Councillor P. Marsden (Leader) - Chair

Councillors:

S. Cook (Social Care and Housing), N. George (Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene), C. Gordon (Corporate Services), J. Pritchard (Infrastructure and Property), Mrs E. Stenner (Performance, Economy and Enterprise), A. Whitcombe (Sustainability, Planning and Fleet), and R. Whiting (Learning and Leisure).

Together with:

C. Harry (Chief Executive), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director, Education and Corporate Services), and M.S. Williams (Corporate Director – Economy and Environment).

Also in Attendance:

R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), R. Kyte (Head of Regeneration and Planning Communities), M. Lloyd (Head of Infrastructure), C. Campbell (Transportation Engineering Manager), D. Lucas (Team Leader, Strategic Planning Division), M. Harris (Committee Services Support Officer/Chauffer), M. Afzal (Committee Services Officer) and E. Sullivan (Senior Committees Services Officer).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Leader reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here To View](#). She advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from S. Harris (Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer) and D. Street (Corporate Director for Social Services and Housing).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest received.

3. CABINET - 8th DECEMBER 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4. CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Cabinet were provided with the Cabinet Forward Work Programme, which detailed the scheduled reports until the 9th of February 2022. Members were reminded that the Cabinet Forward Work Programme is a working document and therefore subject to change.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Forward Work Programme be noted. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Forward Work Programme be noted.

5. DRAFT NEWBRIDGE TO RISCA CORRIDOR (LOWER EBBW AND SIRHOWY VALLEYS) MASTERPLAN

Consideration was given to the report which sought Cabinet approval for the Draft Newbridge to Risca Corridor (Lower Ebbw and Sirhowy Valleys) Masterplan and to approve the six-week public consultation exercise in respect of the plan between 19th January and 2nd March 2022.

Cabinet were advised that the wider Cardiff Capital Region was in a period of transformative change and the need for a strategy to coordinate regeneration initiatives and capitalise on funding streams was urgent in order to maximise the potential benefits. The signing of the City Deal and the Cardiff Capital Region Investment Fund signalled an unprecedented investment of £1.2 billion to support the region's economic growth.

Cabinet noted that in terms of the Newbridge to Risca Corridor the existing employment base and strong tourist economy were the foundation that presented opportunities for economic growth and renewal and when allied to additional funding streams could promote the area as a major employment, tourism and recreation area. The Masterplan sought to integrate that base and sets out a development strategy and framework for delivering outcomes and form the basis for bids from funding streams, for projects in the area.

Cabinet were given a brief overview of the consultation process to date and how it would now be taken forward. The Officer confirmed that full use would be made of the Council's social media platforms and website with the Communication Team supporting the consultation process throughout. Cabinet noted that the consultation would also include the display of posters in local shops and libraries, with libraries having paper copies of the Masterplan available for public viewing. Overall, they would be looking to engage the public through traditional and digital means. Cabinet were pleased to note that traditional methods would also be utilised as part of the consultation process, as this would be particularly important for residents without digital access.

Cabinet noted that there was likely to be a slight delay regarding the translation of the document into Welsh, which meant that the consultation process may commence with just the English version but Cabinet were assured that it would only be a matter of days until the Welsh version was available.

Cabinet placed on record their thanks to everyone for their hard work and involvement in the development of the Masterplan, including those who had attended the consultation sessions. Cabinet welcomed the plan which was hoped would be an extremely 'positive' or even 'historic document' for the area. The Leader expressed her pride in the Masterplan document and welcomed it as a vital component in securing economic growth and renewal in the area and encouraged the public to get involved and take full part in the consultation process.

Following consideration and discussion an additional recommendation was moved and seconded at 3.3 of the report to read; 'that a further report be bought back to Council following the completion of the consultation exercise' and by way of electronic voting and verbal confirmation this was unanimously agreed.

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

1. The Draft Masterplan be endorsed to allow public consultation to take place.
2. The Draft Masterplan be subject to a six-week public consultation between 19 January and 2 March 2022.
3. A further report be bought back to Council following the completion of the consultation exercise.

6. ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK MAP

Consideration was given to the report which highlighted the responses from the public consultation on the Active Travel Network Map and also sought Cabinet approval for the Draft Active Travel Network Map. Cabinet Members thanked Officers and the wider team for bringing the report forward.

Cabinet noted the background to the consultation process and a summary of the responses was provided. It was stated that the initial phase had seen a significant response rate, but the response rate had dipped at stages two and three. The Cabinet Member confirmed that the final report had taken on board all the comments from the consultation. The Cabinet Member thanked everyone for taking part in the consultation exercise, including the nine schools which had provided 113 responses.

Cabinet were asked to note the steps that had been taken to publicise the consultation. These included an email campaign to over 110 different groups, community hubs, adjoining local authorities, Elected Members and Town and Community Councillors along with social media, digital flyers and posters. The Cabinet Member confirmed that 216km of new routes were included and although not all routes might be compliant, potential routes will be developed before funding bids are submitted to Welsh Government for delivery, he added that he would be happy to work with local ward members on potential new schemes as and when funding from Welsh Government becomes available.

The Transportation Engineering Manager advised Cabinet that although areas had been subject to Welsh Government restrictions, that hadn't restricted their ambitions for the active travel plan and that they had actually extended the scope from 112 in the current adopted INM to 400 in the proposed ATNM.

Cabinet particularly welcomed input received from Learners into the Active Travel Plan, who had been very keen to be involved in the process and as one of the most environmentally conscious generations, Cabinet acknowledged the importance of their involvement.

Following consideration and discussion it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By way of electronic voting and verbal confirmation this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report the results of the consultation on the draft Active Travel Network Map be noted and the Active Travel Network Map be formally approved.

The meeting closed at 10:50am.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 26th January 2022.

CHAIR