



Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board Meeting
18th September 2024 @ 09:30-11:30 Minutes

In attendance:		
Name	Title	Organisation
Cllr Lis Burnett (LB)	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Tom Bowring (TB)	Director of Corporate Resources	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Cllr Shirley Hodges (SH)	Nominated Town and Community Council Representative	Barry Town Council
Claire Beynon (CB)	Executive Director of Public Health	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Estella Enos (EE)	Senior Operational Support Manager/ Deputy Head	Probation Service Wales
Rachel Connor (RC)	Chief Executive Officer	Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Marc Atwell (MA)	Head of Communities and Partnership	South Wales Police
David Letellier (DL)	Head of Operations for South Central	Natural Resources Wales
Sarah Tipping (ST)	Head of Partnerships and Engagement	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Natalie Rees (NR)	Head of Sustainable Development and Climate Change	Transport for Wales
John Treherne (JH)	Group Manager	South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Also in Attendance:		
Andreas Pieris-Plumley (APP) (HM)	Policy Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Dafydd Sedgwick (DS)	Strategy and Partnership Intern	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Fisher Lloyd (FL)	Corporate Policy and Insight Manager	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Jack Harrison (JH)	Business and Finance Lead	CCR Energy
Natalie Hughes (NH)	Policy and Impact Lead	Cardiff Capital Region
Miki Miyata-Lee (MML)	Senior Officer – South Central Operations	Natural Resources Wales
Robert Jones (RJ)	Operational Manager	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Rebecca Stewart (RS)	Principal Public Health Practitioner	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Suzanne Wood (SW)	Consultant in Public Health Medicine	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Joanna Beynon (JB)	Policy Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Sian Clemett-Davies (SCD)	Age Friendly Vale Officer	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Apologies:		

Fiona Hourihane	Operations Manager South Wales Central	Natural Resources Wales
Mark Brace (MB)	Assistant Commissioner	South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Marie Davies (MD)	Deputy Director of Strategy and Planning	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Charles Janczewski (CJ)	UHB Chair	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Suzanne Rankin (SR)	Chief Executive	Cardiff and Vale UHB
Rob Thomas (RT)	Chief Executive	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Karen Lamprey (KL)	Assistant Principle Curriculum	Cardiff and Vale College
Judith Cole (JC)	Deputy Director Local Government Finance and Workforce Partnerships Division	Welsh Government
Helen Moses	Operational Manager Strategy and Insight	Vale of Glamorgan Council

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions – Lis Burnett, Chair of the Public Services Board</p> <p>LB introduced and welcomed everyone to the meeting of the PSB.</p> <p>LB suggested at the end of the meeting it should be revisited whether it is constructive to have so many updates or whether individuals should ask for specific updates to be discussed if necessary.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence – Andreas Pieris-Plumley, Policy Officer, Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>Please see full list of apologies above.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of the Public Services Board 9th April 2024 – Lis Burnett, Chair of the Public Services Board</p> <p>Minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate reflection.</p>	
4.	<p>Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) Update - Natalie Hughes, Policy and Impact Lead, Cardiff Capital Region. Nicola Somerville, Head of Operations, CCR Energy</p> <p>NH introduced herself and informed that the CCR is a partnership of the 10 Local Authorities in South-East Wales and works closely with the Welsh and UK Governments. It was formed as part of the regional City Deals and tasked with increasing GVA and access to quality jobs. The CCR covers a diverse region with some extreme areas of deprivation, it aims to drive inclusive and distributed growth, forging connections between economic growth and social advancement, and increasing the CCR's reputation domestically and globally.</p> <p>NH explained that the CCR has four identified regional challenges to work towards as a corporate joint committee: tackling economic</p>	

disparity; enhancing innovation, capability and capacity; decarbonising our environment; improving digital and physical infrastructure. The CCR aims to be competitive, connected and resilient by approaching productivity in an inclusive way. In 2021 the Senedd passed the Local Government and Elections (2021) Act as a framework for greater Local Authority collaboration which led to the CCR becoming a Corporate Joint Committee (CJC). There are four CJsCs across Wales, one for each city and growth region. Addressing economic wellbeing, spatial planning and regional transport planning are statutory requirements for the CJsCs. It's important to tackle issues collaboratively and to have agreements on who does what, where and how.

NH explained the CCR has regional transport planning power which is a unique opportunity for a regional policy. Transport must be linked to economic well-being and strategic development in the region. The Welsh Government included concise elements that must be followed up on, including a delivery plan and well-being appraisal. The Regional Transport Plan: Case for Change (RTP) has been approved and now Welsh Government funding is available to take the plan forward. NH highlighted that Strategic Spatial Planning sets out an overall vision, strategy, strategic locations and places for growth and change; and is aimed at delivering across Local Authority boundaries. Its minimum range is 25-years and it's important to coordinate strategic growth cross-border and to align it with the transport plan. CCR are working with local stakeholders and partners to make sure it can be delivered alongside Local Development Plans, but it's not anticipated to be adopted until 2030.

NH highlighted the complexity of the CCR's governance structures but explained how the strategic development and regional transport sub-committees ensure relevant information is passed to decision makers. Sub-Committees can hold the CCR to account. Alongside the Sub-Committees the CCR has a number of stakeholder groups which consist of organisations such as CCR Energy. NH stated that it is vital to have information flows between regional growth boards, sub-committees and others. NH set out the CCR's achievements to date. This included approved projects for the value of £420million and establishing impact funds such as the £50m strategic premises fund. The CCR has a unique approach for the UK in terms of deployment of investment funds as Local Authorities are shareholders in the major evergreen investments like CCR Energy LTD. CCR are looking to redefine the role of the public sector as a driver of innovation. They established a £160m investment zone in Southeast Wales to spur indigenous business growth and have created 3,474 jobs and £300+ million in additional leveraged funds. The CCR recognise the importance of having high-value jobs for graduates in order to retain talent in the region.

JH explained that CCR Energy are a company set-up by the CCR in 2023 as a limited company with a commercial loan to demolish and remediate the old Aberthaw power station. The process of demolition has started with the contractor Erith. JH stated that Aberthaw is a hugely important strategic site in the CCR/Vale region, and it is important to allow the public sector to have an influence on what will be developed. CCR will be championing low carbon and green energy production and

creating a sustainable and green future alongside high-quality jobs and social value to spread prosperity across the region.

JH informed that the CCR Energy's governance structure has members from the 10 Local Authorities in the CCR region and 3 non-Executive Directors who are experts from the fields of nuclear, investment and academia. There is also a Strategic Steering Group and a committee with a member from each of the ten Local Authorities to ensure the prioritisation of a cross-regional approach. The key mission of CCR Energy is to turn the site into something as strategically important as Aberthaw Power Station. JH explained that the physical infrastructure means the site has huge potential, shown by the interest from tidal companies. All of the potential uses of the site will be considered with a clear focus on renewable and sustainable energy. JH also recognised the potential for developing the leisure potential with the Wales coastal path running adjacent to the site.

LB highlighted she is the Portfolio Lead for Spatial and Transport Policy in the CCR, the chair of the Sustainable Development Sub-committee, and the Vice Chair of the Regional Transport Sub-committee. LB recognised it is essential that partners collaborate, with a workshop between sub-committees planned for the 19th of September.

CB queried if the wider determinants of health were considered in the CCR's activities.

NH stated the CCR can't directly impact health and social care but do have requirements to consider them. For example, the child poverty strategy isn't just addressed with jobs and economic growth but also health aspects. The CCR are open to more engagement with the Health Board at PSB level to integrate approaches.

CB asked to be contacted as its important to support and collaborate, maybe through Public Health Wales.

MA enquired if there were any policing or security issues at the Aberthaw site.

JH explained that Erith have taken over interactions with police. When the development is taken forward, security services will need to be included, but currently the main focus is on asbestos, safety and being granted planning permission.

MA noted the police dealt with break-ins at Baglan Green Energy Park and it's important to get ahead of the curve at Aberthaw. MA informed that the Police service would be in a position to offer advice as there may be an issue of policing jurisdiction should nuclear power be pursued, which would necessitate the involvement of policing partners.

JH stated they have 24-hour security and a good relationship with local police. They have experienced break-ins and appreciate going forward they'll need discussions around policing and are keen for any advice.

SH sought clarification on funding arrangements and asked who the CCR is accountable to and who judges its success.

	<p>NH informed that there's a wide investment fund by the UK Government but also partly funded by the ten Local authorities. There is 25% left of the fund from the UK Government and more funding will be received from investment zones and shared prosperity funds. NH informed they have moved to a longer-term model. The ten leaders of the Local Authorities are the ultimate decision makers, but CCR are also subject to audits from Audit Wales, and a wider investment fund has a 5-yearly evaluation from UK Government which includes an in-depth analysis of spending.</p> <p>SH asked NH to clarify if the CCR was to be dissolved, who would decide.</p> <p>NH confirmed that Welsh Government would take this decision, but that the 10 Local Authorities and the UK Government are responsible for funding.</p> <p>LB stated that the CJC element of the CCR began in April, but that it has been impressive the way the ten Local Authorities are working constructively and collaboratively.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Move More Eat Well (MMEW) (Looking back and looking forward) - Rebecca Stewart, Principal Public Health Practitioner, Cardiff and Vale Public Health Team. Suzanne Wood, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Cardiff and Vale Public Health Team.</p> <p>CB explained the three priorities of the Amplifying Prevention programme: increasing vaccination, reducing smoking and reducing obesity. Advised partners must collectively collaborate so policies help people live as healthily as possible and protecting green spaces/play areas must be prioritised to allow movement. Recognised stretched budgets are a challenge but explained that it remains important that partners work through the Whole Systems Approach.</p> <p>SW informed that Move More Eat Well (MMEW) had been revised to Good Food and Movement. MMEW launched in July 2020 and is doing well in the Vale, however, a quarter of children are still not of a healthy weight, and this figure rises in the most the deprived areas. As such, there is a recognised need to prioritise tackling disadvantage. Through MMEW, an implementation group has been established, strengthening collaboration alongside the introduction of the active soles programme.</p> <p>RS stated that this year they brought stakeholders together for themed workshops to map the system and understand what affects health. They agreed a vision and goals, identified priority areas and enablers/challenges for moving forward. Following these workshops, the name of the programme was reviewed as it was felt that MMEW reinforces an individual approach, so 'Good Food and Movement' was suggested to better align, reflect and embed a Whole System Approach. The aim of the programme is to ensure opportunities for healthy food and movement for everyone no matter where and build this into the school system. The whole system approach is at the core of the revised framework which focuses on creating the right social environment, cultural and social norms and an enabling physical environment. The</p>	

	<p>2024-26 priorities are aligned to key themes and partners were consulted to ensure they're aligned with other plans for shared ownership. The focus is on collaboration and involving communities.</p> <p>SW informed that the team are looking to share the implementation plan shortly and review governance arrangements in order to strengthen them. This review will also ensure alignment between Good Food and Movement, the Food Vale Partnership, Healthy Travel Charter and Vale Food Strategy.</p> <p>LB noted the healthy life expectancy and economic disparity in health data is shocking and that the exploratory work in East Barry may be interesting.</p> <p>CB informed the three priorities were selected to reduce those inequalities.</p> <p>TB noted that it is important to emphasise the disparities in outcomes caused by deprivation and the refocused work is welcome and illustrates the integration of the PSB's work. There is a Steering Group on the PSB's Tackling Deprivation project later today and that will look at the health domain. There is an opportunity to work in a different way across these communities and Amplifying Prevention demonstrates the power in doing this. Food Vale is a good example of where organisational boundaries can be removed through teamwork between Public Health and Local Authority.</p> <p>LB noted a recent conversation on public access to space. The CCR can contribute on access to food through growing initiatives and highlighted St Brides Organic farm as an example.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Vale of Glamorgan Council Let's Talk About Life in the Vale Survey Update – Rob Jones, Operational Manager Corporate Communications, Participation, Equalities & Directorate Development Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>RJ explained that there is a growing pool of insight within the Vale into perceptions of public services and residents' experiences of life which will facilitate more targeted work. RJ explained that the PSB were updated on the Let's Talk results previously and that since, work has been undertaken to review some of the key differences in results across the different geographies and demographic groups in the Vale. Let's Talk is a large-scale survey run by the Council in collaboration with DataCymru about residents' experiences and priorities, undertaken in 2023, the survey received over 4,000 responses.</p> <p>The evidence showed people are generally happy with life in the Vale with a majority recommending it as a place to live. 11 Council services were ranked by importance and the Council priorities matched with results. Variations by demographics are evident, for example, the priority level for buying or renting a home and school access differs significantly by age. RJ advised that one of the key conclusions from the survey is for partners to consider that residents are not a homogenous group, but that experiences in the Vale can vary greatly.</p>	

	<p>RJ explained that the survey included questions on the extent to which residents can access activities. Significant differences were evident based on where residents lived, and the deprivation levels measured through the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation. Respondents from the Eastern Vale were more likely to engage in arts and culture and keep themselves healthy, there was an 11% negative differential for the most deprived areas for finding a good quality home. There were also significant variances by geography of concerns over wider issues. Those from the Eastern Vale were more concerned about climate, and those in Barry and the most-deprived areas the cost of living. There was a strong appetite for volunteering in the Vale with over half of respondents answering that they were involved in volunteering or would like to be. For under 34s this response dropped to 22% but the proportion that would like to be involved increased so the overall appetite remained the same. How to engage those people is something to be looked at for the partnership.</p> <p>RJ explained that these findings will help inform the Council’s Corporate Plan and the team will be working to utilise the results alongside other sources of insight. Follow-up engagement with groups which may not have had their say in the survey is occurring. Engagement sessions with unpaid carers showed accessing public spaces was important. RJ advised that improvements could be made in explaining to people the detail around services and how they’re delivered as well as improving public participation. Insight will be used for the new Corporate Plan, Well-being Objectives, Annual Self-assessment, departmental use, Equality Impact Assessments and transformation projects.</p> <p>LB noted the Forward Work Programme as an opportunity to bring available information together and reinforced the potential for pooling information.</p> <p>MA was supportive and noted the opportunity for partner insight to be brought together to improve our understanding of our communities.</p> <p>SH asked if it’s possible to produce statistics for individual communities like Barry and Llantwit Major so that town and community councils can look at relevant information.</p> <p>RJ noted that there were opportunities to review the results in such a way to support decision making.</p> <p>MML asked if this reflects the well-being objectives and does it show awareness of the Future Generations Act.</p> <p>RJ explained everyone may not be aware of the Act, but people share the Act’s principles, for example young people tend to view issues in a broader sense identifying cross cutting issues.</p>	<p>RJ</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>County of Sanctuary - Rob Jones, Operational Manager Corporate Communications, Participation, Equalities & Directorate Development Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>County of Sanctuary Submission Report (valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)</p>	

	<p>RJ updated on the Council’s work to be become a County of Sanctuary. It was explained there’s a national City of Sanctuary network for areas with a culture of hospitality for those seeking sanctuary from war or persecution. In March 2023, LB tabled a motion for the Vale of Glamorgan to move towards being part of the network and be accredited as a County of Sanctuary. This reflected the importance for the Vale to provide a welcoming environment, challenge discrimination and negative perceptions and ensure equality of opportunity for all residents. The Vale of Glamorgan Council has signed up for the Syrian Resettlement Programme, Homes for Ukraine Scheme and Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy. There are linkages between partners in this arena, including with South Wales Police and Public Health. The drafted submission to the City of Sanctuary network for the Vale was approved by Cabinet in July. RJ reiterated he’s confident the Vale will be accepted and accredited in the not-too-distant future.</p> <p>LB reinforced the importance of the Vale becoming a County of Sanctuary for all.</p> <p>SH asked if there was a role for Town and Community Councils as Barry would like to be a Town of Sanctuary.</p> <p>RJ stated that he would share insight with Town Councils on how to achieve the status. Different organisations have many touchpoints with communities who engage with the delivery of Council services and it’s important to link people to the appropriate support.</p> <p>LB stated once the County of Sanctuary status is achieved it can be publicised widely to bring others on board. Noted she is sure the people of communities around the Vale will be supportive.</p>	<p>RJ</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Age Friendly Update – Siân Clemett-Davies, Age Friendly Vale Officer, Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>SCD explained the Vale was awarded Age Friendly Status by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The Action Plan is informed by local and national data alongside engagement from workshops. The Age Friendly network now has over 400 members. The Plan for the next 3 years is aligned to eight commitments and twenty actions and can be found on the PSB’s website. The eight commitments are reflective of the domains suggested by the WHO.</p> <p>During the recent consultation period, a survey was used, and offline options were also given. SCD informed the meeting that eleven community feedback sessions, including in rural areas, were attended as well as 135 survey responses received. There was also a large reach on social media. 85% of people consulted agreed/strongly agreed the actions would help make the Vale Age Friendly. Those who disagreed didn’t think there was enough detail on how it would be achieved. Transport was a large concern as well as the availability of offline services. PSB reps will be sent the final draft and asked to provide feedback.</p> <p>JB informed that the 1st of October 2024 is International Older People’s Day and there will be a positive ageing campaign video. JB asked PSB</p>	

	<p>partners to share any ideas on to how to grow the campaign. Following changes to winter fuel payments, the Council’s Communications team, DWP, Older Peoples Champion, and the Council’s Revenue and Benefits team will be designing a targeted communications campaign to encourage greater uptake of pension credit by those eligible. JB enquired if any partners were aware of anything similar being done by their organisation.</p> <p>MML commented NRW can help spread the word of the campaign.</p> <p>CB asked if the UHW Dementia team had been connected.</p> <p>JB confirmed they had and some sit on the Age Friendly Vale network.</p>	
9.	<p>Vale of Glamorgan Council Annual Self-Assessment – Tom Bowring, Director of Corporate Resources, Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>TB explained the Self-Assessment was on the agenda to inform and consult partners on their views. The Self-Assessment is a statutory document and provides an annual review of at the Council’s performance, assessing how the Council delivered commitments in the Annual Delivery Plan. Last year the Council delivered 85% of targets and actions. The way the Council used resources to support ambitions was judged as ‘good’ overall with finance/procurement and engagement elements as ‘fair’. It’s an important document to identify what needs to be improved on and the new Corporate Plan will reflect the findings which will also inform the forthcoming Panel Performance Assessment.</p> <p>TB advised that all feedback and consultation is welcomed. The link to the report will be circulated.</p> <p>LB noted it’s important to get views as many views as possible on the self-assessment which had been considered by all five of the Council’s scrutiny committees. Any feedback comments should be given to TB or HM.</p>	TB
10.	<p>Forward Work Programme 2024 – Tom Bowring, Director of Corporate Resources, Vale of Glamorgan Council</p> <p>TB stated that details of consultation events happening across the Vale in October/November will be brought before the PSB and partners can contribute feedback.</p> <p>LB asked partners to feedback anything they want to be included in the coming year to HM.</p>	
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No AoB.</p>	
12.	<p>Date of next meeting – 11th December 2024</p> <p>Next meeting confirmed as the 11th of December 2024.</p>	

