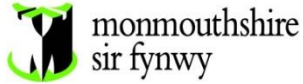


Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga
NP15 1GA

County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 1 June 2021

Dear Councillor

CABINET

You are requested to attend a **Cabinet** meeting to be held at **County Hall, Usk - Remote Attendance** on **Wednesday, 9th June, 2021**, at **3.00 pm**.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To consider the following reports (Copies attached):
 - i. **CORONAVIRUS STRATEGY: PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS** 1 - 32

Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: To provide an overview of progress on the Council's strategic aims set by Cabinet in the Winter Strategy.

To endorse an updated whole authority strategy for the summer and early autumn of 2021 that will sit alongside the Corporate Plan as we continue to deliver services within the context of the pandemic.

Authors: Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny
Emma Davies, Performance Officer

Contact Details: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk
emmadavies@monmouthshire.gov.uk
 - i. **A COUNTY OF SANCTUARY** 33 - 46

Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: To ensure that Monmouthshire plays its part in accommodating and supporting a small number of asylum seekers as part of the vision for Wales to be a nation of sanctuary providing a safe haven for those fleeing persecution.

Author: Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny

Contact Details: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk

i. **2020/21 REVENUE & CAPITAL OUTTURN STATEMENT**

47 - 100

Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the revenue and capital outturn position of the Authority based on capital slippage and reserve usage & deferment.

This report will also be considered by Select Committees as part of their responsibility to,

- assess whether effective budget monitoring is taking place,
- monitor the extent to which budgets are spent in accordance with agreed budget and policy framework,
- challenge the reasonableness of projected over or underspends, and
- monitor the achievement of predicted efficiency gains or progress in relation to savings proposals.

To provide an update on the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council.

Author: Peter Davies, Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Officer Resources)
Jonathan Davies, Acting Assistant Head of Finance (Deputy S151 officer)

Contact Details: peterdavies@monmouthshire.gov.uk
jonathandavies2@monmouthshire.gov.uk

i. **UK GOVERNMENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: LEVELLING UP FUND AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND**

101 -
116

Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: To consider the Council's proposals for the submission into two UK Government funding opportunities; Levelling Up Fund and Community Renewal Fund and provide a strategic overview of the emerging projects and priority areas.

Author: Frances O'Brien, Chief Officer Enterprise

Contact Details: francesobrien@monmouthshire.gov.uk

i. **SHIRE HALL / MONMOUTH MUSEUM**

117 -
138

Division/Wards Affected: Drybridge

Purpose: To update members with progress on the feasibility study to establish a new Cultural destination at the Shire Hall Monmouth including the relocation of the current Monmouth Museum and the review of museum collection storage.

To propose a phased approach to the new provision

Authors & Contact Details: Ian Saunders - Chief Operating Officer

MonLife –

Email: iansaunders@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07876545793

Matthew Lewis – Environment & Culture Manager MonLife

Email: matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07990783165

Tracey Thomas - Engagement and Workforce Development Manager
MonLife

Email: traceythomas@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07818 016924

i. **DIGITAL AND DATA**

139 -

Division/Wards Affected: All

184

Purpose: To provide an overview of changes to staffing arrangements which create a new Digital Design and Innovation Team, strengthen our information governance arrangements and broadens the remit of the existing performance team to include data analytics.

To seek approval for the strategic direction that will be taken by these re-purposed teams as they utilise investment agreed as part of the 2021-22 budget process to transform how we meet needs and achieve our purpose beyond the pandemic and into the next stage of the development of our organisation and county.

Author: Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny
Sian Hayward, Head of Digital

Contact Details: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk
sianhayward@monmouthshire.gov.uk

i. **WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP**

185 -

Division/Wards Affected: All

196

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting 1 held on the 15th April 2021 and meeting 2 held on the 13th May 2021

Author: David Jarrett – Senior Accountant – Central Finance Business Support

Contact Details: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Paul Matthews
Chief Executive

CABINET PORTFOLIOS

County Councillor	Area of Responsibility	Ward
Richard John	<p>Leader Lead Officer – Paul Matthews, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Whole Authority Strategy and Direction Whole authority performance review and evaluation CCR Joint Cabinet & Regional development Regional working Government relations LGA, WLGA and Public Service Board lead</p>	Mitchel Troy
Sara Jones	<p>Cabinet Member for Economy, Deputy Leader Lead Officer – Frances O’Brien</p> <p>Economic resilience and growth Place-making and Regeneration Town Centre investment and stewardship Development Management and Building Control Public relations / communications / marketing Skills and Employment Community broadband connectivity</p>	Llanover
Robert Greenland	<p>Cabinet Member for Governance & Strategic Planning, Deputy Leader Lead Officers – Frances O’Brien, Matthew Phillips, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Local Development Plan and Strategic Development Plan Council and Executive decision-making Constitution review and implementation of change Law, ethics and standards Democracy promotion and citizen engagement Community Hubs and Contact Centre Whole authority customer service and experience</p>	Devauden
Philip Murphy	<p>Cabinet Member for Resources Lead Officers – Peter Davies, Frances O’Brien, Matthew Phillips, Julie Boothroyd</p> <p>Finance Digital and Information technology (including SRS) Human Resources, Payroll, Health and Safety Emergency Planning Strategic Procurement Land and Buildings (including - Estate, Cemeteries, Allotments, Farms) Fleet Management</p>	Caerwent

	<p>School and Community Transport (including commissioning and delivery) Property Maintenance Facilities Management (including Building Cleaning and Catering)</p>	
Paul Pavia	<p>Cabinet Member for Education Lead Officers – Will McLean, Ian Saunders</p> <p>Early Years education All age statutory education Additional learning needs / Inclusion Post 16 entitlement / offer School Standards & Improvement (incl Education Achievement Service commissioning) Community learning 21st Century Schools Programme Youth service / Outdoor Education Service / Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme</p>	Larkfield
Lisa Dymock	<p>Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing and Social Justice Lead Officers – Frances O'Brien, Ian Saunders, Julie Boothroyd, Matt Gatehouse</p> <p>Community inequality (health, income, nutrition, disadvantage, discrimination, isolation) Advancement of the welsh language Housing Strategy, delivery /Homelessness prevention Trading standards / Environmental Health / Animal Welfare / Public Health / Licensing Community safety (including Police liaison) Registrars Service Physical activity (including Leisure centres, Sport, Active travel, Play) Countryside, biodiversity, public rights of way Tourist Information /Museums / Theatre / Attractions</p>	The Elms
Penny Jones	<p>Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health Lead Officer – Julie Boothroyd</p> <p>Children's services Fostering & adoption Youth Offending Service Adult Services Whole authority safeguarding (children and adults) Disabilities Mental Health</p>	Raglan

Jane Pratt	<p>Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Neighbourhood Services – Jane Pratt Lead Officer – Frances O’Brien, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Whole authority climate change / decarbonisation lead Strategic Integrated Transport (including transport planning) Traffic network management (including road safety, car parking & civil enforcement) Public Transport Highways – County Operations / South Wales Trunk Road Authority (SWTRA) Waste collection / Recycling / Street Cleansing / Street Lighting Grounds Maintenance, parks, open spaces and public conveniences Flood alleviation, management and recovery</p>	Llanelly Hill
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Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

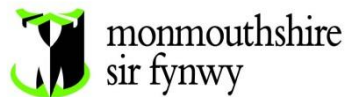
Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.



SUBJECT: CORONAVIRUS STRATEGY: PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 9 June 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide an overview of progress on the Council's strategic aims set by Cabinet in the Winter Strategy.
- 1.2 To endorse an updated whole authority strategy for the summer and early autumn of 2021 that will sit alongside the Corporate Plan as we continue to deliver services within the context of the pandemic.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet assure themselves of the progress made against the purpose and strategic aims that have been in place in the Winter Strategy and use this to inform future activity.
- 2.2 That Cabinet formally endorse the purpose and strategic aims, set out in the latest strategy which is attached as appendix 2 to cover the summer and early autumn of 2021.
- 2.3 That Cabinet commits to the development of a more fundamental medium term planning document to be considered in late autumn of this year.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Monmouthshire County Council has a long-standing purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities. Through the coronavirus pandemic, Cabinet has established a series of interim strategies to provide clarity and ensure accountability through the changing and challenging circumstances of the pandemic. This paper presents an opportunity to evaluate progress against those aims.
- 3.2 At its meeting on 16 December 2020, Cabinet set the Council's 'Winter Strategy' stating the Council's priorities for the months ahead based on the latest evidence. Through this time, the Council has continued to work with the citizens and communities of Monmouthshire to reduce the spread of COVID-19, continue to support and protect vulnerable people and rebuild a local economy that reduces inequalities within and between communities. The strategy set the purpose of the council: To protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services.
- 3.3 On 19 December, Wales entered alert level 4 following an increase in Covid-19 cases. The Council, working with partner agencies, was at the forefront of tracing and contacting residents who have been in contact with infected people to provide advice and request they self-isolate to try and minimise the spread of the virus. During this time, a number of services were required to close; these included schools (except for vulnerable learners and children of key workers), leisure centres, libraries, museums, indoor visitor attractions and youth centres.

- 3.4 Our organisation transitioned to these new arrangements to ensure vital services continued to operate and, where possible, arrangements were adapted to provide a level of service through digital means. As well as the short-term response required, the Council has also maintained a focus on medium-term recovery and long term sustainability. Appendix 1 outlines some of the activity that has been delivered over the last few months. These include:
- Continued coordination of the Test, Trace and Protect system for Monmouthshire, with 100% of eligible cases being contacted.
 - Supporting all our schools through another lockdown, ensuring face-to-face learning for the children of key workers and vulnerable learners, and providing an online learning resource for all other students.
 - Maintaining our front-door safeguarding services, child protection, support at home, and residential care, despite increased demand and complexity in cases.
 - Provisions to encourage active and healthy lifestyles, despite the required closure of our leisure services. A £1.4 million investment has been made into the active travel provision in the county to improve cycle routes, and MonLife have delivered online fitness classes, virtual coffee mornings and a home exercise social prescribing scheme.
 - Establishing the third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy, focussing on a number of targeted individual action plans, including Tackling Poverty and Inequality, Food Development and Homeless Transition.
 - A huge operation to safeguard residents and businesses against the floods in December, distributing thousands of sandbags and establishing a multi-agency Emergency Response Team to limit the impact of the adverse weather.
 - Supporting local businesses as they faced further closures, providing advice and guidance, and continuing the distribution of grants, amounting to a total of almost £40 million.
 - Protecting and enhancing our natural environment by planting over 7,000 trees, establishing four Libraries of Things, conducting reduced mowing activities across our green spaces, reducing carbon emissions and promoting biodiversity, and reinvigorating neglected grasslands to reintroduce native plants and wildlife.
- 3.5 In recent months, Covid-19 rates have fallen with Monmouthshire having some of the lowest infection rates in the United Kingdom. The Covid-19 vaccine roll-out continues and the council continues to work with ABUHB to support this. The virus has not gone away and the occurrence of COVID-19 mutations, variants of concern, and concerns about the impact these will have on vaccination efficacy and case rates emphasises the ongoing risk to residents and communities that needs to be managed.
- 3.6 Cabinet has agreed that a further revision of the purpose and strategic aims is developed, taking account of the latest evidence to guide future activity. This meeting presents the opportunity for Cabinet to formally endorse the strategy which will see us through the summer months and early autumn of 2021. The document is attached as appendix 2. Its emphasis has changed from earlier versions with a focus over the summer being very much about the health and wellbeing of citizens. Re-learning how to socialise and be comfortable in the presence of others is a necessary precondition if we are to successfully re-position the county to thrive in the circumstances of our time. Cabinet will bring forward this more fundamental piece of strategy in the autumn of this year.
- 3.7 For the summer months and early autumn of 2021 this purpose is underpinned by a number of strategic aims and the more detailed activity that supports these including:
- Improving infrastructure by fixing roads, investing in active travel, 20mph zones and high-speed broadband
 - Having a summer full of outdoor activities for children and young people
 - Helping local businesses trade successfully and safely
 - Creating employment/apprenticeships for local people

- Protecting / promoting our environment and ecology through investment and carbon reduction activity
- Introducing Repair Cafes and Library of Things to increase sharing and re-use of everyday items
- Maintaining social care services including child protection, support at home and residential care
- Ensuring learners are prepared for the assessment processes that replace GCSE, AS level or A level examinations in 2021

3.8 Cabinet will again keep this strategy and response under review, and adjust if necessary based on the latest evidence. We have the structures and mechanisms in place to track progress and ensure we remain focussed on our purpose. The Council's established performance framework continues to facilitate service planning, performance management and risk management to ensure that we are focused on what needs to happen and can demonstrate progress in a robust and transparent way.

4 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 A completed Equality & Future Generations Evaluation is attached. The strategic aims have been informed by the latest available evidence and government guidance. The detailed proposals that follow the strategic aims will all consider the impact and mitigating actions required to minimise the adverse consequences for those with protected characteristics.

4.2 The proposed strategic aims have taken equality and the components of well-being into account. The legislation and the council's responsibilities in all these areas will remain an important part of the Council's work as it continues to develop.

5 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The strategic aims are informed by the latest available evidence and government guidance, to inform the Council's ongoing activity. While a number of arrangements have continued to be developed and implemented to support these aims, the Council continues to operate in a dynamic environment and delivery of each aim is not without challenges and risks. The delivery will continue to be monitored and programmes will need to be flexible in timescale and content as circumstances and guidance changes.

6 EVALUATION CRITERIA

6.1 Where available, measures or milestones will be used to track and help evaluate progress on the actions that underpin the strategic aims. Nonetheless, it needs to be recognised that in a changing external environment it is likely that actions, and therefore the corresponding measures of progress, will need to be continuously reviewed.

6.2 The Council's established performance framework will continue to facilitate service planning, performance management and risk management across Council services.

7 REASONS:

7.1 To ensure that the council sets a clear direction and is accountable for the services it delivers during the pandemic alongside the longer term strategy set within its Corporate Plan.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 Delivery of the strategic aims will continue to have resource implications, including increased costs to maintain current service delivery and demands in setting up new or amended services. Close financial and budget monitoring will continue. A specific action has been set in the strategy on setting a budget for the financial year 2021/22 capable of delivering these priorities.

9 CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet

The strategic aims have been developed by Cabinet in discussion with Strategic Leadership Team.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Monmouthshire Winter Strategy
Monmouthshire Corporate Plan 2017/22

11 AUTHORS:

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny
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Appendix 1 – Overview of progress on the Monmouthshire County Council Winter Strategy

Aim: Provide clear, purposeful civic leadership	
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Ensuring that the democratic decision making process is fully operational with key decisions being taken in a timely way</p>	<p>In order to ensure timely decision making, arrangements were adapted to allow all council meetings to operate remotely via the Microsoft Teams app. The system is proving successful and all attendance at meetings is now possible via remote means. Work continues to review the learning from the new arrangements, and some changes will remain or will be built on where they are working well. Work is currently underway to develop the technical ability to deliver hybrid meetings from September 2021, which will accommodate both remote and physical attendance at meetings, in line with any ongoing restrictions.</p>
<p>Communicating clearly with citizens, representing their interests to others, including Welsh Government, and delivering on the priorities we have set for the county</p>	<p>Communication with residents and businesses continues to be a priority and information is being delivered across all media channels to ensure the broadest reach. Public events have been livestreamed to share business advice, financial engagement events were hosted online, and digital videos and illustrations have been used to convey local and national messages. Since the start of lockdown, Monty the ChatBot and Contact Centre staff have dealt with over 115,000 wide-ranging customer service enquiries, and the council’s Facebook following has increased by 29%, illustrating the valuable contribution being made to proactive and reactive information sharing.</p> <p>Despite the impact of the pandemic on citizens and council services continuing, we broadened our strategic aims at the beginning of the winter period to focus on more diverse priority areas, such as snow and flooding events, the impact of Britain leaving the EU, and our environmental and ecological responsibilities. Although the pandemic has been at the core of our activities, and safeguarding those who need support has been paramount, providing assistance for those facing other potential challenges has been an essential role, and one that our staff have worked extremely hard to maintain.</p>
Aim: Keep our communities, our people and our partners safe and healthy	
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Delivering an excellent Test, Trace and Protect system</p>	<p>Alongside our Gwent partners, we are coordinating the delivery of the Test, Trace and Protect system to identify residents who have been in contact with the virus to provide advice and request they self-isolate to minimise the spread of the virus. Since December, 100% of eligible cases have been contacted, 84% within 48 hours of contact with the virus. Furthermore, 100% of eligible close contacts of new cases have also been successfully contacted by the Test Trace and Protect system, 87% within 48 hours.</p>
<p>Working with the NHS to roll out a Covid vaccination programme</p>	<p>The vaccination strategy, being delivered by Aneurin Bevan UHB, has successfully administered over 540,000 vaccinations in our health board area, and we continue to support and add value where required. By 9 May, 93.9% of residents in Monmouthshire, aged 50 years and over, had received one dose of the vaccination, and 53.2% had received two doses.</p>
<p>Encouraging citizens to exercise, eat healthily, spend time safely with others, and get outdoors</p>	<p>Volunteers have been at the forefront of the effort to keep our communities safe, and the Our Monmouthshire Community Networking platform has been implemented to provide the digital tools for active citizens to support each other in their communities. We are providing direct specialist support to volunteer groups, advising on the support available to the volunteers and community members, and to date, 738 requests for support have been made.</p>

<p>Responding to winter emergencies, such as snow or flooding</p>	<p>Meetings are now taking place across the county, aimed at linking community members, groups and organisations to maximise collaboration and to pool resources.</p> <p>In order to encourage citizens to lead more active and healthy lifestyles, a £1.4 million investment has been made into the active travel provision in the county. Cycle routes and resources have been improved to promote the use of bikes as a mode of transport, and improvements have been made to the Safe Routes in Communities scheme, which helps children get to school safely and in a more healthy way. MonLife delivered weekly virtual fitness classes via Zoom, established 'virtual coffee mornings' and launched the 60+ virtual home exercise social prescribing scheme, which saw more than 80 residents sign up to exercise.</p> <p>The severe flooding in winter 2020 saw a huge effort from council staff to keep residents, buildings and businesses safe. The Operations Team distributed thousands of sand bags to those who were at imminent risk of flooding, and a multi-agency Emergency Response Team was set up to limit the impact of the adverse weather and keep residents safe. Some homes and networks suffered damage and work is continuing to repair this, although efforts have been hindered by the pandemic. Measures to increase proactive maintenance and gully cleansing have been agreed.</p> <p>To protect citizens from potential ice and snow, and to keep driving conditions as safe as possible, over 500km of roads were regularly pre-salted using approximately 60 tonnes of salt each time. In order to keep these roads hazard free, up to 12 people remain on call 24/7 throughout the winter season, to respond whenever the weather forecast and conditions dictate. Should a severe snow event occur, our emergency Winter Service Plan makes provision for a further 60 individuals, including grounds maintenance staff, farmers and contractors, to keep roads clear.</p>
<p>Aim: Provide direct support to those suffering from tragedy, loneliness, poverty and loss</p>	
<p>What we said we would do</p>	<p>What we have done</p>
<p>Supporting those that are lonely, lose their job, their home and/or cannot access food</p>	<p>Supporting individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless has continued as a priority and projects are ongoing to support those in need of assistance. There are currently 146 households in temporary accommodation in the county, a number that is continuing to increase, and often these individuals need specialist accommodation and specialist housing support. We have sourced grant funding to implement a range of proposals to provide the necessary specialist care, and Cabinet has dedicated additional funding for 2021/22, which will ensure we can assist those in need of support.</p> <p>To help those facing financial uncertainty, an online resource has been compiled in conjunction with partners, which gathers information on the support available into a single place. Information covers areas such as financial support available, and advice on council tax and the option to spread payments over longer periods. This has been successfully promoted on social media and has been shared with partners and all schools. The council continued to provide direct free school meal payments until schools reopened following the Easter break, which had increased to 1655 pupils being supported.</p> <p>The third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021 and built on learning from the pandemic. Whilst the aim of the strategy will remain the same, this third phase focusses on a number of</p>

	<p>targeted individual action plans. These include Tackling Poverty and Inequality, Food Development and Homeless Transition.</p> <p>The Communities for Work+ programme has received additional funding due to the impact of Covid 19, which has been used to upskill clients in order to meet local employment opportunities. It has enabled the team to provide better support for disabled people, and those with work limiting health conditions. It has also increased resources to overcome employment barriers, such as transport costs and interview clothing, and to provide training opportunities.</p>
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Aim: Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Maintaining our social care services including child protection, support at home, and residential care</p>	<p>Front-door safeguarding services are priority services and remain fully operational. The process for receiving and responding to referrals has not changed; arrangements have been adjusted, and where required, different solutions have been identified to deal with situations.</p> <p>The volume, type and source of referrals to Children’s Services continue to be monitored for any changes as coronavirus restrictions change. Risk assessments are being undertaken where any direct working/home visiting is required to follow up on protection concerns, or to provide interim safeguards as part of a care and support plan. A high number of referrals continue to be received and responded to in a timely manner so appropriate decisions can be made in relation to safeguarding. Since December, we have received an average of 108 contacts per week relating to supporting children and young people in Children’s social services, and the Advice Line took 238 calls from December to May.</p> <p>Pressure on Care at home services and reablement services has increased during the winter and the second wave of the pandemic, with an average of 26 requests per week to provide domiciliary care. All referrals are triaged at point of referral to ensure that those in most need are prioritised for assessment and intervention. Covid 19 has had some positive impact on our ability to recruit and a central team has been developed to manage the process. To safeguard both our staff and those being supported by our services, we have distributed 4.3 million items of PPE to social care settings.</p> <p>To safeguard residents in care homes, a testing programme has been established for all staff members, which has been administered by the council. Council staff have worked with We have been working with Public Health Wales and ABUHB, to establish clear parameters for residents in care homes being discharged from hospital to minimise the risk of further cases. Residents and staff in care homes for older adults, along with front line health and social care workers, were in the top priority groups for the COVID-19 vaccine roll out and, as such, have all been offered vaccinations. By the beginning of May, 93.9% of residents in Monmouthshire, aged 50 years and over, had received one dose of the vaccination, and 53.2% had received two doses.</p>

Aim: Ensure quality teaching and learning is available in school/out of school for all learners

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Providing high quality teaching and learning to all, whether in school or out</p>	<p>Following the transition of all students to online learning in January, face-to-face teaching was provided for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners, as well as learners needing to complete essential assessments. Following the reopening of schools to all pupils after the Easter break, school</p>

<p>Ensuring learners are well prepared for the assessment processes that replace GCSE, AS Level or A Level examinations in 2021</p>	<p>attendance in Monmouthshire was 93.6% in the first week of May, the highest attendance figure for schools in Wales.</p> <p>Schools are prioritising the wellbeing of all pupils as a pre-requisite for effective learning; this includes the adoption of a flexible approach to curriculum delivery, and the availability of additional support to raise standards for priority groups. The Educational Psychology Service and Healthy Schools Team are providing advice and support to schools to support the well-being of children and young people impacted by COVID-19. A weekly multi-agency Stable Lives and Brighter Futures meeting has been established to discuss and review support and provision for vulnerable pupils, and this ensures that identified pupils are regularly monitored, and provision is flexible to meet their needs.</p> <p>Following the announcement that there will be no GCSE, AS and A Level examinations in Summer 2021, schools have been provided with a range of support to prepare them for the new process for determining students' grade. Teaching the core content and aspects of each course remains a focus for exam students. EAS continue to provide ongoing challenge, monitoring and evaluation work in schools, with a continued focus on vulnerable learners. All schools will continue to receive a bespoke support package that compliments the priorities identified within their own School Development Plans, in line with the levels of support they require.</p> <p>The Education team has been working closely with schools and the Digital team to understand the requirement for IT equipment amongst learners. Laptops have been ordered and are being distributed.</p>
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Aim: To be environmentally and ecologically responsible in all of our actions

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Protecting/promoting our environment and ecology through investment, where necessary, and carbon reduction activity, where possible</p>	<p>We have continued to collect household waste throughout the pandemic, despite the pressure on services. An online booking system was introduced to safely reopen Household Waste Recycling Centres. This, along with a number of other changes, have been retained to help meet recycling targets, and to deliver efficiencies. These changes have resulted in an increase in our recycling rates from 65.6% in 2019/20 to 68.9% in 2020/21.</p> <p>Amendments to the green waste collection service have also been implemented, including the frequency of collections, and the annual charge for customers. We have seen increased recycling rates during the pandemic; data will continue to be reviewed to establish the impact of these changes to identify any learning that can be taken forward.</p> <p>A successful Circular Economy bid for £626,000 was announced in January 2021. This has enabled us to launch a new re-use shop at Five Lanes Recycling Centre, and four Libraries of Things in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth, with associated Repair Cafes and other repair and reuse projects.</p> <p>Over 7000 trees have been planted this year, and schools have been provided with raised beds to plant seeds, which will then be regrown on sites when more mature. Other projects include 'Neglected Grasslands' and 'Resilient Grasslands', aimed at regenerating green areas and promoting biodiversity. When grass mowing resumed following its suspension due to Covid-19, almost a third of areas within our parks and open spaces were left uncut, in addition to the original 3 million metres squared already being managed more sustainably with less mowing. Teams continue to deliver reduced mowing schedules to</p>

	<p>public open spaces, and we are promoting ‘No Mow May’, all of which have contributed to reduced carbon emissions.</p> <p>Lockdown saw a considerable reduction in driving and increased walking within areas local to home. Numerous projects have been supported in Monmouth and Caldicot to improve the active travel offer in the county, and a total investment of £1.4m has been made in the last financial year, the biggest investment into Active Travel in Monmouthshire. Cycling capacity has been increased in town centres, public bike pumps have been installed, and a contraflow cycle lane has been introduced in Abergavenny through Covid response funding. A clear strategic focus is now set, primary routes identified and a clear vision established to develop future routes in order to encourage a change in transport mode for citizens.</p>
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Aim: Support our local businesses and towns centres

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Supporting businesses to trade safely and signposting them to financial support that can assist their survival</p> <p>Helping businesses with the transition process following Britain leaving the EU, highlighting regulatory changes that create obstacles/opportunities</p> <p>Distributing monies from national business support schemes to qualifying local businesses</p>	<p>Following the announcement of a national lockdown in December, and the closure of non-essential retail, leisure and hospitality sectors, digital events were held to provide advice and guidance to businesses. 176 small businesses signed up to the events and were able to ask questions about grant availability and eligibility criteria. A new allocation of business grants were successfully distributed to eligible business, taking the total number of support payments made to 6,478 since the first lockdown, amounting to £39.18 million in support. For those businesses not able to access funding, we continue to liaise with Welsh Government to ensure that businesses are supported as much as possible.</p> <p>As restrictions began easing in March, and Wales moved from alert level 4 to alert level 2, we promoted our Visit Monmouthshire campaign to highlight the services and attractions available for visitors to the county. We promoted businesses as they prepared to reopen via a new Spring ‘Shop Local’ campaign to encourage visitors back to our town centres. The ‘re-opening towns’ projects have sought to make our high streets safer during the pandemic, via mechanisms such as one way streets, and widened pedestrianised areas. Work continues in this area, in close consultation with residents and businesses.</p> <p>To support residents and businesses through the transition process following Britain leaving the European Union, an EU Transition webpage was established, and information has also been shared on social media.</p>

Aim: Maintain a competent, motivated organisation with the capability and capacity to deliver

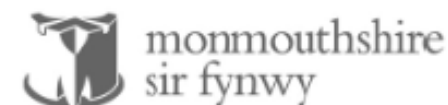
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Maintain a competent, motivated organisation with the capability and capacity to deliver</p> <p>Setting a budget for the financial year 2021/22 capable of delivering these priorities</p>	<p>Staff have embraced new ways of working to keep themselves, colleagues and residents safe while delivering the many services our communities rely on. We have ensured that staff have a range of support on wellbeing, have access to the right Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and can receive a test if they display symptoms. We have distributed approximately 4.3 million items of PPE for the provision of social care in the county. The number of days per full-time equivalent employee lost due to sickness during the year averaged 11.1, which is very close to the figure seen in the previous year.</p> <p>The total net revenue forecast outturn for 2020/21 at month 9 exhibited a COVID related over spend of £5.28m, which COVID-19 support funding was expected to cover. The immediate focus for the Council was to manage the</p>

significant in-year service pressures it faced, which was achieved through cost reduction and in taking immediate steps to curtail non-essential expenditure.

The in-year over spend, whilst being managed via a recovery plan. The council subsequently received £5.29m of Welsh Government Covid-19 hardship following the month 9 forecasts. Coupled with increases in grant income during the final quarter, this has enabled the budget to move to a surplus position at year end that will be reported separately and in more detail. Cabinet set a draft budget for 21-22 which underwent public consultation before being passed by Council in March.

**Re-emergence – our strategy
for SPRING AND SUMMER
2021**

It's been a tough 18 months for everyone. We have lived apart for too long. We change that now. This strategy is centred on bringing people safely back together by supporting friendship circles, neighbourhoods and communities to feel safe, confident and happy together.



OUR PURPOSE

We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.

OUR VALUES

Openness: We are open and honest. People have the chance to be involved and tell us what matters

Fairness: We provide opportunities for people and communities to thrive. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently.

Flexibility: We are flexible, enabling delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork: We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved. We will make the best of the ideas, and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

OUR DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Working with and alongside local communities
- Being innovative and creative
- Learning and adjusting in real time
- Keeping our communities and people safe
- Being kind

OUR STRATEGIC AIMS

- Provide clear and purposeful civic leadership
- Promote Monmouthshire as a beautiful destination for visits and staycations
- Champion the interests of local businesses
- Market our town centres as wonderful places to shop or spend time with friends
- Encourage people to be active and improve their health, fitness and general wellbeing
- Provide direct support to those suffering from loneliness, hardship and loss
- Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded
- Ensure quality teaching and learning is available for all learners
- Decarbonise our own operations and help communities take positive action on climate change
- Maintain a competent, motivated organisation with the capability and capacity to deliver

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Taking care of our workforce so they can support you
- Ensuring our democratic process is fully operational
- Communicating clearly with you and always representing your interests to others
- Improving infrastructure by fixing roads, investing in active travel, 20mph zones and high-speed broadband
- Having a summer full of outdoor activities for children and young people
- Promoting and protecting our natural environment to encourage walking and outdoor sports
- Improving our leisure centres in Abergavenny, Caldicot and Chepstow
- Helping local businesses trade successfully and safely
- Creating employment/apprenticeships for local people
- Protecting / promoting our environment and ecology through investment and carbon reduction activity
- Introducing Repair Cafes and Library of Things to increase sharing and re-use of everyday items
- Prioritising our excellent Test, Trace & Protect System
- Providing support and creating opportunities for volunteers making a difference in their community
- Maintaining social care services including child protection, support at home and residential care
- Ensuring learners are prepared for the assessment processes that replace GCSE, AS level or A level examinations in 2021
- Preparing schools for the new curriculum that will be launched in 2022

Re-emergence – our strategy for SPRING AND SUMMER 2021

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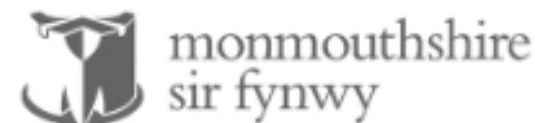
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<p>Name of the Officer completing the evaluation Richard Jones & Hazel Clatworthy</p> <p>Phone no: 01633 740733 E-mail: richardjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>To endorse the interim Coronavirus Strategy to guide the Council's activity through the next phase of service delivery during the pandemic.</p>
<p>Name of Service area</p> <p>All services</p>	<p>Date: 22/5/2021</p>

1. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

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Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	<p>Our purpose is 'We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.'</p> <p>Many of our aims are focused on the wellbeing of young people and older people which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular</p>	<p>Evidence has shown that older age is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>The significant time away from school will have affected the learning trajectory of many learners and this is not likely to be a uniform impact with disadvantaged pupils likely to be impacted upon more significantly.</p> <p>The pandemic could also impact on peoples mental health and feelings of loneliness.</p>	<p>Schools are prioritising the wellbeing of all pupils as a pre-requisite for effective learning; this includes the adoption of a flexible approach to curriculum delivery, and the availability of additional support to raise standards for priority groups. The Educational Psychology Service and Healthy Schools Team are providing advice and support to schools to support the wellbeing of children and young people impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home, and residential</p>

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	<p>“Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded”.</p> <p>We have continued to provide vital Adult and Children’s social care</p> <p>All schools in Monmouthshire re-opened after Easter in line with Welsh Government guidance.</p> <p>We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.</p>	<p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>care, we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as it continues.</p> <p>We have continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens. Some services are seeing an increase in demand that is putting pressure on services, particularly in adult’s social care which continues to be managed.</p> <p>We are developing, with our public sector partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long-term benefit.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
Disability	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aim “Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded” in particular is</p>	<p>Evidence has shown that certain underlying health conditions are associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Coronavirus pandemic is likely to have a social impact on disabled people including effecting well-being, concerns about their health and access to health care and access to essentials.</p> <p>It could also impact on disabled peoples mental health and feelings of loneliness.</p>	<p>In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home, and residential care we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as it continues.</p> <p>We have continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens. Some services have seen an increase in demand that is putting pressure on services, particularly in adult’s social care which continues to be managed.</p>

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>focused on supporting the wellbeing of people with disabilities.</p> <p>We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support.</p> <p>We have continued to provide vital Adult and Children’s social care.</p> <p>We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.</p>	<p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>As part of the Council’s continued commitment to Social Justice, the third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021.</p> <p>Modifications have continued to be made to support the safe operation of town centers, including making some adjustments to initial schemes based on feedback to ensure they are safe and accessible places for people with disabilities.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
Gender reassignment	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	None identified at this stage	<p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>

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Marriage or civil partnership	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion</p>	Coronavirus regulations have impacted on Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	<p>The marriage and civil partnership service operated by the authority's Registrars service has provided the service, as permitted in adherence to the latest COVID-19 legislation and guidelines.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
Pregnancy or maternity	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	Pregnant women have been included in the list of people at moderate risk (clinically vulnerable) of COVID-19.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Race	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	<p>Evidence has shown that ethnicity is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>There has been a focus on understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups, including inequalities affecting BAME groups in the UK.</p> <p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>The Council is completing a response to the consultation on the Welsh Government Race Equality Action Plan. The action plan includes significant actions for local government.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>

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Religion or Belief	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	<p>Under Coronavirus regulations places of worship have been closed for periods or operating with limited numbers.</p> <p>Places of worship play an important role in providing spiritual leadership for many individuals.</p>	<p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
Sex	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	<p>Evidence has shown that male sex is associated with greater risk of COVID-19.</p> <p>The pandemic may have an impact on gender inequality, for example with childcare responsibilities and employment prospects.</p> <p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills support.</p> <p>As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, the third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Sexual Orientation	<p>Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	None identified at this stage	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</p>	<p>Our purpose is we want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p> <p>Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help.</p> <p>We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support and have continued to deliver vital services to achieve this.</p> <p>A weekly multi-agency Stable Lives and Brighter Futures meeting has been established to discuss and review support and provision for vulnerable pupils, and this ensures that identified pupils are regularly monitored, and provision is flexible to meet their needs.</p> <p>We have made free school meal payments directly to the families of eligible pupils</p>	<p>Analysis has shown the association between deprivation and the risk of COVID-19.</p> <p>Economic disadvantage is also associated with other health risks such as obesity and, diabetes, which increase the risk of disease severity.</p> <p>There is evidence that the economic impact of the virus disproportionately affects those working in lower-paid sectors, which can exacerbate issues of poverty and inequality. Those on lower incomes are less-likely to have access to technology and outdoor spaces.</p> <p>There is evidence that the pandemic has a bigger impact on the well-being of those in more deprived communities.</p> <p>There is a risk that those already facing poverty and inequality will face a worsening situation due to increased financial hardship, health deterioration and a decline in educational attainment.</p>	<p>Undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target pro-active responses.</p> <p>As part of the Council’s continued commitment to Social Justice, the third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021 and built on learning from the pandemic. Whilst the aim of the strategy will remain the same, this third phase focusses on a number of targeted individual action plans. These include Tackling Poverty and Inequality, Food Development and Homeless Transition.</p> <p>We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support. We are developing, with our public sector partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long-term benefit.</p> <p>New guidance seeks to extend our homelessness offer to provide suitable long</p>

	<p>Shelter has being sourced and provided for homeless and vulnerable people in the county, helping to ensure their safety during this time. Additional investment has been made in services for homeless people.</p> <p>We have helped to coordinate community volunteering and support local food banks. There has been a huge response from residents to volunteer across Monmouthshire and these efforts have been integral in supporting those most in need in our communities during the pandemic.</p> <p>As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills support.</p> <p>To help those facing financial uncertainty, an online resource has been compiled in conjunction with partners, which gathers information on the support available into a single place</p>	<p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>term housing for all those accommodated in temporary housing. Plans are being explored to meet this requirement.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
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3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

<p>How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:</p>	<p>Describe the positive impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>Describe the negative impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts</p>
<p>Policy Making</p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably</p>	<p>The use of welsh language in service delivery will continue to be integral. Systems in place to provide the support required have continued to operate eg translation services, proof checking, advice and guidance.</p>	<p>The significant time away from school and classes will have affected the learning trajectory of many learners. Welsh language skills, particularly of pupils in welsh-medium education, may be impacted as they may have limited opportunity to use the language at home particularly if no one in their home speak welsh.</p>	<p>Following the transition of all students to online learning in January, face-to- face teaching was provided for children of critical workers and vulnerable learners, as well as learners needing to complete essential assessments. To assist this, we established digital learning technologies and approaches.</p> <p>The learning of languages online has been reported as being popular during lockdown, with learning Welsh online seeing an increase in demand. The Council is considering how it can continue to adjust the Welsh language learning provision it provides.</p> <p>The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>

<p>Operational</p> <p>Recruitment & Training of workforce</p>	<p>Training courses are still being provided for both the public and officers of the council online rather than face to face in the classroom.</p>	<p>Recruitment of Welsh speakers remains a challenge for the council.</p>	<p>Continue to review welsh language skills requirements of the workforce and options to attract applicants.</p> <p>Pilot a fast track course to endeavor to boost welsh language skills of our existing workforce.</p>
<p>Service delivery</p> <p>Use of Welsh language in service delivery</p> <p>Promoting use of the language</p>	<p>The Welsh Language standards are applied as allocated to Monmouthshire County Council. The language is promoted through the application of the Welsh Language Standards, the website, correspondence and celebration of Welsh Language events throughout the year.</p>	<p>Recruitment of Welsh speakers remains a challenge for the council.</p>	<p>Continue to review welsh language skills requirements of the workforce and options to attract applicants.</p> <p>Pilot a fast track course to endeavor to boost welsh language skills of our existing workforce.</p>

24. **Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!



<p>Well Being Goal</p>	<p>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</p>	<p>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>COVID-19 will inevitably have a significant impact on the economy of Monmouthshire. We have been doing all that we can to help reduce the impact on local businesses through contacting local businesses advising them they were eligible for financial support, and paying grants to local businesses. This work and advice continues with each new phase of support and funding.</p>	<p>Officers from departments across council are working together with businesses to ensure that as regulations allow our town centers are able to operate safely, whilst ensuring the safety of staff and customers.</p> <p>We promoted businesses as they prepared to reopen via a new Spring 'Shop Local' campaign to encourage visitors back to our town centers.</p>




Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
		<p>We have continued to administer payment of a range of financial support under each of the government grant schemes.</p> <p>The strategic aims include:</p> <p>Promote Monmouthshire as a beautiful destination for visits and staycations</p> <p>Champion the interests of local businesses</p> <p>Market our town centers as wonderful places to shop or spend time with friends</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>Air quality has improved through the reduction of traffic, and people have become more aware of the wildlife around them. One by product of redeploying grounds staff to waste has been a reduction in mowing and an increasing in wildflowers and pollinators. projects include 'Neglected Grasslands' and 'Resilient Grasslands', aimed at regenerating green areas and promoting biodiversity.</p>	<p>Delaying the start of mowing and reducing the areas mown have been adopted for the long term.</p> <p>We were successful in obtaining funding to encourage active travel to continue, whilst allowing space for social distancing. Other active travel funding has also been secured.</p> <p>The strategic aims include; Decarbonise our own operations and help communities take positive action on climate change.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Saving lives and protecting health has been the number one driver through the pandemic, and this has shaped and informed service provision, PPE provision, new ways of working etc.</p>	<p>Ongoing work will continue to focus on protecting health in line with the latest legislation and guidance.</p> <p>Work to encourage healthy modes of travel such as walking and cycling will continue to be developed in the</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>There has also been a recognition of the importance of mental well-being at this time, with measures such as the Digital Cwtch and the Go To Team for staff and important messages about mental health going out on social media.</p>	<p>short term through WG funding and for the longer term through our Active Travel programme.</p> <p>The strategic aims include: Encourage people to be active and improve their health, fitness and general wellbeing.</p> <p>Making staff, residents and young people aware of the various mental health support that is available to them continues.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>There has been a huge response from residents to volunteer across Monmouthshire and these efforts have been integral in supporting those most in need in our communities during the pandemic.</p> <p>One positive to emerge from the pandemic has been the level of community involvement and volunteering. The Community and partnerships team have had a key role to play in supporting this community activity.</p>	<p>Our Monmouthshire digital platform has been relaunched and will provide a sustainable way of linking communities and building on our social capital.</p> <p>We have launched, with our public sector partners, place based community support networks to work with community volunteers to identify local needs and issues and develop collaborative solutions.</p>
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>Fewer people have been travelling by road or by air, which has had huge air quality benefits globally.</p> <p>Data shows that compared with previous years recycling rates are up and waste collected is down. A number of changes to service provision have been agreed which will help to ensure that these trends continue.</p>	<p>The strategic aims include; Decarbonise our own operations and help communities take positive action on climate change.</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>Heritage and cultural assets such as libraries, leisure centres and visitor attractions have been re-opened in line with legislation in a Covid secure way, and services</p>	<p>The learning of languages online has been reported as being popular during lockdown, with learning Welsh online seeing an increase in demand. The Council is</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	<p>have been adjusted to find different ways of delivering the service, such as the Request and Collect service for the library.</p> <p>MonLife have continued to use digital channels to continue to promote participation in physical activity.</p>	considering how it can adjust the Welsh language learning provision it provides.
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>Much work has gone on to support more vulnerable people in our communities. This has included education provision for vulnerable learners, provision of emergency food parcels and free school meal payments.</p> <p>Evidence has shown age, underlying health conditions and ethnicity, along with other factors, is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on these risks, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.</p>	<p>Vital social care services, including child protection, care at home and residential care will continue.</p> <p>We will undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target proactive responses.</p> <p>As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, the third iteration of the Social Justice Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021 and built on learning from the pandemic. Whilst the aim of the strategy will remain the same, this third phase focusses on a number of targeted individual action plans. These include Tackling Poverty and Inequality, Food Development and Homeless Transition.</p>

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p data-bbox="324 432 515 655">Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p data-bbox="147 646 280 675">Long Term</p>	<p data-bbox="544 260 1305 411">Whilst rapid, short term decisions have had to be made over recent months, consideration of the longer term has continued, for example through the prioritisation of maintaining our financial sustainability.</p> <p data-bbox="544 451 1317 563">There is also a recognition that dealing with how to manage the virus itself is not just a short term issue and is likely to impact on the way we deliver services for many months or even years.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 260 2063 467">There is a recognition that COVID-19 will have a long term impact on our communities, and an understanding that our actions will need to think and plan for the things we will be doing to mitigate the impact of the virus in the short term while continuing to focus on the things we need to have in place for long-term well-being and prosperity.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 512 2101 715">Our Corporate Plan Annual Report and PSB Annual Report have both incorporated the impact of Covid 19 and next year's annual reports and further development of the Wellbeing Assessment will focus on what the longer term impacts of the pandemic have been in order to inform the next Wellbeing Plan.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 762 2096 863">Despite many challenges, efforts have resulted in new ways of doing things, some of which can form part of a lasting legacy of transformation with needs being met in new ways.</p>
 <p data-bbox="331 890 510 1114">Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p data-bbox="129 1104 293 1133">Collaboration</p>	<p data-bbox="544 874 1312 986">We set a strategic aim to keep our communities, our people and our partners safe and healthy. Rapid working with multiple partners has been key to our COVID-19 response.</p> <p data-bbox="544 1026 1294 1137">We have continued to work with our public sector partners via the Gwent Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG) to provide a joined up response across our area.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 874 2078 1010">This collaboration will continue to be key in mitigating the impact of the virus in the short term and focusing on the things we need to have in place for long-term well-being and prosperity.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 1050 2085 1118">The development of the new Community Support Networks will formalise a place based approach to partnership working.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p data-bbox="349 363 517 544">Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p data-bbox="141 584 297 608">Involvement</p>	<p data-bbox="544 256 1305 408">As demonstrated through the huge amount of volunteer effort, involvement of the wider community has been key to our response. The development of Community Support Networks aims to build on that social capital.</p> <p data-bbox="544 448 1290 560">Members have had a number of member seminars and the continuation of democratic meetings has ensured that elected members have continued to be involved.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 256 2096 320">Our Monmouthshire will be a key tool to continuing to engage and involve our communities and volunteers.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 360 2067 464">The development of the new Community Support Networks will be key to building on community involvement in our communities.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 504 2085 711">Involvement remains important to our initiatives for example engagement with residents and business on Town centers re-opening and as new initiatives are taken e.g. active travel submissions to WG, involvement and engagement of the community has been and will continue to be a central part of the way we work as an organisation.</p>
 <p data-bbox="349 727 506 1023">Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p data-bbox="152 967 293 991">Prevention</p>	<p data-bbox="544 727 1323 791">Reducing the spread of COVID-19 has been and continues to be a key driver.</p> <p data-bbox="544 831 1323 1031">Our purpose is We want Monmouthshire to once again be an ambitious place full of hope and enterprise. We want your county to be a fair and sustainable place where people care about each other and you feel safe. We want Monmouthshire to be a place you are proud to call home.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 727 2063 823">The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>
 <p data-bbox="349 1070 517 1334">Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p> <p data-bbox="159 1318 300 1342">Integration</p>	<p data-bbox="544 1070 1323 1222">We are working closely with partners, businesses and communities to ensure that our actions protect people's health, whilst at the same time making sure that we think about impacts on our communities, environment, culture and economy.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 1070 2063 1166">The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.</p>

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	<p>Safeguarding has remained an essential part of our delivery supporting adults and children in Monmouthshire .</p> <p>Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help and safeguarding remains central to the authority’s work, which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular ‘Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded’</p>	<p>The pandemic has put families under increased strain and increased risks to vulnerable individuals at the same time as decreasing the visibility of children and adults at risk.</p> <p>The impact of the lock-down has meant that harmful behaviours, abuse and neglect including domestic abuse can remain hidden and there is a risk child welfare concerns / adult at risk safeguarding concerns are not recognised or referred.</p> <p>There will have been pressure on families experiencing the impact of ‘lock down’ where there will be additional worries around finances, the loss of employment and economic uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support and basic amenities, access to education alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself.</p> <p>There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.</p>	<p>Through the Coronavirus pandemic Safeguarding remains an essential part of our delivery supporting adults and children in Monmouthshire. Arrangements have been adjusted, where required, different solutions have been needed to deal with situations during the pandemic.</p> <p>Continuing to extend safeguarding awareness and access to online /virtual training will provide some extra support in these times and potentially into the future.</p> <p>In order to provide vital safeguarding services for all those who need them we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as restrictions change and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.</p> <p>There has been a significant volunteer response to Covid-19 pandemic, work will be required to continue to support an increased volunteer network and ensure longer term arrangements are in place including support on their safeguarding responsibilities.</p>

<p>Corporate Parenting</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting has remained an essential part of our delivery.</p> <p>Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help and corporate parenting remains essential.</p>	<p>There will have been pressure on families experiencing the impact of the pandemic where there will be additional worries around finances, the loss of employment and economic uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support and basic amenities, access to education, alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself.</p> <p>Families who are caring for individuals with heightened or additional needs such as mental health issues, additional learning needs or disabilities may experience these pressures even more intensely.</p> <p>There is a risk of possible disruption to Foster placements and/or carer recruitment</p> <p>There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.</p>	<p>Arrangements have been adjusted, where required, different solutions have been needed to deal with situations during the pandemic.</p> <p>Continuing to extend awareness and access to online /virtual training and support will provide some extra support in these times and potentially into the future.</p> <p>In order to fulfil vital corporate parenting responsibilities for all those who need them we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as restrictions change and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.</p>
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7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

Evidence generated locally, regionally, nationally and globally continues to be used to inform the delivery of the strategic aims and is reflected in this assessment.

Existing mechanisms such as the Public Service Board’s (PSB) Well-being Assessment remains an important lens for understanding well-being in Monmouthshire. Harnessing the latest views, evidence and thinking on issues of importance to and in our communities is important to make sure that the aims remain relevant to the significant issues for well-being in Monmouthshire.

The data and evidence to better understand the Covid-19 virus is rapidly developing as is data, evidence and research on the well-being impact of the pandemic. There is still much to learn and understand, some of which will not become clearer until the longer term, although there is an ever expanding and continually developing evidence base that can be utilised.

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

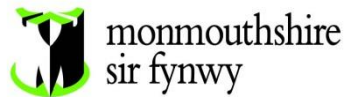
This is an evaluation of the process of producing the strategic aims, rather than the more specific action that support them. Specific programmes of work aimed at achieving the aims will have associated Future Generations evaluations where they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision. The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
To support this work we will ensure we have the supporting structures and mechanisms in place to track our progress, assess impact and ensure we remain focused on our purpose	Ongoing	Policy and Performance Team

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1.	Cabinet	9 June 2021	



SUBJECT: A COUNTY OF SANCTUARY

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 9th June 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

To ensure that Monmouthshire plays its part in accommodating and supporting a small number of asylum seekers as part of the vision for Wales to be a nation of sanctuary providing a safe haven for those fleeing persecution .

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the authority formally confirms a commitment in principle to playing its part in the national scheme to offer accommodation to those seeking asylum while their claims are processed, becoming a county of sanctuary for those fleeing persecution.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 There is a recognition that pressure on the asylum system has been increasing steadily for several years. Accordingly there is a desire from both the UK and Wales Governments to increase the number of local authority areas supporting the temporary accommodation of asylum seekers while their claims are processed.
- 3.2 There are presently five local authorities in Wales involved in the national scheme. While Monmouthshire is not one of these, our county has a strong record of providing support and hospitality to those in greatest need. This has included playing a role in helping settling people from Afghanistan facing persecution in their homeland after working as translators for the British armed forces as well as assisting in the Syrian Resettlement Programme.
- 3.3 Any Monmouthshire involvement will be proportionate to the size of the county. While the cities of Newport, Cardiff and Swansea have supported many hundreds of people, Conwy, with a population a little larger than Monmouthshire has accommodated six people as part of its commitment to the scheme. While we do not have exact figures at this stage, this is the sort of number we envisage for Monmouthshire. It's also important to remember that once claims are decided people may not choose to remain in Monmouthshire but can re-locate to other parts of the UK which is what we have found with previous schemes.

- 3.4 It is recognised that there will be concerns in some communities about the impact on local public services such as housing and school places. While the numbers will be small it will still be important to ensure that these matters are addressed as our local approach is developed.
- 3.5 Councils have raised a number of questions where more information was needed from the Home Office, and discussions are ongoing at both UK and Wales levels. These include:
- Funding, including to build capacity and more broadly in terms of support services that would be needed;
 - Ensuring a partnership approach between national and local government to ensure we are able to influence how dispersal happens locally;
 - The importance of sharing information and data, including clear and well-understood and followed safeguarding processes.
- 3.6 Following this paper, officers will engage with the relevant agencies and partners on key issues. This will include the availability of accommodation; health services and access to language support. It is likely that accommodation will be located in towns to ensure that families arriving have access to local amenities and support networks.
- 3.7 Alongside formal partnerships it is important to recognise the welcome afforded to people settling in Monmouthshire. One example being the Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary which helps people and challenging misconceptions about refugees and asylum seekers.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 There are a number of equalities and safeguarding issues concerning the safe introduction of this programme. These include some of the difficulties that will be associated with arrivals living in a new cultural context which could cause difficulties settling into new communities. Asylum seekers will be unable to work and will not receive the same level of financial support as UK residents. They will be at greater risk of poverty and the associated disadvantages and lack of opportunities. Given the nature of their arrival in the UK some may need emotional support or access to mental health services
- 4.2 At this stage a decision is being sought in principle to participate in the scheme and further research will be undertaken to refine and improve the impact assessment should be recommendations be approved.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 The two clear options are either to participate in the scheme or not. There is a strong desire to engage positively in discussions and extend the offer of assistance to people who find themselves in the most difficult of circumstances. Not engaging would place increased burden on a small number of locations the point where the system become unsustainable, the likely outcome of this being that we would find ourselves subject to a mandated approach with opportunity to engage and shape the scheme.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

6.1 Evaluation criteria will be identified as the scheme is developed. These are likely to include measures related to access to housing, health services and education.

7. REASONS:

To ensure that Monmouthshire is able to play its part in accommodating its share of people fleeing persecution and ensuring that responsibility is shared across Wales and the UK

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

We will continue to engage with partners regarding the costs of the scheme. While it will require some officer capacity it is anticipated that the financial costs will be borne by the UK Government.

9. CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet
Head of Enterprise and Community Animation
Housing and Communities Manager
Tackling Poverty and Inequality Manager
Community Cohesion Officer

Following consultation reference was added to the need to accommodate people close to local amenities and the potential need to ensure access to emotional support and mental health services for those who had experienced trauma while fleeing their homes.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHOR:

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny

12. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644397

E-mail: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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<p>Name of the Officer Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Phone no: 01633 644397 E-mail: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>To ensure that Monmouthshire plays its part in accommodating and supporting a small number of asylum seekers as part of the vision for Wales to be a nation of sanctuary providing a safe haven for those fleeing persecution .</p>
<p>Name of Service area: Policy Performance and Scrutiny</p>	<p>Date: 23/5/21</p>

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Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	It is likely that the resettlement will involve families with younger children who are likely to benefit positively from the opportunities available in Monmouthshire.	Children arriving from other nations may take time to adjust, for example to new school environments and learning a new language.	Ensure that we work with partners across all services to maximize the opportunities available to people of all ages who participate in the scheme. Plan for any new pupils and engage with local schools.
Disability	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage.	Having experienced trauma in their home nations new arrivals may have acute mental health issues.	We need to ensure that any arrivals with disabilities are able to access appropriate health services.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Gender reassignment	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Marriage or civil partnership	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Pregnancy or maternity	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Race	The scheme will offer improved opportunities to people of different nationalities.	Crossing cultures can be difficult in any context. Newly-arrived asylum seekers may have limited knowledge of UK culture and could experience difficulties settling into local communities.	<p>There is the potential to work with local groups such as Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary which helps people and challenging misconceptions about refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Officers and partner agencies need to to anticipate where important differences or misunderstandings might occur with issues such as religion and ethnicity, food and drink, naming conventions, marriage, and child safeguarding.</p> <p>Many asylum will not be able to read or speak English, so putting in place arrangements interpreting and translating is essential</p>

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Religion or Belief	Many of those seeking asylum will be doing so following religious persecution in their home countries and so asylum will offer them the opportunity to live in a society which is more tolerant of diverse religious beliefs	It is possible that some people may be subject to discrimination or prejudice after arriving in the UK.	Work with local groups such as Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary which helps people and challenging misconceptions about refugees and asylum seekers.
Sex	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Sexual Orientation	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	We will seek to ensure equality of opportunity for asylum seekers where this is possible within the context of EU immigration law.	Asylum seekers will be unable to work and will not receive the same level of financial support as UK residents. They will be at greater risk of poverty and the associated disadvantages and lack of opportunities	Ensure appropriate accommodation is secured for new arrivals. This must be affordable and sustainable.

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.




How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
<p>Policy Making</p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably</p>	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage	
<p>Operational</p> <p>Recruitment & Training of workforce</p>	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage	
<p>Service delivery</p> <p>Use of Welsh language in service delivery</p> <p>Promoting use of the language</p>	No specific impacts identified at this stage	Asylum seekers are unlikely to have any knowledge of the Welsh language which may limit their ability to engage in some cultural activities.	Ensure that those arriving in the county are offered the opportunity to learn the Welsh language.



4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	No specific impacts are identified against this goal.	No specific impacts or actions are identified against this goal.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	Those seeking asylum may have experienced significant trauma and are likely to need additional levels of health support.	Ensure effective communication with health professionals including local GPs
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Communities can grow and thrive from diversity and exposures to the ideas and cultures of those from other nations..	Inform and prepare local communities for the arrival of asylum seekers will be an essential part of the dispersal scheme process. Work with the authority's Prevent Lead to ensure appropriate advice and awareness raising.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Offering sanctuary to people fleeing persecution in other nations is a positive contributor to global well-being.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Cultures can thrive from diversity. New settlers are unlikely to have any knowledge of Welsh language or culture	Ensure that those arriving in the county are offered the opportunity to learn the Welsh language and understand cultural traditions.
A more equal Wales	Assisting those who have struggled in their home countries will help them fulfill their potential and offer	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	a positive contribution to local communities in the time they live with us.	

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The asylum dispersal scheme is short term in nature as it seeks to accommodate people while their claims are processed. If granted settled status people may choose to move to another part of the UK.</p>	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>This paper is seeking a decision in principle to engage in the scheme and so we have not yet begun any collaborative activity beyond learning from others experiences</p>	<p>A number of authorities in Wales are asylum dispersal areas. We will collaborate with these directly and via the WLGA to learn and develop our approach. We will also collaborate with statutory partners, the voluntary sectors and local groups and charities</p>
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Following a decision of Cabinet further involvement will be undertaken to involve a broad range of stakeholders in shaping the proposals.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>Engaging in this scheme will prevent existing asylum dispersal areas becoming over-whelmed.</p>	
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>.This paper is seeking a decision in principle to engage in the scheme. We have yet to identify how this work will be integrated with other projects although some initial work has been done e.g. in housing.</p>	<p>We will engage with partners across the PSB where relevant to integrate this programme into others within the well-being plan.</p>

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	No specific impacts are identified against this goal at this stage. However it will be kept under review as more information is identified.	.It is not known at this stage where asylum seekers will be from. However, there could be differences in how other cultures approach matters such as physical punishment and the age at which children are expected to start work.	Communicate this cultural information to schools, social workers and other front-line staff likely to be involved with families so parents can be approached sensitively. Inform arriving families are informed about laws in the UK in the first weeks of arrival, and implications of non-compliance.
Corporate Parenting	No specific impacts are identified against this goal	No specific impacts are identified against this goal	

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7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

We have drawn on previous experiences of the authority in operating the Syrian Resettlement Scheme.
 Data shows that the highest number of asylum seekers are in the 25-29 age range
 Guidance on commissioning health services for Asylum Seekers - https://www.midlandsandlancashirecsu.nhs.uk/download/publications/equality_and_inclusion/Asylum-Guidance.pdf
 Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan (Welsh Government) - <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-06/progress-report-update-june-2020.pdf>

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

.This section should summarise the key issues arising from the evaluation. This summary must be included in the Committee report template

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Form a working group of key professionals in the local authority and partner agencies to plan for the scheme	July 2021	Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny
Liaise with the Prevent lead officer to ensure risks are fully understood and mitigated	July 2021	Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny

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10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Cabinet / SLT Consultation	27/5/21	No changes required to the impact assessment.

SUBJECT:	2020/21 REVENUE & CAPITAL OUTTURN STATEMENT
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	9th June 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the revenue and capital outturn position of the Authority based on capital slippage and reserve usage & deferment.
- 1.2 This report will also be considered by Select Committees as part of their responsibility to,
 - assess whether effective budget monitoring is taking place,
 - monitor the extent to which budgets are spent in accordance with agreed budget and policy framework,
 - challenge the reasonableness of projected over or underspends, and
 - monitor the achievement of predicted efficiency gains or progress in relation to savings proposals.
- 1.3 To provide an update on the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet recognises a balanced net revenue budget position at outturn after accounting for transfers to earmarked reserves that represents a significant improvement of £5.15m from the overall deficit reported at month 9, primarily as a result of:
 - Receipt of £5.29m of Welsh Government Covid-19 hardship funding since month 9 to compensate the Council to support its enhanced costs of service delivery and loss of income as a direct result of Covid-19 impact;
 - Receipt of significant unbudgeted Welsh Government grants that were communicated to and received by the Authority late in the financial year and that have offset core budget funding;
 - Underspends across many service areas as a result of the pandemic and where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled.
- 2.2 That Members acknowledge the extent that the Welsh Government Covid-19 Hardship Fund has covered all Covid-19 related additional costs directly incurred during the financial year of £11.25m together with compensation for loss of income of £8.38m.
- 2.3 That Members note the 85% delivery of the service specific budgeted mandated savings as detailed in **Appendix 2** and as agreed by full Council previously and the implicit remedial action/savings included in the financial outturn to compensate for circa 15% savings (£734k) reported as delayed or unachievable by service managers.

- 2.4 That Members endorse the strategy applied to replenish earmarked reserves as noted within the report to support future financial challenges and ensure financial resilience during a period of significant uncertainty as we continue to recover from the pandemic and as the delivery of our services change in light of a severely altered socio-economic landscape, and as wider policy commitments, both locally and nationally begin to take shape.
- 2.5 In taking the approach set out above, Cabinet recognises the extraordinary nature of the 2020/21 financial year and accepts that there remains significant recurring service pressures and risks in 2021/22 and over the medium term.
- 2.6 Cabinet notes the unprecedented improvement in Schools reserve balances of £3.85m as contained in **Appendix 1** that has resulted in 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit returning to a surplus balance. This reflects the significant levels of grant support from Welsh Government that was notified late in the financial year primarily relating to Schools Revenue Maintenance Grant and Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards.
- 2.7 That Cabinet endorses the requirement for schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend their significant surplus balances, whilst also appreciating that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.
- 2.8 That Members consider the capital outturn spend of £19.0m, introducing an underspend of £3.18m primarily due to underspending of the capitalisation directive budget and specific grant related schemes and that this subsequently releases £1.08m of capital receipts back to reserve for future capital investment.
- 2.9 That Members note the slippage requests of £49.92m as listed in **Appendix 5** along with the related presumptions made around financing consequences as detailed in **Appendix 1**, and accept that officers will make a further assessment of the justification for scheme slippage and make recommendations back to Cabinet for final approval as part of the month 2 financial monitoring for 2021/22.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Since entering 2020 the Council had faced significant and unprecedented challenges, notably the flood response and recovery resulting from Storms Ciara and Dennis in February 2020 and the subsequent Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of the lockdown restrictions that were put into effect on 23rd March 2020.
- 3.2 In parallel to this the Council had faced a hugely challenging budget round which saw a significant set of service pressures needing to be considered and accommodated within the budget, notably:
- Pressures within Children's Services relating to a continued increase in the number of looked after children (LAC) cases carrying over from 2019/20 and after the budget was approved.

- The 2.75% pay award being much higher than the original 1% budget assumption built into the budget and where it had been expected that Welsh Government funding would be forthcoming.
- Pressures remaining within the Passenger Transport Unit (PTU) and that continue to be worked on as part of the PTU review and where implementation has been impacted by the pandemic.
- Pressures in waste & recycling as a result of delays in the rollout of waste reconfiguration and changes.
- Income pressures relating to Civil parking enforcement where savings targets cannot be met.
- A shortfall against additional commercial income targets as a consequence of the impact of Covid-19 and the current level of market and economic uncertainty.
- As result of the late receipt of the final settlement from Welsh Government and the disappointment of there being no funding floor introduced, the remaining efficiency savings that were left to be identified during the financial year.

3.3 All of the above pressures continue to draw significantly on the Council's resources, both in terms of capacity and finances and continues to place an unprecedented strain on the Council. That all said, by month 9, the previously reported non-Covid-19 related over spend had moved into a forecast £142k saving. This largely resulted from the action taken during the financial year in curtailing non-essential expenditure, through cost reductions recognising the significant and continued financial pressure on the Authority as a result of the pandemic and through Covid-19 enforced reductions in normal service delivery.

3.4 Outturn position

Table 1: Overall Revenue outturn position

	Overall Outturn	Overall Variance to Month 9	Variance due Hardship funding	Variance due to other factors
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	811	(497)	0	(497)
Children & Young People	75	(11)	(7)	(4)
Enterprise & Monlife	(498)	(4,328)	(3,610)	(718)
Chief Executives Unit	(141)	(137)	(20)	(117)
Resources	(847)	(1,234)	(1,492)	258
Corporate Costs & Levies	(2,569)	(2,581)	0	(2,581)
Appropriations	3,574	3,838	0	3,838
Financing	(405)	(196)	(159)	(37)
Total	0	(5,146)	(5,288)	142

3.5 Since the month 9 forecast the Council has benefited from a further £5.29m of Welsh Government Covid-19 hardship funding to compensate the Council to support its enhanced costs of service delivery and loss of income as a direct result of Covid-19 impact.

- 3.6 Further to this a number of Welsh Government funding announcements were made late in the financial year that have resulted in additional specific revenue grant awards related to the continuing Covid-19 impact and also awards specific to service area pressures. These grant awards have had a direct impact in improving the revenue outturn position by offsetting core funding requirements.
- 3.7 During the financial year the continued impact of the pandemic has significantly altered the Authorities normal course of service delivery and additional savings have been realised where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled.
- 3.8 The analysis outlined in **Table 2** below reconciles the movement in the outturn position since the month 9 forecast was reported to Cabinet.

Table 2: Reconciliation of Revenue outturn from month 9

	£'000
Month 9 non-Covid-19 surplus	(142)
Unbudgeted grant support since Month 9 - Covid-19 specific	(3,070)
Unbudgeted grant support since Month 9 - Service specific	(803)
Reduction in budgeted use of capitalisation directive	1,080
Refinement of service outturn positions	(1,184)
Year-end surplus prior to earmarked reserve replenishment	(4,119)
Replenishment of earmarked reserves	4,119
Revised Council Fund Surplus	0

3.9 Mandated savings and budget mitigations

Table 3: Progress against mandated savings

Directorate	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Saving achieved	Delayed Savings	Savings Unachievable	Of which due to Covid-19	Of which not Covid-19 Related	% Achieved
	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Children & Young People	(648)	(648)	0	0	0	0	100%
Social Care & Health	(1,058)	(792)	0	(266)	166	100	75%
Enterprise	(569)	(392)	(20)	(158)	178	0	69%
Resources	(418)	(198)	(220)	0	220	0	47%
Chief Executives Unit	(163)	(93)	(10)	(60)	70	0	57%

Corporate Costs & Levies	(1,479)	(1,479)	0	0	0	0	100%
Appropriations	(605)	(605)	0	0	0	0	100%
Sub-total - Services	(4,940)	(4,207)	(250)	(484)	634	100	85%
Financing	(5,397)	(5,397)	0	0	0	0	100%
Overall Total	(10,336)	(9,604)	(250)	(484)	634	100	93%

- 3.10 The 2020/21 budget was set based on the requirement for £10.3m of mandated savings to be achieved, with some £4.9m of these to be made directly by service areas. Given the challenging operating environment that services have performed under during 2020/21 it is pleasing to note their performance in achieving 85% of budgeted savings. This increases to 93% when taking into account savings attributable to increasing financing streams.
- 3.11 There has been a delay in the implementation of £250k of budget savings proposals as a direct result of staff resources being diverted to respond to the pandemic. A further £484k of savings are now deemed unachievable with £384k of these as a direct result of the pandemic.
- 3.12 A full list of the progress against savings mandates can be found at **Appendix 2** to this report.
- 3.13 The 2020/21 budget included the use of a Capitalisation direction of £2.09m where one-off costs are eligible to be capitalised under the guidance issued by the Welsh Government in respect of the flexible use of capital receipts. Given the reduced service activity during the year only £1.01m of the budgeted use was utilised resulting in £1.08m remaining in the capital receipts reserve for future use.

Those costs capitalised are listed and **Appendix 4** to this report and in summary relate to:

- Sharing back-office and administrative services with one or more other council or public sector body;
- Funding the cost of service reconfiguration, restructuring or rationalisation (staff or non-staff), where this leads to ongoing efficiency savings or service transformation;
- Driving a digital approach to the delivery of more efficient public services and how the public interacts with constituent authorities where possible;
- Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies to generate savings or to transform service delivery.

3.14 Covid-19 Impact

- 3.15 The financial challenges facing the Council and resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic were hugely significant during 2020/21 and will continue to be over the medium term as the economy recovers and demands on local services transform in line with the social changes that the pandemic has brought about.

- 3.16 The Council continues to incur significant costs in its response effort and this will continue as it transitions towards recovery. Furthermore and resulting from the restrictions that UK Government and Welsh Government have had to put in place to contain the spread of the virus we are suffering significant shortfalls in our income levels. Some of these will return more quickly than others as services are able to be safely turned back on.
- 3.17 We are grateful to Welsh Government for the emergency hardship funding that has been provided to Welsh Councils to cover the costs and income losses to date and alongside this, the Covid-19 specific grant funding notified in the latter stages of the financial year. The extent of this support is outlined in **Table 4** below.

Table 4: Direct Grant funding received to aid in Covid-19 pressures

	£000s
Welsh Government Covid19 Hardship Fund - Additional costs incurred	11,254
Welsh Government Covid19 Hardship Fund - Compensation for loss of service income	8,382
Council Tax Income Collection shortfalls	1,059
Council Tax Reduction Scheme - to assist with increased demand	348
Digital Transformation funding	658
Savings unachieved funding	658
Business Grants - administration costs	347
Total	22,706

- 3.18 As the financial year progressed the Council was given clearer commitments of the proposed Welsh Government support and significantly the announcement made of further funding for local authorities in August 2020 to supplement funding that had already been provided to assist with meeting income losses and additional costs brought about by the pandemic. A further announcement of funding to cover the first six months of the 2021/22 financial year is welcomed and continues to recognise the unprecedented impact on the Council in managing the response to the pandemic.
- 3.19 In working with all parts of the Welsh Public Sector the Welsh Government provided significant one-off support to all areas through numerous funds which have been administered by the Council during the year. This has ranged from support to local businesses via Business Support Grants, payments made to care workers and specific Freelancer and Start up grants. The extent of the support administered during the financial year is detailed in **Table 5** below:

Table 5: Welsh Government support funds administered in year

Support fund	£000s
Business Support Grants	39,468
Care Workers £500 Payments	1,367
Covid-19 Freelancer Grant	440
Covid-19 Start Up Grant	143
Total	41,418

3.20 It is inevitable that the Council will face significant financial challenges as we move into the recovery phase of the pandemic as demands on services change in light of a severely altered socio-economic landscape. Alongside this there will continue to be risks associated with Welsh Government support funding being reduced or stopped. It is therefore important that the Council looks to replenish earmarked reserves to strengthen ongoing financial resilience.

3.21 **Recommended use of 2020/21 Revenue surplus**

3.22 Irrespective of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic the Authority is already dealing with underlying service pressures which have resulted in £10.3m of pressures being accommodated within the 2021/22 budget, primarily consisting of:

- Pay and pension-related spending pressures in our schooling system;
- The increasing demand placed on children's social care services, adult social care and our children with additional learning needs budgets;
- Significant service pressures within the passenger transport unit and within recycling and waste and that look to ensure that the Council supports and sustains key service delivery;
- Investment that ensures that homeless people are provided adequate support, advice and accommodation in their time of need;
- An ongoing commitment to recognise and value the contribution made by the workforce and ensuring that local government staff are paid no less than the minimum wage set by the Living Wage Foundation, extending to the apprenticeship roles within the Council.

3.23 The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic presents its own additional financial challenges and uncertainty both in terms of additional cost and significant loss of income across services. Some of these impacts are difficult to model and will potentially only manifest themselves once a degree of normality returns to service delivery as enforced restrictions diminish.

3.24 It is inevitable that service delivery and operating models will look significantly different as we move out of the emergency phase of the pandemic, for example:

- New services have been created, some services have been stopped, staff redeployed and new working practices are in place, many of these changes may need to continue beyond this phase of the crisis;
- The pandemic has brought about Welsh Government policy change, significantly in the area of Homelessness;
- Supply chains continue to be radically altered;
- The impact of continuing social distancing on service operations;
- The financial impact on the most vulnerable members of the County and the ongoing and additional support this may require;

- There has been an increased focus on digital solutions to the issues faced, some of these may replace traditional methods of service delivery;
- The prominence of agile working and the shift in culture and its impact on future office space requirements

3.25 There remains uncertainty around the continued Welsh Government emergency hardship funding to Local authorities as a result of the Covid-19 impact, in terms of the full consequential funding continuing to be passed through and whether there will be further funding announced by UK Government which will allow Welsh Government to make further commitments beyond 30th September 2021.

3.26 It is also important to recognise that the economy will likely be in recession and UK and global economies have been hit hard by the pandemic which will considerably impact future public spending and Local Government settlements.

3.27 Given all of these uncertainties it remains difficult to identify the timing and quantum of investment required into the Council's key corporate priorities moving forward and also in responding to the wider national policy agenda commitments, notably but not exclusively:

- The Climate emergency declaration and commitment to deliver a low carbon economy
- Support for mental health provision
- Homeless support and provision
- Food policy agenda

3.28 In considering all of the above and in apportioning the outturn position the future financial stability of the Council was considered, alongside the potential additional unknown costs that could occur in dealing with post Covid-19 recovery, whilst also giving financial resilience to service areas to deal with service pressures and the wider policy commitments that will shape future service delivery. In this regard the revenue surplus is proposed to be allocated to the following reserves:

Table 6: Reserves balances and proposed replenishment

Reserve	31st March 2020	31st March 2021	Proposed replenish- ment	31st March 2021
	£000	Draft £000	£000	Final £000
Council Fund (Authority)	(8,907)	(8,907)		(8,907)
Council Fund (School Balances)	435	(3,418)		(3,418)
Sub Total Council Fund	(8,472)	(12,325)	0	(12,325)
Earmarked Reserves:				
Invest to Redesign	(1,128)	(1,156)	(200)	(1,356)
IT Transformation	(254)	(254)	(600)	(854)
Insurance and Risk Management	(935)	(935)		(935)

Capital Receipt Generation	(181)	(116)	(300)	(416)
Treasury Equalisation	(990)	(590)		(590)
Redundancy and Pensions	(245)	(157)	(700)	(857)
Capital Investment	(627)	(627)		(627)
Priority Investment	(405)	(405)	(1,500)	(1,905)
Covid19 Hardship Fund Equalisation Reserve	0	0	(819)	(819)
Other Earmarked Reserves	(1,618)	(2,312)		(2,312)
Total Earmarked Reserves	(6,383)	(6,552)	(4,119)	(10,671)
Total useable revenue reserves	(14,855)	(18,877)	(4,119)	(22,996)

4 SCHOOLS BALANCES

- 4.1 In a similar manner to the general revenue activities of the Council, Schools have also benefitted from Welsh Government hardship funding to compensate for additional general Covid costs incurred (e.g. PPE, staff cover due to self-isolation, enhanced cleaning) and income lost totalling circa £1.24m and this is included within the figures outlined in **Table 4** above.
- 4.2 In terms of the overall movement in school balances, 2020/21 has been an unprecedented year. Schools have received several specific Welsh Government grants totalling £1.77m to further support them and their pupils and these have predominately displaced core budgets in 2020/21 or been committed for use in 2021/22 in line with the grant terms. Furthermore, due largely to the sustained periods of enforced closure during the financial year spending on budgets areas such as staff cover, premises, supplies & services and examination fees, were significantly curtailed and produced savings totalling £2.08m.
- 4.3 These factors mean that the overall level of the school reserves has increased by £3.85m as at the 31st March 2021, taking schools collectively out of a net deficit of £435k to an overall surplus of £3.42m. The movements in individual school balances are outlined in **Appendix 4** to this report. As a result of this 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit have returned to a surplus balance.
- 4.4 The Authority requires schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government (£50k for a Primary, £100k for a Secondary) to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend the significant surplus balances being held. It is also clear that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to a situation of 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.
- 4.5 In particular and in specific relation to Chepstow Comprehensive, when the windfall Welsh Government grants are disregarded, it masks a significant in-year budget deficit that has been brought about significantly due to the curtailing of any staff redundancies during the pandemic and that were pivotal to their recovery plans. This leaves the school in a comparably weaker position than they would have been in if they had executed their

recovery plans as intended, and where they do not now have the level of surplus balances that the other three comprehensive schools now have to strategically invest over the medium term.

5 CAPITAL OUTTURN

- 5.1 The capital expenditure outturn detailed in **Appendix 1** shows a net underspend of £3.18m against budget which can largely be attributed to specific grant funded schemes which have not progressed during the year (£1.92m) due to a combination of late notification of the grant awards, a lack of resources available to complete eligible works and a shortage of appropriate schemes that fit within the grant criteria stipulated. This under spend does not release any capital financing for future use as the grant actually paid matches the overall expenditure.
- 5.2 Alongside this there has been reduced usage of the Capitalisation Directive budget by £1.08m following clarification of the revenue outturn position. This subsequently releases capital receipts back to the capital receipts reserve to utilise for future capital investment.
- 5.3 Capital financing variances primarily follow the reasons for the above expenditure variances with grants showing a variance of £1.7m and capital receipts £1.08m, as the related expenditure was not incurred. There is a variance within unsupported borrowing and leasing where it was more cost-effective to the Authority to finance vehicle purchases from borrowing instead of leasing as initially budgeted.
- 5.4 Capital slippage totals £49.92m and is shown in detail in **Appendix 5** to this report. The vast majority of the slippage requested is due to the delays encountered relating to the impact of Covid-19 and was very much outside of the control of the Authority with two schemes (Asset Investment Fund and Abergavenny 3-19 School) accounting for two thirds of the total slippage.
- 5.5 Members are asked to note the slippage requests of £49.92m as listed in **Appendix 5** along with the related presumptions made around financing consequences as detailed in **Appendix 1**. A further assessment of the justification for scheme slippage will be undertaken and recommendations made back to Cabinet for final approval as part of the month 2 financial monitoring for 2021/22.
- 5.6 **Useable Capital Receipts Available**
- 5.7 In the table below, the effect of the changes to the forecast capital receipts on the useable capital receipts balances available to meet future capital commitments is shown. This is also compared to the balances forecast within the 2020/24 MTFP capital budget proposals.

Table 7: Useable Capital receipts forecast

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

Balance as at 1st April	3,040	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452
Capital receipts used for financing	(31)	(3,341)	(684)	(684)	(684)
Capital receipts used to support capitalisation direction	(1,011)	(2,208)	(2,208)	(508)	(508)
Capital receipts Received or Forecast	7,212	10,475	1,300	100	100
Forecast Balance as at 31st March	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452	10,360
Forecast Balance 2020/24 MTFP	9,904	10,245	10,791	10,136	10,136
Variance compared to 2020/24 MTFP	(694)	3,891	1,753	1,316	224

- 5.8 Capital receipts used to support the capitalisation direction were £1.08m less than budgeted for 2020/21, however this was offset by an overall delay in generating some receipts into 2021/22 and beyond and therefore results in a slightly reduced balance of receipts compared to the original budget.
- 5.9 Forecast receipts to be generated in future years have increased since the 2020/21 budget was set and this is demonstrated in the expected overall increase in receipt balances after affording additional capitalisation direction approved as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

6 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 6.1 This report provides an update on the current financial situation and the challenges facing the Council now and over the medium term. It has been prepared at a time of great uncertainty as the Council still transitions from the emergency response phase of the Covid-19 pandemic towards a period of recovery.
- 6.2 The outturn that has been prepared for consideration is predicated on assumptions that have been independently assessed by budget holders and subsequently reviewed as part of the budget monitoring process. These assumptions don't look to represent a policy position that Cabinet is looking to take on when services are re-opening. Rather they represent a reasoned assessment of the impact on services in year based on known information, anticipated future changes and estimates.
- 6.3 By far the greatest uncertainty that existed during the year was the level of Welsh Government hardship funding to be received to offset additional costs incurred in responding to the Covid-19 emergency response and the significant income losses that have resulted where services have ceased as a result of the enforced lockdown restrictions in place. This risk diminished during the year as a result of Welsh Government announcements of significant funding to support Councils in Wales and this support currently extends to the 30th September 2021.

7 EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 7.1 The uncertainty around Welsh Government funding of additional costs and losses of income brought about by the response to and the impact of the pandemic has diminished during the year. However, this continues to represent a risk moving into 2021/22 that will

only be mitigated by monthly and quarterly submissions to Welsh Government being agreed. And furthermore and beyond those impacts resulting from Covid-19 there exists a number of significant cost pressures that need to be managed regardless.

- 7.2 The Council has traditionally maintained formal reporting to Cabinet at month 2 (period 1), month 7 (period 2) and outturn, with more frequent budget monitoring information being undertaken at a departmental level and reported to management and the Strategic Leadership Team. Only where circumstances necessitate it is more frequent formal reporting to Cabinet required.
- 7.3 As a result of the significant financial challenges facing the Council there has been a more frequent reporting of the in-year revenue and capital outturn forecast. Formal reporting has taken place at months 2, 5, 7, 9 and outturn.
- 7.4 The update of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and the development of the budget proposals for 2021/22 and the medium term were challenging. Circa £10.3m of pressures were accommodated in the budget and provides a huge challenge to services to bear down on cost to mitigate these.
- 7.5 There is also further uncertainty given that the UK Government has only undertaken a one-year Comprehensive Spending Review which consequently does not enable Welsh Government to provide any additional certainty around indicative budget settlements for Welsh local authorities in future years.

8 **REASONS:**

- 8.1 To ensure that the gravity of the financial challenges facing the Council are understood and that reasonable actions are being taken to safeguard the ongoing financial sustainability of the Council.
- 8.2 To provide a timely update on the current financial circumstances and challenges resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic and that will in turn lead to the Council needing to plan and plot a revised course to ensure it remains financially sustainable into the future.

9 **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

- 9.1 The resource implications of the revenue and capital outturn are contained in this report and the attached appendices. The overall surplus on the revenue budget has enabled a strategy of reserve replenishment which ensures a degree on financial resilience as we move into a further period of significant financial and economic uncertainty.
- 9.2 The financial challenges facing the Council and resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic will be significant over the next 4 years of the MTFP. Not just for this Council but all councils across Wales and the UK. The Council is having to incur significant costs in its response effort and this will continue as it transitions towards recovery. Furthermore and resulting from the restrictions that UK Government and Welsh Government have had to put in place to contain the spread of the virus we are suffering significant shortfalls in our income

levels. Some of these will return more quickly than others as services are able to be safely turned back on and this clearly represents a funding risk in the medium term.

- 9.3 The more immediate steps during the year were to curtail non-essential expenditure. Going forward more targeted and planned cost reductions will be challenging and the Council will as always look to minimise impact on service delivery. Though this cannot be guaranteed and is expected if Welsh Government funding falls short of expectations.
- 9.4 The Council continues to work on the basis that it will be fully funded by Welsh Government. However, there is clearly a risk that this will not happen and beyond this there are significant non-Covid-19 pressures being managed. Options to mitigate these risks are limited with recourse to draw on the Council Fund, specific earmarked reserves and useable capital receipts. Replenishment of these reserves as part of the outturn is therefore critical to the ongoing financial sustainability of the Council.

10 **EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

- 10.1 This report provides Members with information on the revenue and capital outturn position of the Authority and carries no decisions. There are therefore no equality of future generations' implications directly arising from this report.
- 10.2 Any such impacts will be fully considered subsequently when Council receives the budget recovery plan and revised budget proposals.

CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
Cabinet

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix 1 – Revenue and capital outturn report including school balances
Appendix 2 – Progress made against mandated savings
Appendix 3 – Capitalisation directive schedule 2020/21
Appendix 4 – Movement in individual school balances
Appendix 5 – Capital slippage schedule

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Overall Revenue Position

Table 1: Council Fund 2020/21 Outturn Summary Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustments 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	50,685	(170)	50,515	51,327	811	1,308	(497)
Children & Young People	55,539	480	56,019	56,093	75	86	(12)
Enterprise & Monlife	24,133	(1,946)	22,187	21,688	(499)	3,829	(4,328)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	4,664	4,524	(140)	(4)	(136)
Resources	7,746	(445)	7,301	6,454	(847)	387	(1,234)
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	22,972	20,403	(2,569)	13	(2,582)
Net Cost of Services	165,591	(1,934)	163,658	160,488	(3,170)	5,619	(8,789)
Appropriations	4,856	2,192	7,049	10,623	3,574	(264)	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	170,447	259	170,706	171,111	405	5,355	(4,950)
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	(170,706)	(171,111)	(405)	(208)	(197)
Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	5,147	(5,147)

Table 2: Council Fund 2020/21 Outturn Detailed Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustments 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's
Adult Services	7,877	(55)	7,822	7,732	(90)	(62)	(28)
Children Services	14,428	(63)	14,365	15,718	1,353	1,433	(80)
Community Care	24,434	30	24,464	24,239	(225)	59	(284)
Commissioning	1,483	(65)	1,418	1,249	(169)	(106)	(63)
Partnerships	436	0	436	436	0	0	0
Public Protection	1,481	(14)	1,467	1,400	(67)	(17)	(50)
Resources & Performance	546	(3)	543	553	10	1	9
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	50,685	(170)	50,515	51,326	811	1,308	(497)
Individual Schools Budget	47,420	(356)	47,064	46,766	(298)	(434)	136
Resources	1,234	(44)	1,190	1,176	(14)	3	(17)
Standards	6,885	880	7,765	8,151	386	518	(132)
Children & Young People	55,539	480	56,019	56,093	74	87	(13)
Business Growth and Enterprise	2,468	(260)	2,208	2,242	34	(62)	96
Facilities & Fleet Management	5,665	(1,266)	4,399	4,528	129	922	(793)
Neighbourhood Services	10,483	(259)	10,224	10,275	51	500	(449)
Planning & Housing	1,951	(130)	1,821	1,314	(507)	1,245	(1,752)
Countryside & Culture (MonLife)	1,348	(8)	1,340	1,345	5	121	(116)
Finance & Business Development (MonLife)	1,507	116	1,623	1,484	(139)	(43)	(96)
Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure (MonLife)	710	(139)	571	499	(72)	1,146	(1,218)

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustments 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
Enterprise & Monlife	24,132	(1,946)	22,186	21,687	(499)	3,829	(4,328)
Legal & Land Charges	839	(6)	833	724	(109)	(27)	(82)
Governance, Democracy & Support	3,906	(75)	3,831	3,799	(32)	23	(55)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	4,664	4,523	(141)	(4)	(137)
Finance	2,597	(80)	2,517	1,762	(755)	39	(794)
Information, Communication Technology	2,803	57	2,860	2,784	(76)	(431)	355
People	1,725	94	1,819	1,766	(53)	(112)	59
Future Monmouthshire	(46)	(25)	(71)	12	83	83	0
Commercial & Corporate Landlord	667	(492)	175	131	(44)	808	(852)
Resources	7,746	(446)	7,300	6,455	(845)	387	(1,232)
Precepts & Levies	20,379	1	20,380	20,382	2	2	0
Coroner's	117	0	117	152	35	35	0
Archives	182	0	182	182	0	0	0
Corporate Management	293	0	293	(26)	(319)	(231)	(88)
Non Distributed Costs (NDC)	492	0	492	684	192	215	(23)
Strategic Initiatives	(167)	228	61	(2,375)	(2,436)	(61)	(2,375)
Insurance	1,447	0	1,447	1,404	(43)	52	(95)
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	22,972	20,403	(2,569)	12	(2,581)
Net Cost of Services	165,590	(1,934)	163,656	160,487	(3,169)	5,619	(8,788)
Fixed Asset Disposal Costs	20	45	65	68	3	6	(3)
Interest & Investment Income	(252)	0	(252)	(206)	46	162	(116)
Interest Payable & Similar Charges	4,020	27	4,047	3,709	(338)	(331)	(7)

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustments 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
Charges Required under Regulation	6,251	(108)	6,143	6,075	(68)	(81)	13
Other Investment Income	(1,153)	1,153	0	(25)	(25)	(14)	(11)
Borrowing Cost Recoupment	(3,425)	50	(3,375)	(3,538)	(163)	(6)	(157)
Contributions to Reserves	143	688	831	4,950	4,119	0	4,119
Contributions from reserves	(747)	86	(661)	(661)	0	0	0
Capital expenditure financed from revenue	0	252	252	252	0	0	0
Appropriations	4,857	2,193	7,050	10,624	3,574	(264)	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	170,447	259	170,706	171,111	405	5,355	(4,950)
General Government Grants	(64,824)	(2,899)	(67,723)	(67,723)	0	0	0
Non Domestic Rates	(32,936)	2,899	(30,037)	(30,037)	0	0	0
Council tax	(79,572)	(259)	(79,831)	(80,238)	(407)	(367)	(40)
Council Tax Benefit Support	6,885	0	6,885	6,887	2	159	(157)
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	(170,706)	(171,111)	(405)	(208)	(197)
Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	0	0	0	0	0	5,147	(5,147)

DIRECTORATE – DIVISION VARIANCE COMMENTS

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,630	1,448	1,707	1,308	811

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

The directorate outturn for 2020/21 was an overspend of £811K, a £497K decrease since month 9, as a result of late Discharge to Reassess funding from Health of £553K. Of the over spend, £346K is as a result of the pressure from the additional 1.75% unfunded staff pay award and £242K unachievable 2% staff efficiency saving. The directorate budget was also assisted by the Social Care Workforce and Sustainability Grant from Welsh Government of £984K.

The Adult Services division finished the financial year with an underspend of £474K, an increase in underspend since M9 of £365K, largely due to funding received from Health via the Discharge to Reassess scheme. This area of the directorate has also benefitted in year from the Social Care Workforce and Sustainability (SCWS) grant of circa £1M and Intermediate Care Funding (ICF), with ICF having a planned termination date of 31st March 2022.

Children's Services has a predicted overspend of £1.353M, a £81K reduction since the reported M9 forecast. This element of the directorate received a significant injection as part of the 2020/21 budget allocation, however, this was based on CLA numbers at that time being 197. Since the budget for 2020/21 was set, the service had a further influx of children to 219 at the end of 2019/20, and at the close of the financial year CLA numbers stood at 213.

Public Protection continues to strive to remain within its budget, turning out an underspend of £67K, an increase in underspend since M9 of £50K, due to some reduced activity as a result of COVID 19.

ADULT SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	24	156	180	(62)	(90)

Net effect of additional pay award, not achieving the 2% staff efficiency saving and additional spend in the care at home service, less reduced premise expenditure with day service closures as a result of COVID 19 plus Winter Pressures funding from Health.

CHILDREN SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,575	1,459	1,460	1,433	1,353

£1M overspend in providing care and placements for our Looked After Children which closed at 213 at year end, £260K overspend in legal costs and the remaining overspend as a result of continued use of agency staffing which currently stands at 9 being employed plus the increased staff pay award.

COMMUNITY CARE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(63)	(209)	(4)	60	(225)

This division is being held up by a circa £1M SCWS grant plus Winter Pressures funding from Health.

COMMISSIONING					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'s	(118)	(63)	(103)	(106)	(169)
Ongoing vacant Commissioning Officer post and realignment of Service Level Agreements, netting the costs of increased staff pay award.					
PARTNERSHIPS					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	0	0	0
No variances					
PUBLIC PROTECTION					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'s	211	109	177	(17)	(67)
Underspend is as a result of reduced activity, mainly within commercial and environmental health, as a result of COVID 19.					
RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1	(5)	(4)	0	10
As a result of the increased staff pay award.					

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	84	19	125	87	75
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:					
The Directorate's Outturn position is an over spend of £75k, which can be attributed to ALN. However, this has been partially offset by the surplus balance following the closure of Mounton House, which has been transferred to the central CYP budgets to support the wider education budgets.					
INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS BUDGET					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(264)	(316)	(434)	(298)
The decrease in underspend of £136k since month 9 is due to an increase in Monmouth Comp Rates for 2020-21 and a provision for possible discrepancies regarding back pay for a school.					
RESOURCES					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	37	22	14	3	(14)
The underspend is due to vacancy savings					

STANDARDS					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	47	261	426	518	386
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recoupment increased by (income received from other LA's) (£151,000) Independent placement costs overspent by £127,000 Other LA placement costs overspent by £186,000 Additional support for pupils attending our schools overspent by £493,000 Underspend on early years (rising 3's) due to school closure (£150,000) Overspend on breakfast clubs £45,000 Underspend on ALN Transport due to school closure (£109,000) <p>Within the overspend of £493,000 relating to the additional support for pupils attending our own schools, £200,000 relates to additional funding for the additional learning needs units in Overmonnow (£100k) and Monmouth Comprehensive (£100k). Both these units are able to accommodate more MCC pupils, resulting in less pupils needing to be educated either in independent or other LA schools. While this has resulted in an over spend, the fees paid for the other schools would have resulted in the over spend being higher.</p> <p>Included in the independent placement costs is £107,000 relating to the three remaining pupils at Mounton House, this cost has been transferred from Mounton House to support this.</p> <p>Breakfast clubs have seen a reduction in numbers since re-opening following the Summer and Spring Term lockdowns, which has led to a reduction in income.</p>					

ENTERPRISE	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	5,950	5,113	4,617	3,829	(499)

ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

The Enterprise and MonLife Directorate is forecasting an outturn position of £499k surplus at year end. This is an improved position since Month 9 and the details of these changes are provided within the next sections of this report.

The impact of COVID-19 has been significant across all of the services with both a loss of income and additional costs incurred to operate critical front line services during the pandemic. In addition to the direct impacts of the pandemic service areas identified pressures where budget savings have not been implemented or ongoing pressures continued to affect services.

Across all Services, all eligible additional costs and income losses have been claimed against any Welsh Government funding that has been made available. In addition, service areas have been successful in securing grant funding which has enabled us to passport core costs to grant funding activity. Since month 9 a number of service areas have been able to report a significantly improved position as WG has confirmed that costs or income losses can be covered by the support grants available due to COVID.

BUSINESS GROWTH & ENTERPRISE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
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Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	46	29	(50)	(62)	34
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Business Growth & Enterprise has underspent by £34k, this can be split down to the following :-

- Abergavenny Borough Theatre – Break-even.
- RDP & Youth Enterprise - £3k underspent due to offsetting core staff costs with grant funding.
- Communications - £10k underspent due to improved income.
- Community & Pship Development - £44k underspent, mainly due to staff savings as we have been able to passport core costs to grant funding.
- Enterprise Mgt & Strategic Projects - £90k overspent mainly due to unfunded pay award and over-accrual of public transport subsidy grant.

FACILITIES & FLEET MANAGEMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,339	1,097	1,222	923	129

Facilities & Fleet Management has overspent by £129k.

- **Catering** - £103k underspent. The service was adversely affected by the pandemic but WG Covid income support has enabled the unit to recover lost meal income based on 19-20 performance, as a result 20-21 outturn has mirrored the 19-20 outturn producing an underspend against budget.
- **Building Cleaning** - £36k underspent. This is mainly due to an increase in internal income as the unit has picked up a number of contracts that have been brought back in-house.
- **Passenger Transport** - £24k overspend, due in the main :-

Private Hire & Service 65 - £5k overspent due to vehicle maintenance costs, receipt of Covid income support to cover lost hire income has improved the outturn from M9.

School Transport Operations - £96k overspent – due to a combination of historic staff pressure c/fwd from 19-20 and additional hours required to cover new Covid transport arrangements and additional staffing required to cover recent contract hand backs. The reduction from M9 relates to a number of factors; overtime payments were not as high as anticipated, agency staff were not required, furlough income included for February and March all of this is due to schools not going back until later than predicted.

Commissioning - £87k underspent due to staff vacancies, and a reduction in contract costs due to the school closures.

- **Fleet Maintenance** - £248k overspent, due to:-
 - Vehicle maintenance costs have increased over and above available budget, an element of this could be attributed to the requirement for additional vehicles due to Covid requirements.
 - Increased maintenance of our depots in Raglan and Caldicot.
 - A reduction in members of the Green Car scheme has hit savings (£6k).

The £793k positive swing from Month 9 can be mainly attributed to WG income support payments driving down service overspends in Passenger Transport and Catering.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
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Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,456	1,153	783	500	51
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Neighbourhood services has overspent by £51k.

- **Highways & Street Lighting** - £63k underspent. Street Lighting has underspent by £103k, LED lamp replacement has generated savings from reduced output, in addition KWH rates were lower than budgeted, this has resulted in an underspend against our electricity budget. This has been offset by a net £40k overspend in Highways Operations as plant purchases that were to be reserve funded are to remain within the service.
- **Waste & Street Scene** - £114k overspent – This can be broken down into 2 main areas:-
 - **Waste Services** - £57k overspent – Main issues :-
 - Impact of Covid – Even though all the additional expenditure and the loss of external income has been covered off by the WG support grant covid still has impacted on the service in 20-21, this is because most of the planned interventions to help improve the budget deficit were stopped or delayed due to the pandemic.
 - Non-Covid related pressures – the volatility in the global recycling market continues to impact negatively on treatment and disposal costs for recycling and waste materials. In addition the abeyance of Usk CA site closure delayed service savings (£30k), there was also pressure caused by no budget increase for contracts and fuel inflation and the delayed roll out of polyprop bags. We have been fortunate that many of these pressures have been offset by the receipt of a number of WG Circular Economy grants and it has allowed us to passport core costs such as officer time against grant reducing service spend, this is the main reason for the improvement from Month 9.
 - **Grounds Maintenance** – £57k overspent – mainly due to additional expenditure incurred in meeting contractual obligations later in the year as a result of Grounds supporting waste collections during April and May.

PLANNING, HOUSING and Highways Dev & Flooding

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,011	1,067	993	1,245	(507)

Planning, Housing and Highways Dev & Flooding has underspent by £507k.

- **Planning & Building Control** - £102k underspent – this is due to a staff vacancy and savings against professional fees. The income shortfall has been covered off by the WG Covid support grant and is the reason for the improvement in outturn from Month 9.
- **Planning Policy** - £137k underspent - this is due to savings in professional and specialist fees costs due to delays in the LDP.
- **Housing** - £165k underspent - The majority of the underspend is found in our Shared Housing and Private Leasing schemes where net rental received from tenants has exceeded budgeted expectations, the final position on rent accounts cannot be calculated until financial year end so the extent of underspend was not known during the year and is the reason for the positive swing between reporting periods. In addition we have also been able to fund some staffing from grant funding. The increased expenditure relating to Welsh Government Covid related requirements to support homeless households and implement new Welsh Government homeless policy, has been funded by the WG Covid support grant so has not affected outturn position.
- **Car Parking, Highways Development & Flooding** - £103k underspent. Main areas:-

- Car Parks - £108k overspent – this is due to increased costs in car park rates, transport and supplies and services. All of the income shortfall reported at M9 has been covered off by the WG support grant and is the reason for the improvement between reporting periods.
- Highways Development & flooding - £211k underspent – mainly as a result of staff vacancies across the department where the decision was made to freeze vacant posts to help with recovery of car park overspend.

There has been a very large positive swing between outturn and Month 9, this is mainly due to the receipt of WG income support grant in Housing, Car Parks and Planning that has reduced service overspends.

(MONLIFE) Countryside & Culture

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	42	40	81	121	5

Countryside & Culture - £5k overspent- The service has been heavily impacted by Covid and flooding in 20-21. All income lost due to event cancellation has been covered by the WG Covid support grant, the small overspend relates to additional costs as a result of the flooding that could not be covered by grant.

(MONLIFE) Finance & Business Development

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(118)	(150)	(106)	(43)	(139)

Finance & Business development- £139k underspent – Mainly due to staff savings from vacant posts throughout the service. All income losses have been covered by WG support grant and is the reason for the positive swing from Month 9.

(MONLIFE) Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	2,173	1,877	1,694	1,146	(72)

Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure - £72k underspent.

The closure of our Leisure centres and Outdoor Adventure sites due to Covid has had an adverse impact on income generation in 20-21. Without the WG income support grant we would have been reporting a sizable overspend but the grant has allowed us to cover off any shortfall so our revenue outturn position is not affected. The £72k underspend is mainly due to staff vacancies across the department.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES UNIT	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	187	144	63	(4)	(140)

LEGAL & LAND CHARGES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn

Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	78	92	40	(27)	(109)
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Legal - £93k underspend - this is mainly as a result of staff savings due to the employment lawyer post not being filled in 20-21 and a reduction in supplies and services.

Land charges – £16k underspend – this is mainly due to the small ‘boom’ in the house market as CV restrictions eased resulting in a considerable improvement in search income over the last 2 quarters, augmented by WG covid support that covered the initial period of the housing market being shut down.

The £82k improvement from M9 is due to the extent of staff and supplies savings in legal not being fully known at M9 and the pick up in search income in the last quarter in land charges.

GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRACY & SUPPORT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	109	52	23	23	(32)

The **Community Hubs** sections is forecasting to overspend by £8k - this is due to over spends in Usk Post Office as this budget area is not being completely funded and therefore running at a loss and insufficient budget for Gilwern Library. This is offset in part by savings across some of the other hubs due to a decrease in spend on supplies and services.

The **Contact Centre** is reporting a £15k overspend, this is due to a proposed budget saving that can no longer be delivered and is now reflected as a pressure in the 21-22 budget model.

The **Corporate Section** is forecasting to overspend by £11k, this is due to an overspend relating to supplies and services and a copyright licencing fee.

The **Democratic Services Section** is forecasting to underspend by £86,000, this is due to savings in Elections where we have had savings from not having to undertake the annual canvass, grant windfalls relating to voting for 16/17 year olds and underspends in supplies and services mainly due to Members working from home. The extent of grant windfalls were not known at M9 and is the main reason for the improvement.

Policy and Partnerships is forecasting to overspend by £25k, this is mainly due to an increase in Welsh Language Translation costs.

RESOURCES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	782	694	192	387	(867)

RESOURCES DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted front line services the directorate has equally suffered significantly but in different ways. The outturn position has moved significantly and positively from that reported at month 9. This is principally as a consequence of the shortfalls in income as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic being fully covered from Welsh Government's COVID Hardship Fund. A significant pressure resulting from B&B claims for homeless people, and which didn't attract full subsidy from DWP, has also been funded by Welsh Government's COVID-19 Hardship Fund.

The outturn position has also benefitted from vacancy savings and notably where senior finance posts and property posts are not being filled. This is not a sustainable position and will not be a permanent

feature and is currently being addressed.

FINANCE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	137	189	173	39	(755)

Finance - £237k underspent – This is due to staff savings from senior finance staff vacancies.

Audit - £52k underspent due to staff savings as we have funded collaboration costs through capital as part of capitalisation directive (£36k) and savings due to maternity leave (£14.5k).

Revenues - £374k underspend. This can be attributed to :-

- **Benefits** - £63k overspent. This reflects the net position against the Housing Benefit budget once all subsidies and grants have been taken into account. Certain projects, especially for drug and alcohol support, are not eligible for full subsidy and fall to the council to finance any shortfall.
 - **Council Tax** - £59k overspend. This is mainly due to an over spend against salary costs as budget has been moved as part of the Resources restructure, this has been offset by underspends in finance above.
 - **Charity Relief** - £477k underspend. This is due to 2 main reasons 1) We haven't used any funding set aside in 20-21 for Business Rate support (this is separate to the covid support grants) 2) We also received £347,000 funding from Welsh Government for the administration of the Business Support Grant process. The income is to cover additional staff and admin costs incurred but these are held within the relevant services department.
 - **Debtors** - £19k underspend – this is due to a staff vacancy saving, due to the financial impact of covid19 the decision was made not to fill this post until April 2021.
- Systems & Cashiers** - £95k underspend – main reasons relate to software and system development savings and security carrier costs as activity is down due to Covid shutdown.

There is a large positive swing from month 9 of £796k – this is due to the receipt of Covid support payments driving down the over spend in housing benefits. In addition the extent of funding available from the Business Support grant was not known at M9.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	40	(128)	(431)	(431)	(76)

The ICT section has underspent by £76k. This is due to savings within SRS that meant our annual cost was £55k below budgeted contribution and underspends in the Digital Programme Team of £17k.

The £355k negative swing from Month 9 is due to 1) we had anticipated moving staff costs from the DPO to capital as part of the capitalisation directive, due to the overall positive position of the authority this adjustment was not undertaken. 2) we had reported at M9 that we would be drawing back from SRS some MCC specific reserves – this has now not happened as we are anticipating these reserves will be needed in 21-22 to finance specific projects.

PEOPLE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(2)	6	(68)	(112)	(53)

- **People Services** - £32k overspend - this is due to system development costs of the new payroll system offset by staff savings as a result of posts only been filled part way through the year. It was reported at M9 that the system development costs would be moved to capital but it has been decided to leave these within the service and is the reason for the reduction in underspend between the reporting periods.

- **Organisational Development** - £63k underspend, this is mainly due to staff savings as we have transferred staff costs involved with service transformation to capital as part of the capitalisation directive.

- **Customer Relations** - £23k underspend due to a reduction in professional fees and staff secondment savings.

FUTURE MONMOUTHSHIRE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	112	112	82	82	83

Future Monmouthshire - £83k overspend. £112k of Corporate Agency and travel savings have been built into the budget for 20-21 – currently these are deemed unachievable or are being achieved within directorate budgets and are thus contained in their respective forecasts. This has been offset by staff savings of £30k as we are covering secondment costs of a member of staff from WG.

COMMERCIAL & CORPORATE LANDLORD

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	495	515	437	808	(44)

Commercial & Corporate Landlord is forecasting a £44k underspend:-

- **Investment Properties** has underspent by £200k, this can be split into 3 areas:-

- **Investment Assets other** - £200k overspent, our MTFP for 20-21 included a £200k saving to reflect additional income from the purchase of more investment properties. No additional purchases were made in 20-21 (due to Covid) so the saving could not be achieved.
- **Newport Leisure Park** – On Budget. The pandemic has affected the leisure and retail sector greatly in 20-21, this has impacted on rental receipts at our Newport site as most of the units have been closed for the majority of the year. Officers have worked with tenants to recover owed rent where applicable, any rental shortfall due to lockdown restrictions has been fully funded by the WG Covid 19 Hardship fund, and this additional support has enabled us to report a break-even budget for 20-21.
- **Castlegate** – On Budget. Castlegate has seen in year savings of £165k relating to windfall loan repayments and reductions in consultant and insurance costs – this saving has been moved to reserves, this reserve is set up to provide a sinking fund to support the investment and protect MCC position against any negative impacts as set out in the investment plan. This movement to reserves brings the budget back to a break-even position.

- **Estates** - £22k underspent – this is mainly due to a shortfall in income of £100k as the creation of a development company has been delayed, offset by staff savings (£120k) as a result of vacant posts not being filled during the year.

- **Solar Farm & Sustainability**- £97k underspent – despite a drop in ROC unit prices due to a drop off in demand because of lockdown our renewables are still returning a surplus and we have generated enough income to exceed budget, in addition we have seen a small underspend in rates, maintenance and professional fees.

• A combined net underspend in **County Farms, Cemeteries, Markets & Industrial units** of £27k – this is mainly due to staff savings in Markets being offset by a reduction in rental income in County Farms due to the change in farm portfolio.

• **Property Services & Facilities Mgt** has underspent by £109k, made up as follows:-

- Property & Office Services underspent by £28k, this is mainly due to staff savings as vacant posts were not filled during the year, this has been offset by a reduction in capital income as we were unable to charge fees on projects delayed due to Covid.
- Corporate Building Maintenance has underspent by £52k, we were able to move elements of school maintenance costs to a WG grant – this has created an under spend that was not known at M9.
- Property Accommodation has underspent by £70k due to savings in maintenance and utilities costs as offices have been closed or in limited operation due to Covid19.
- Telephony underspent by £15k as contracted call charges came in below budget.

There has been a large positive swing of £852k from what was reported at Month 9, this can mainly be attributed to the receipt of WG Covid support grant driving down overspends in Investments and Estates.

CORPORATE COSTS & LEVIES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,480	66	43	12	(2,569)
PRECEPTS & LEVIES					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	2	2	2	2	2
Small overspend on National parks levy of £2k due to notification of levy late in the budget process.					
CORONERS SERVICES					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	23	23	23	35	35
An increase in workload and staffing requirements along with DDA compliance works will lead to a forecast £35k overspend against budget.					
CORPORATE MANAGEMENT					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(114)	(191)	(231)	(319)
Primarily due to the forecast receipt receivable on the final dissolution of Capita Gwent Consultancy (£109k), rate refunds on Authority owned premises which were not known about until mid-way through the year (£120k), and additional unbudgeted dividend from the Greater Gwent Crematorium (£73k)					
NON DISTRIBUTED COSTS					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	108	108	215	215	192

Additional pension strain costs relating to redundancies. Strain costs relate to staff who retire before their normal pension age and where the employer is required to top up the pension fund to cover the shortfall in contributions. The majority of these costs would not have been known about at budget setting stage due to the uncertainty over the timing, value and individual pension implications of redundancies.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,300	0	(61)	(61)	(2,436)

The budgets held for incremental pay pressure (£420k pressure) and cross directorate efficiency savings (£359k saving) are to remain centrally and not be distributed to service budgets.

Alongside this and notified since month 9, receipt of significant specific Covid-19 grants from Welsh Government totalling £2.38m that have been taken corporately and to assist in future financial resilience.

INSURANCE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	47	46	56	53	(43)

A slight over spend against the premium budget of £27k based on the results of the Insurance renewal and the increase in costs for the period Oct 2020 to April 2021 due to the worsening of claims experience. The flooding events led to a significant property claim at Monmouth LC and Covid19 has led to significant travel claims relating to cancelled school trips.

This is more than offset by savings in self-insured costs and professional fees based on claims activity during the year of £70k.

APPROPRIATIONS	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(77)	(83)	(163)	(263)	3,574

FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL COSTS

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	25	6	6	3

Costs forecast over and above the current budget due to unforeseen surveys and studies relating to disposal sites.

INTEREST & INVESTMENT INCOME

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	163	181	162	162	46

The forecast rate of return achievable following the Covid1-9 pandemic has reduced significantly from budgeted levels as the UK Government refines its economic response. To a lesser extent this has also impacted forecast returns on Property and combined funds which are propping up the current returns. The improvement since month 9 reflects the finalisation of returns in year on these combined funds which are often hard to estimate during the year given current market adjustments.

Government deposits have largely returned 0% and have at times given a negative rate of return on deposits, especially when taking into account transaction fees.

INTEREST PAYABLE & SIMILAR CHARGES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(126)	(164)	(230)	(330)	(338)

In October 2019 the PWLB took the unprecedented step of increasing its borrowing margin across the board by 1% in reaction to increased levels of borrowing by Local Authorities to fund commercial investments. This resulted in PWLB borrowing being uneconomic when compared to short term borrowing sourced from other public bodies and consequently the Authority's approach has been modified resulting in lower borrowing costs in the short term. PWLB has since reversed this decision but longer term rates continue to remain unattractive in the near term until capital spending plans are firmed up. Rates remain low on inter local authority borrowing further reducing costs.

CHARGES REQUIRED UNDER REGULATION

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(113)	(113)	(82)	(82)	(68)

A high level of slippage in the capital programme has resulted in some assets not being operational by 31/03/2020 and consequently the MRP charge for those assets being deferred by at least one year.

OTHER INVESTMENT INCOME

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(1)	(12)	(14)	(14)	(25)

Unexpected recoupment following the final winding up of Heritable bank which had previously defaulted, alongside small wayleaves and easement receipts.

TRANSFERS TO/FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	0	0	4,119

As outlined in the covering report

BORROWING COST RECOUPMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	(5)	(6)	(163)

The variance reflects the late addition of recoupment of unbudgeted borrowing costs in relation to energy efficient street lighting capital schemes. The scheme arrangements were clarified well into the financial year and as a result the borrowing cost recoupment was not forecast during the year.

FINANCING	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	20	(156)	(209)	(405)

COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT SUPPORT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	324	229	159	2

This budget has been under particular pressure, as a direct result of Covid 19. Since the beginning of the year caseload has increased rising from 5,721 at the start of April 2020 to 6,168 by the end of March 2021. This increase in cases resulted in a £350,000 overspend by year end. However the Welsh Government released specific funding to Local Authorities to help manage this pressure. Monmouthshire received £348,000 such funding, resulting in a small over spend at year end.

COUNCIL TAX

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(305)	(385)	(368)	(407)

A council tax surplus has been anticipated throughout the year. Whilst the in year collection rate is down by 1.1% compared to the same time last year, the council tax base remained healthy. By the end of the year an additional 400 properties had been added to the tax base resulting in the surplus reported above.

2. SCHOOL BALANCES

- 2.1. A Board of Governors who are responsible for managing the school's finances directly governs each of the Authority's Schools. However, the Authority also holds a key responsibility for monitoring the overall financial performance of schools. Below is a table showing the outturn forecast Schools' balances position based on month 9 projections for each Educational Cluster.
- 2.2. The monitoring earlier in the year at month 2 included a surplus balance of £206,518 for Mounton House. As the school has now closed this balance has been transferred into central education budgets, of which, £107,000 has been used to support the placement costs for the 3 remaining MCC pupils and the remaining £100,000 has been used to offset the overspend in CYP.

Council Fund Outturn 2020/21 – School Balances Summary outturn position	Reserves (Surplus) / Deficit 01/04/2020	Movement from / (to) School Balances	Reserves (Surplus) / Deficit 31/03/2021	Number Schools in deficit 01/04/2020 Primary/ Secondary	Number Schools in deficit 01/04/2020 Primary/ Secondary
	£000's	£'000	£'000		
Cluster					
Abergavenny	(118)	(1,040)	(1,158)	2 1	0 0
Caldicot	160	(1,250)	(1,091)	4 1	0 0
Chepstow	24	(373)	(349)	2 1	0 1
Monmouth	518	(1,313)	(794)	4 1	1 0
Special	(149)	123	(26)	1 0	0 0
Total	435	(3,853)	(3,418)	13 4	1 1

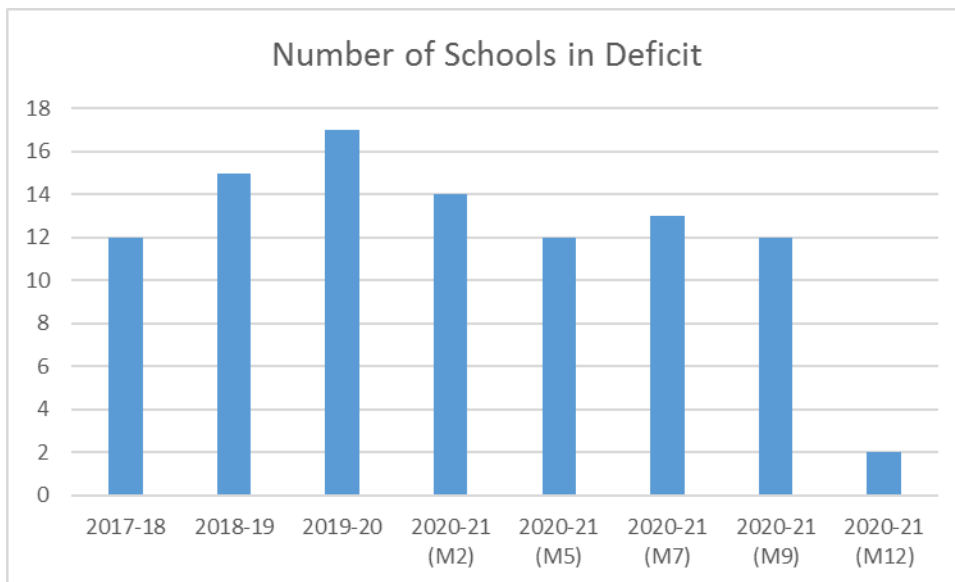
- 2.3. In terms of the overall movement in school balances, 2020/21 has been an unprecedented year. Schools have received several specific Welsh Government grants totalling £1.77m to further support them and their pupils and these have predominately displaced core budgets in 2020/21 or been committed for use in 2021/22 in line with the grant terms. Furthermore, due largely to the sustained periods of enforced closure during the financial year spending on budgets areas such as staff cover, premises, supplies & services and examination fees, were significantly curtailed and produced savings totalling £2.08m.
- 2.4. These factors mean that the overall level of the school reserves has increased by £3.85m as at the 31st March 2021, taking schools collectively out of a net deficit of £435k to an overall surplus of £3.42m. As a result of this 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit have returned to a surplus balance.
- 2.5. The two main grants received from Welsh Government relate to a Schools Revenue Maintenance Grant and Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards. Schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government (£50k for a Primary, £100k for a Secondary) will be asked to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend the significant surplus balances being held. It is also clear that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to a situation of 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.
- 2.6. In particular and in specific relation to Chepstow Comprehensive, when the windfall Welsh Government grants are disregarded, it masks a significant in-year budget deficit that has been brought about significantly due to the curtailing of any staff redundancies during the pandemic and

that were pivotal to their recovery plans. This leaves the school in a comparably weaker position than they would have been in if they had executed their recovery plans as intended, and where they do not now have the level of surplus balances that the other three comprehensive schools now have to strategically invest over the medium term.

2.7. The movement of individual schools forecast to be in deficit during the year and the final position is shown below:

Start of year	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	End of year
Total: 17	Total: 14	Total: 12	Total: 13	Total: 12	Total: 2
Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	
Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive
King Henry VIII Comprehensive	King Henry VIII Comprehensive	**			
Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	
Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary
Llantilio Pertholey CIW Primary					
Magor CIW Primary					
Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	
Overmonnow Primary			Overmonnow Primary	Overmonnow Primary	
Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	
Raglan CiW Primary	Raglan CiW Primary				
Rogiet Primary					
St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	
	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	
Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary		
Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	

** King Henry VIII Comprehensive School forecast balance at month 5 onwards included a Local Authority loan of £250,000 which was estimated to result in a surplus year-end balance. Given the current year end surplus, the school will not be taking the loan at this time.



- 2.8. All schools in a deficit budget have, or are in the process of agreeing recovery plans. These recovery plans will be confirmed with both the Local Education Authority and each School's Governing Body. Once finalised the schools with significant deficits will be monitored by the Cabinet member for Children and Young People and Resources on a termly basis.
- 2.9. Total schools balances have been exhibiting a fluctuating trend with some schools showing a continuing reduction in schools balances, which is of concern, and others a more balanced trend. However, as previously mentioned, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, several grants were awarded to schools at year end, which has resulted in a large increase in school balances for 2020-21.

Financial Year	School Balances (Surplus)/Deficit £000	Year on Year Movement £000	Number of Schools in Deficit
2014-15	(1,140)		5
2015-16	(1,156)	(16)	6
2016-17	(269)	887	12
2017-18	(175)	94	12
2018-19	232	407	15
2019-20	435	203	17
2020-21	(3,418)	(3,853)	2

3 CAPITAL OUTTURN

3.1 The summary Capital outturn position is as follows:

Capital Outturn Position 2020/21

Select Portfolio	Slippage B/F	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Approved Slippage	Revised Budget 2020/21	Actual Outturn	Variance at Outturn	Variance at M9
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Expenditure								
Children & Young People	1,245	14,423	1,872	(15,381)	2,160	2,151	(9)	0
Economic & Development	17,496	3,068	30	(19,274)	1,320	1,320	0	0
Adult	300	5,678	0	(5,964)	14	14	0	0
Strong Communities	5,801	10,139	12,079	(9,301)	18,718	15,546	(3,171)	(157)
Total Expenditure	24,842	33,308	13,981	(49,920)	22,211	19,031	(3,180)	(157)
Financing								
Supported Borrowing	0	(2,417)	0	0	(2,417)	(2,417)	0	0
General Capital Grant	0	(2,423)	0	0	(2,423)	(2,423)	0	0
Grants and Contributions	(393)	(18,229)	(10,826)	19,095	(10,353)	(8,623)	(1,730)	157
S106 Contributions	(1,052)	0	(166)	711	(507)	(507)	0	0
Unsupported Borrowing	(22,546)	(5,275)	(2,032)	27,217	(2,637)	(3,442)	805	0
Reserve & Revenue Funding	(239)	(2)	(252)	241	(252)	(252)	0	0
Capital Receipts	(612)	(3,462)	(705)	2,656	(2,123)	(1,042)	(1,080)	0
Leasing	0	(1,500)	0	0	(1,500)	(325)	(1,175)	0
Total Financing	(24,842)	(33,308)	(13,981)	49,920	(22,211)	(19,031)	(3,180)	157

3.2 The capital expenditure outturn for 2020/21 shows a saving of £3.18m against budget, however it is important to note that this does not fully represent released capital financing available for future use. The variances can be explained as follows:

- Reduced usage of the Capitalisation Directive budget by £1.08m following clarification of the revenue outturn position. This subsequently releases capital receipts back to the capital receipts reserve to utilise for future capital investment.
- Specific grant funding budgets of £1.92m that have not been able to be spent within the financial year primarily due to a combination of late notification of the grant awards, a lack of resources available to complete eligible works and a shortage of appropriate schemes that fit within the grant criteria stipulated. This under spend does not release any capital financing for future use as the grant actually paid matches the overall expenditure.

- Vehicle replacement has under spent by £172k due to clarification of vehicles requirements during the year. These purchases were originally budgeted to be funded by leasing but following an options appraisal it was more cost-effective to finance the majority of vehicles via borrowing. The under spend does not release any capital financing for future use.

3.3 The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption to the progress of budgeted capital schemes with slippage at outturn totalling £49.92m (£40.45m at month 9). The Covid-19 impact is affecting both internally and externally managed projects, with disruption to external supply chains, increased contract risk and potential inflationary cost pressures sitting alongside internal resourcing pressures.

3.4 The slippage is broken down as follows:

Scheme	Forecast Slippage Month 2 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 5 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 7 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 9 (000's)	Actual Slippage At Outturn
Asset Investment fund		18,142	18,142	18,118	18,067
Tranche 'B' King Henry Future Schools			12,484	13,421	14,092
Crick Road Care Home	5,978	5,978	5,978	5,978	5,964
RE-FIT Programme					2,031
Flood Recovery Grant					1,337
City Deal					830
Highways Maintenance					812
Schools Maintenance					749
County Hall 'J' block		544	544	544	774
Section 106 schemes		131	78	148	692
Disabled Facilities Grants					613
21 st Century Schools Team				525	572
School Refurbishment				300	415
Car Park Improvements					328
'IT' Schemes					296
WG 'Resilient Roads'					292
Bridges & Retaining Walls					278
Recycling Vehicles and Boxes					261
'Green Infrastructure'					247
Abergavenny Borough Theatre Works				236	239
Access for All				390	238
County Farms					215
Council Chamber refurbishment & IT upgrade		200	200	200	200
Sewage Treatment Works				200	199
Abergavenny Community Hub development				47	73
Property schemes		229	74	138	0
Other schemes				203	106
Total	5,978	25,224	37,500	40,448	49,920

3.5 Useable Capital Receipts Available

3.6 In the table below, the effect of the changes to the forecast capital receipts on the useable capital receipts balances available to meet future capital commitments are illustrated. There is also a comparison to the balances forecast with the 2020/24 MTFP capital budget proposals.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance as at 1st April	3,040	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452
Capital receipts used for financing	(31)	(3,341)	(684)	(684)	(684)
Capital receipts used to support capitalisation direction	(1,011)	(2,208)	(2,208)	(508)	(508)
Capital receipts Received or Forecast	7,212	10,475	1,300	100	100
Forecast Balance as at 31st March	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452	10,360
Forecast Balance 2020/24 MTFP	9,904	10,245	10,791	10,136	10,136
Variance compared to 2020/24 MTFP	(694)	3,891	1,753	1,316	224

- 3.7 Capital receipts used to support the capitalisation direction were £1.08m less than budgeted for 2020/21, however this was offset by an overall delay in generating some receipts into 2021/22 and beyond and therefore results in a slightly reduced balance of receipts compared to the original budget.
- 3.8 Forecast receipts to be generated in future years have increased since the 2020/21 budget was set and this is demonstrated in the expected overall increase in receipt balances after affording additional capitalisation direction approved as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

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Disinvestment by Directorate 2020-21	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable YTD	Covid related	Non Covid	% Achieved
REVENUE MONITORING 2020-21	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Children & Young People	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	0	0	0	0	100%
Social Care & Health	(1,058)	0	(792)	(792)	(792)	(792)	0	(266)	166	100	75%
Enterprise	(569)	0	(422)	(432)	(392)	(392)	(20)	(158)	178	0	69%
Resources	(418)	0	(198)	(198)	(198)	(198)	(220)	0	220	0	47%
Chief Executives Units	(163)	0	(98)	(98)	(93)	(93)	(10)	(60)	70	0	57%
Corporate Costs & Levies	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	0	0	0	0	100%
Appropriations	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	0	0	0	0	100%
Sub total - Service Specific	(4,939)	(2,732)	(4,242)	(4,252)	(4,207)	(4,207)	(250)	(484)	634	100	85%
Financing	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	0	0	0	0	100%
DIRECTORATE Totals Disinvestments 2020-21	(10,336)	(8,129)	(9,639)	(9,649)	(9,604)	(9,604)	(250)	(484)	634	100	93%

Children & Young People	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable				ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000				
CYP capitalise direction for Mounton House recoupment income loss and repayment of reserve funding for inclusion centres	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)						
School based redundancies	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)						
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	0	0	0			
Social Care & Health	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable				ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000				
Renegotiate Severn View section 28A contract sum	(166)		0	0	0	0		(166)	166			No formal renegotiation of the section 28A agreement has taken place due to COVID 19 demands
Service Contract efficiency savings	(20)		(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)						
Practice change	(150)		(150)	(150)	(150)	(150)						
Fairer charging weekly threshold increases from £70 to £80 generating income following means test	(116)		(116)	(116)	(116)	(116)						
Disability Services - reduce budget in line with current year demand and forecast	(7)		(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)						
My Day My Life - Development of single Monmouth MDML Hub	(15)		(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)						
Fees and charges increases	(189)		(189)	(189)	(189)	(189)						

LAC savings - reduced legal costs	(100)		0	0	0	0		(100)		100		Based on the new Legal team structure allowing legal/court work to be done in house	
SCH Safeguarding team recruitment & training (capitalisation directive)	(45)		(45)	(45)	(45)	(45)							
Myst project consequences	(250)		(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)							
SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(1,058)	0	(792)	(792)	(792)	(792)	0	(266)	166	100			
Enterprise	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable				ASSESSMENT of Progress	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000					
ENT - School Meals - School Meals Price increase from £2.45 to £2.50.	(20)		0	0	0	0		(20)	20			Income is down due to Covid.	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Planning Application fee increase - WG set to increase price by 20%	(60)		(40)	(40)	0	0		(60)	60			Income down overall due to covid	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Charging customers who wish to amend application during process.	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Increasing Pre-app fees by 2.5%	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - New income from S106 monitoring fees	(20)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)		(18)	18			Income down due to covid	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Increase in L2 Pre-app income - fee increase	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved	
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Staff restructure	(27)		(27)	(27)	(27)	(27)						Achieved	
OPS - Waste - Issue "Tax Disc" style permits to all residents with council tax to reduce cross border traffic of waste (2019-20 Budget)	(50)		(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)						Achieved	
First year implementation costs of car parking proposals (2019-20 Budget)	(106)		(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	0					This is a reversal of a pressure provided in 19-20. Budget adjustment has been made.	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Charge For Access Markings	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Charge for Events signing	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase Road Closure Income Budget	(32)		(32)	(32)	(32)	(32)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase in Street Name & Numbering Charges (in particular developers)	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase in S50 Licences for Utilities	(15)		(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Software savings from new asset management system.	(7)		(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Provide design service for drainage schemes	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved	
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Utilising grant to cover staff costs	(10)		(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)						Achieved	

ENT - Passenger Transport Unit - PTU - Route Optimisation and workforce planning	(60)	0	0	0	0	0		(60)	60			This saving is unlikely to be made in 20/21.
ENT - Waste transfer station contract review	(40)		(40)	(40)	(40)	(40)						Achieved
ENT - Waste - Waste - Close Usk Recycling - but is dependant on policy approval by cabinet. Open Troy another day.	(30)		0	(10)	(10)	(10)	(20)		20			Awaiting decision
ENT - Hwys Operations - Staff Savings - Efficiencies in workforce and reception @ Raglan depot.	(9)		(9)	(9)	(9)	(9)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Winter Maintenance - Net saving from Route based forecasting software improving pre-salting accuracy.	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Reduction in Plant & Equipment Hire through investment	(3)		(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Provision of recycled tarmac to other local authorities.	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
Discretionary fees & charges	(48)		(48)	(48)	(48)	(48)						Achieved
ENTERPRISE Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(569)	0	(422)	(432)	(392)	(392)	(20)	(158)	178	0		
Chief Executive's Unit	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable				ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000				
GOVDEMSUP - Reduction in annual grant provided to Monmouth CAB (1k), releasing budget saving (3k)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)						Achieved
CEO - legal services to Fire and police	(10)		0	0	0	0	(10)		10			Covid has affected Fee earning capability
CEO - offsetting legal costs against capital projects and investment activity	(40)		(15)	(15)	(10)	(10)	0	(30)	30			Savings target too high, £20k is more achievable but this year has been affected by Covid.
CEO - Market and increase take-up of community education courses across all sites	(30)		0	0	0	0		(30)	30			Covid has prevented this happening so saving is unachievable now
CEO - staffing realignment across policy, and governance	(79)		(79)	(79)	(79)	(79)						Achieved
Discretionary fees & charges	(3)		(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)						Achieved
CHIEF EXECUTIVES' UNIT Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(163)	0	(98)	(98)	(93)	(93)	(10)	(60)	70	0		
Resources	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable				ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000				
CORPLLORD Estates RE-FIT Energy Savings (net after funding repayments)	0		0	0	0	0						
Commercial income	(200)			0	0	0	(200)		200			No further investments in commercial property has been undertaken this year due to Covid so this will not be achieved.
Senior officer reduction	(100)		(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)						Achieved

Exchequer savings	(20)		0	0	0	0	(20)		20		Due to a decision to halt the removal of cheques as a payment option in the light of Covid 19.
Discretionary fees & charges	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)					Achieved
RES - Senior Officer reduction	(60)		(60)	(60)	(60)	(60)					Achieved
Disinvest from top-up on discretionary business rate relief scheme	(37)		(37)	(37)	(37)	(37)					Achieved
RESOURCES Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(418)	0	(198)	(198)	(198)	(198)	(220)	0	220	0	
Corporate Costs & Levies	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable			ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Freeze pension contribution rate at 23.1% for next two years	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)					Achieved
Review of the full-cost corporate costs and insurance budgets	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)					Achieved
Living Wage Budget Reduction	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)					Achieved
Review of in year efficiency savings	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)					Achieved
CORP - Redundancy budget review	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)					Achieved
Housing completions forecast	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)					Achieved
CORPORATE COSTS Budgeted Savings Total 2019-20	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	0	0			
Appropriations	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable			ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Interest Receivable	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)					Achieved
Net Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) increase based on additional activity	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)					Achieved
Earmarked treasury eq reserve review	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)					Achieved
APPROPRIATIONS Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	0	0			
Financing	2020/21 Budgeted Savings	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn	Delayed Savings	Savings deemed Unachievable			ASSESSMENT of Progress
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
FIN - Council tax levels increased based on 2019-20 activity (RES DMT 11/10)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)					
AEF increase (+1% presumption)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)					
AEF increase - additional funding resulting from provisional settlement	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)					
AEF transfers in - teachers pay, teacherspensions and NHS funded nursing	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)					

AEF funding - assumed 100% WG funding of teachers pay increase - Apr to Aug '20	(491)	(491)	(491)	(491)	(491)	(491)						
AEF funding - assumed 100% WG funding of teachers pension increase	(689)	(689)	(689)	(689)	(689)	(689)						
Council tax increase to 4.95%	(575)	(575)	(575)	(575)	(575)	(575)						
CTRS 4.95% impact	66	66	66	66	66	66						
Council tax increase to 4.95%	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)						
FINANCING Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	0	0				

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Appendix 3 - Capitalisation directive 2020/21

Directorate	Expenditure	Justifacation to capitalise	Amount £000s
ENT	PTU Software - Route/pupil optimisation.	Driving a digital approach	45
RES	Capitalising work on Payroll and HR replacement system	Driving a digital approach	29
	Sub-Total Driving a digital approach		74
All	Capitalisation of redundancy costs - non-schools	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	30
CYP	Capitalisation of redundancy costs -schools	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	124
CYP	Accommodating income decline at Mounton Hse and Inclusion Centre implementation during service provision redesign	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	298
CYP	Inclusion centre costs	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	50
ENT	Waste Costs - Consultnant costs for new service delivery, bins related to new service.	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	95
RES	Innovation Team - Service Transformation/Systems Thinking	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	69
SCH	Safeguarding Team additional training & recruitment costs	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	45
	Sub-Total Funding the cost of service reconfiguration		711
SCH	Joint Local authority working (GWICES, Sc. 33, Frailty, regional safeguarding board, Gwent foster fee harmonisation and care home pooling	Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies	124
SCH	Deprivation of liberty safeguards	Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies	66
	Sub-Total Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies		190
RES	Audit - Sharing Audit manager with Newport CC	Sharing back-office and administrative services	37
	Sub-Total Sharing back-office and administrative services		37
	Total		1,011

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Appendix 4 - Movement in individual school balances

School	Balance 1st April 2020	Movement	Balance 31st March 2021
Caldicot School	179,693	(409,257)	(229,564)
Chepstow School	63,570	23,231	86,801
King Henry VIII Comprehensive	225,700	(423,196)	(197,496)
Monmouth Comprehensive	462,530	(676,722)	(214,192)
Mounton House Special School	(172,060)	172,060	0
Cross Ash Primary School	(64,157)	(18,313)	(82,470)
Durand Primary School	(12,691)	(65,193)	(77,884)
Gilwern Primary School	(64,549)	(102,302)	(166,851)
Goytre Fawr Primary School	(34,893)	(56,646)	(91,539)
Llandogo Primary School	176,535	(89,705)	86,830
Llantilio Pertholey CiW Primary School (VC)	21,016	(88,231)	(67,215)
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	(49,684)	(54,986)	(104,670)
Magor CiW Primary School (VA)	18,785	(135,987)	(117,202)
Overmonnow Primary School	33,928	(75,032)	(41,104)
Raglan CiW Primary School (VC)	33,112	(141,989)	(108,877)
Rogiet Primary School	4,404	(82,499)	(78,095)
Shirenewton Primary School	(128,890)	(47,356)	(176,246)
St Mary's RC Primary School (VA)	46,518	(67,378)	(20,860)
The Dell Primary School	(3,032)	(45,378)	(48,410)
Thornwell Primary School	47,150	(112,037)	(64,887)
Trellech Primary School	(50,948)	(64,743)	(115,691)
Undy Primary School	145,925	(152,295)	(6,370)
Usk CiW Primary School (VC)	(45,942)	(97,113)	(143,055)
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	4,408	(38,775)	(34,367)
Archbishop Rowan Williams CiW Primary School (VA)	(83,716)	(122,680)	(206,396)
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	45,883	(61,521)	(15,638)
Deri View Primary School	(73,956)	(74,153)	(148,109)
Cantref Primary School	(105,193)	(94,604)	(199,797)
Osbaston CiW Primary School (VC)	11,250	(51,859)	(40,609)
Dewstow Primary School	(136,455)	(101,356)	(237,811)
Our Lady & St Michael's (OLSM) RC Primary School (VA)	(15,859)	(38,534)	(54,393)
Pembroke Primary School	(1,205)	(124,302)	(125,507)
Kymin View Primary School	(37,955)	(97,350)	(135,305)
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	(24,871)	(68,562)	(93,433)
Castle Park Primary School	(2,153)	(119,700)	(121,853)
Pupil Referral Unit	22,931	(48,943)	(26,012)
Total	435,129	(3,853,406)	(3,418,277)

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SELECT	CODE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT SCHEME CATEGORY	TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET	APPROVED SLIPPAGE	Reason Project has been delayed against original budgeted profile	Was delay Authority Controllable?
E&D	90325	Asset Investment Fund	Development Schemes Over £250k	19,222,294.00	18,067,403.48	Investments delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCH	90328	Crick Road Care Home	Development Schemes Over £250k	5,977,869.73	5,964,030.13	Delayed due to wider Covid 19 impacts	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90334	RE:FIT Programme	Development Schemes Over £250k	2,031,329.43	2,031,329.43	Delayed by Covid - will start in 21-22 once access to buildings is granted.	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90041	Capital Region City Deal	Development Schemes Over £250k	952,487.29	829,625.63	Funding not required in 20-21	No
SCOMM	90317	Usk County Hall J Block Major Refurb	Development Schemes Over £250k	794,471.26	773,617.26	Covid has halted the construction of new car park.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90330	Abergavenny Borough Theatre Works	Development Schemes Over £250k	385,724.50	239,489.47	Covid has delayed the internal structural refurbishment until 21-22.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98852	Car Park Improvements/Refurb	Development Schemes Over £250k	149,772.00	149,772.00	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90321	Abergavenny Community Hub Development	Development Schemes Over £250k	1,024,462.46	72,582.89	Covid has delayed the external painting until 21-22.	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90320	Caerwent House, Major Repairs	Development Schemes Over £250k	50,800.00	50,800.00	Funding not required in 20-21	No
CYP	98218	Schools Improvement Grant 1819	Development Schemes Over £250k	180,105.64	33,513.34	£89k to be used to offset 98901	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90333	Chepstow LC Feasibility Study	Development Schemes Over £250k	30,000.00	30,000.00	Project delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98906	Caldicot Cluster Project	Development Schemes Over £250k	20,000.00	4,280.89	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98219	Upgrade School Kitchens	Development Schemes Under £250k - Essential Works	71,066.75	71,066.75	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98060	Fixed Asset disposal costs	Development Schemes Under £250k - Essential Works	277,369.50	15,973.79	Not all funding required in 20-21.	No
SCOMM	91100	Access For All	Development Schemes Under £250k - Other Recommend	500,000.00	184,941.00	Access to buildings affected by Covid.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98826	Car Park Granville St & Wyebridge St	Development Schemes Under £250k - Other Recommend	184,254.02	177,989.02	Construction delayed by Covid and ecological and drainage surveys - works are now due to begin in June so budget needs to be slipped.	No
CYP	98845	King Henry VIII - Future Schools Tranche B	Education Strategic Review	14,333,333.00	14,092,048.56	This is fully committed and will be used for band B in 2021-22 onwards	No - Covid Delays
CYP	96632	21st Century Schools Team	Education Strategic Review	638,678.32	572,302.18	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98621	ESR: Access For All	Education Strategic Review	96,207.91	53,142.18	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98681	Monmouth Leisure Centre/Pool Redesign	Education Strategic Review	42,088.97	42,088.97	Fully Committed	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97369	Highways OPS: Minor improvements	Infrastructure	812,000.00	812,000.00	Projects have been delayed by a mixture of Covid and weather. Resources have been redirected to deal with flooding matters that have been separately funded by WG grants - request to slip into 21-22 to help offset known pressures in the programme.	No - Covid & Weather Delays
SCOMM	97215	Reconstruction of Bridges & Retaining Walls	Infrastructure	399,041.00	278,209.34		
SCOMM	97302	Signing Upgrades And Disabled Facilities	Infrastructure	38,091.00	38,091.00		
SCOMM	97239	Safety Fence Upgrades	Infrastructure	66,181.00	26,196.00		
SCOMM	97306	Structural Repairs - PROW	Infrastructure	60,091.33	24,814.53		
SCOMM	97381	Mounton Road Footpath	Infrastructure	17,837.00	17,837.00		
SCOMM	97352	Road Safety & Trafficman Programme	Infrastructure	114,508.00	5,094.94		

SCOMM	99523	Recycling Vehicles and Boxes	Infrastructure	261,021.68	261,021.68	Part of green waste service reconfiguration, plant & equipment will be purchased in 21-22 so budget needs to be slipped.	No
SCOMM	90900	Council Chamber IT equipment replacement & building works	Infrastructure	200,000.00	200,000.00	Refurbishment delayed by Covid.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97379	New Street Lighting Enhancement Project	Infrastructure	542,742.76	133,372.74	Part of Salix Loan - unspent budget will be needed in 21-22 to complete LED installation programme	Yes - Replacement programme was always going to extend into 21-22
SCOMM	97389	Penyrhiw Sewage Treatment Works	Infrastructure	100,000.00	100,000.00	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97388	Shirenewton Sewage Treatment	Infrastructure	100,000.00	99,385.00	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
E&D	96636	SRS administered network and infrastructure replacement	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	170,000.00	170,000.00	Developments delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
E&D	96634	Windows 10 Laptops	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	112,630.80	112,630.80	Supply affected by Covid - slippage requested into 21-22	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	96621	Provision of online facilities Revenue's section	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	13,000.00	13,000.00	System development delayed.	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98226	School Refurbishment Grant	Maintenance Schemes - General	644,843.25	415,071.79	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98059	County Farms Maintenance & Reinvestment	Maintenance Schemes - General	348,136.19	215,328.20	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
CYP	95860	Various Schools - Legionella remedial works	Mechanical Services	10,000.00	9,858.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	95227	Trellech Primary - Refurbish kitchen & upgrade equipment	Property - DECORATION	135,754.00	135,754.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95228	Usk Primary - Replacement of defective dining tables	Property - DECORATION	5,506.00	5,506.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	98860	Various properties: Rectification after Fixed Wire Testing	Property - Electrical Services	84,554.04	68,785.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95219	Shirenewton Primary - Replace End of life EMS Wireless Fire Alarm	Property - Electrical Services	36,700.00	36,700.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95220	Thornwell Primary - Provision of lighting to foot path main entrance including additional ductwork	Property - Electrical Services	33,276.00	33,276.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95218	Osbaston Primary - Replace End of life EMS Wireless Fire Alarm	Property - Electrical Services	31,700.00	31,700.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95217	Osbaston Primary - Provision of lighting to foot path between buildings including additional ductwork	Property - Electrical Services	23,240.00	23,240.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95215	Chepstow Comprehensive - Change Federal Electric Sub mains boards to MCCB Panel.	Property - Electrical Services	16,724.00	16,724.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95241	Ysgol Y-Fenni School Lighting Enhancement	Property - Electrical Services	10,625.00	10,389.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95174	Various properties - Works to ensure safe access to school properties	Property - External Areas	75,000.00	40,702.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95236	Monmouth Leisure Centre - Upgrade car park area	Property - External Areas	39,168.00	39,168.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95238	Undy Primary - Repairs to uneven pathways & yards	Property - External Areas	18,205.00	18,205.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95175	Various properties - Repair to boundary walls for health & safety reasons	Property - External Areas	15,000.00	14,703.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95237	Raglan Depot - Relay drainage to septic tank	Property - External Areas	3,000.00	3,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95188	Caldicot Castle - Commencement of Phase 2 works to deweed & conserve ancient walls	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	91,679.00	91,679.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A

SCOMM	95195	Various Properties - Continue works to safely remove asbestos materials in conjunction with surveys & site works	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	50,000.00	44,929.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95126	Abergavenny Castle - Rolling works to deweed & maintain ancient walls	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	14,728.00	12,728.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95187	St Marys Primary - Replacement of floor year 3/4	Property - Floors & Stairs	4,183.00	4,183.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95242	Usk J Block Wall & Floor Repair	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	87,271.00	81,877.24	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95197	Thornwell Primary - Refurbishment of toilet areas	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	48,530.00	48,530.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95198	Magor Primary - Refurbishment of toilet areas	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	48,503.00	48,503.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95196	Various Properties -Continue works to upgrade wall, doors & screens as recommended in fire risk assessment reports	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	40,000.00	40,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95011	Various properties - refurbish & upgrade fire doors & screens	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	23,384.00	25,013.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95839	Aber Market - Repair & Dec Corn Exh	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	17,217.00	2,902.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	98720	Various Sites - Replace out of date air conditioning	Property - Mechanical Services	40,000.00	29,326.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95096	Various properties : Legionella remedial works	Property - Mechanical Services	27,251.00	25,550.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95144	Caldicot Leisure Centre - Water mains replacement work	Property - Mechanical Services	24,446.00	24,446.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95212	Various properties - BMS upgrade - controls to new Trend System	Property - Mechanical Services	20,000.00	20,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95211	Shire Hall - Replacement of boiler(s)	Property - Mechanical Services	18,000.00	17,250.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95204	Chepstow Comprehensive - New water heaters	Property - Mechanical Services	15,000.00	15,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95203	Castle Park -Upgrade flow sensor to return pipe in Plaza	Property - Mechanical Services	6,099.00	2,074.28	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95205	Chepstow Comprehensive - Upgrade underfloor manifolds	Property - Mechanical Services	4,592.00	1,789.67	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95180	Chepstow Museum - Investigate & repair roof leaks to stack & flat roof	Property - Roofs	50,000.00	50,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95183	Usk Primary - Replace defective guttering & downpipes	Property - Roofs	17,861.00	17,861.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	94985	Innovation House Magor – Roofing	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	231,796.00	80,235.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95201	Caldicot Leisure Centre - Renew mains water supply pipe	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	50,000.00	50,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95200	County Hall - Refurbishment & form new shower facilities in the PTU building	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	34,085.00	33,735.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95138	Osbaston Primary - Upgrade infants toilets	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	16,441.00	16,441.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	94984	Chepstow Comprehensive – Replacement of Water Heaters.	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	13,000.00	13,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	99202	Disabled Facilities Grants (Private)	Renovation Grants	1,075,402.99	601,571.62	Covid delayed works due to access issues - slippage requested to help cope with backlog in 21-22.	No - Covid Delays

SCOMM	90904	S106 – Chippenham Mead Play Area	Section 106	111,421.00	111,421.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90850	S106 – Lion Street Works	Section 106	168,304.84	96,966.65	Works have been delayed by design and SABS requirement from WG - slippage requested to help fund works in 21-22	No
CYP	90870	S106 – ALN Overmonnow Special Needs Resource Base	Section 106	201,000.00	87,263.00	This is fully committed and will be used for ALN projects in 2021-22	Yes
SCOMM	90905	S106 – Clydach Ironworks Enhancement Scheme	Section 106	53,000.00	53,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90827	S106 Destination Play Area (Monmouth)	Section 106	49,741.26	49,741.26	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90902	S106 – Linda Vista Gardens	Section 106	30,000.00	30,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90890	S106 - Rockfield Central Open Space and Play Area (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	29,000.00	29,000.00	Awaiting Cabinet Report	No
SCOMM	90831	S106 Little Mill Trail (Little Mill)	Section 106	27,636.22	27,636.22	Awaiting planning permission. Project will continue in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90882	S106 Children's Voices in Play Project (Forensic Science Lab)	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90889	S106 - Monmouth Allotments (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90903	S106 – Abergavenny Skate Park	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	98881	Cae Meldon S106 Off Site Recreation	Section 106	23,020.00	23,020.00	Held up by A465 duelling works.	No
SCOMM	90844	S106 Llanelly Hill Welfare Car Park (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	22,441.00	22,441.00	Unspent - allocation to be reviewed in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90891	S106 - Capel Ed Chapel Internal Alterations (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	20,000.00	20,000.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90839	S106 Gilwern Towpath Upgrade (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	18,000.00	18,000.00	Unspent - allocation to be reviewed in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90854	S106 Wyesham Highways Road Safety Improvements	Section 106	13,645.29	13,645.29	Scheme not started.	No
E&D	90885	Warrenslade Woodland Management	Section 106	9,569.20	9,119.20	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90883	Magor Walking Routes, Access & Promotion	Section 106	4,608.00	4,608.00	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90842	S106 Gilwern OEC (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	4,190.46	4,190.46	Majority of works complete - slight delay due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90898	S106 - Mardy Growing Space Group (Croesonen Farm - Infants School)	Section 106	24,669.00	2,669.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90887	S106 -Monmouth Leisure Centre 3G MUGA resurfacing (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	21,528.00	2,255.00	Majority of works complete - slight delay due to Covid	No
SCOMM	90895	S106 - Goytre Scouts – Kayaking Resources (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	20,658.00	2,066.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90894	S106 - Goytre Primary School Environmental Sustainability (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	30,870.00	1,885.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90892	S106 - Goytre Community Garden (Pleasant R – School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	1,425.00	1,425.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90868	S106 – Pen Y Fal Footbridge Major Maintenance	Section 106	950.00	950.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	99229	WG – Flood Recovery Grant 2021	Specific Grant Funded	1,973,224.96	826,853.00	Repair work has been delayed due to Covid & weather, WG have given permission to use in 21-22 to clear backlog.	No - Covid & Weather Delays
SCOMM	99207	SLSP Programme - AONB Office	Specific Grant Funded	128,700.00	107,860.83	Delayed	No
SCOMM	97392	Monmouthshire Infrastructure & Place Regeneration	Specific Grant Funded	200,000.00	24,759.29	Not all allocation was required in 20-21, schemes to continue in 21-22 so slippage requested.	No

SCOMM	98861	WELTEG Chepstow Transport Study 2020-21	Specific Grant Funded	212,500.00	9,670.46	Scheme to extend into 21-22 - slippage required to help fund our match contribution.	Yes - Scheme was always going to extend into 21-22
		Total		57,045,462.05	49,919,829.46		

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SUBJECT:	UK Government Funding Opportunities: Levelling Up Fund and Community Renewal Fund
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	09th June 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE:

To consider the Council's proposals for the submission into two UK Government funding opportunities; Levelling Up Fund and Community Renewal Fund and provide a strategic overview of the emerging projects and priority areas.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 To endorse the strategic direction of travel as set out within the report and to note the bid criteria and deadlines which define the shape of the projects that are eligible for submission.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 The UK Government has launched three investment programmes which aim to level up communities across the country. These new investment programmes are:

- The UK Community Renewal Fund
- The Levelling up Fund
- The Community Ownership Fund (launch anticipated later this year)

3.2 The UK Community Renewal Fund (CRF):

3.2.1 UK Government is providing £220 million of funding, for 2021/22, to help local areas prepare for the launch of the UK Shared Prosperity fund in 2022. This fund aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK, to pilot programmes and new approaches, that will invest in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment.

3.2.2 The European Union Structural Funds end in 2023 following the UK's exit from the European Union. UK Government has committed to at least matching the EU receipts through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which will average around £1.5 billion per annum and will publish an Investment Framework for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund later this year.

3.2.3 UK CRF is a capacity building fund to pilot projects within this financial year and look to tackle challenges and trial new approaches and ideas at a local level. The Fund provides an opportunity to help build upon creating a safer, greener, more prosperous, and neighbourly country as we emerge from the COVID 19 pandemic.

3.3 Funding priorities and Criteria:

3.3.1 The UK CRF is designed to explore how to tackle local and unique challenges whilst addressing four UK Government Investment priorities:

- Investment in skills
- Investment for local business

- Investment in communities and place
- Supporting people into employment

The projects also need to build on local insight and knowledge and demonstrate a contribution to net zero carbon objectives or wider environmental considerations. This can include low or zero carbon best practice, adopting and supporting innovative clean technology where possible, supporting growing skills and supply chains in support of net zero where possible.

3.3.2 Strategic Alignment and Complementarity

As set out within the UK CRF prospectus, projects need to be able to evidence their strategic fit and link to local economic and business need; target people most in need and support community renewal.

3.3.3 Eligibility Criteria

Each Local Authority is the lead body for the submission of proposals to UK Government and will be responsible for the administration of up to £3 million to support the priorities set out. There are several eligibility criteria that must be met including (but not limited to):

- Projects to be delivered by a legally constituted organisation that can receive public funds;
- Evidence wider impact for multiple individuals, businesses, or other organisations – bids from single businesses will not be accepted.
- Maximise impact and deliverability through larger projects (£500k) where possible;
- **90% revenue/10% capital** funding overall, bids to calibrate accordingly;
- **Maximum cap of £3m** per Local Authority area;
- Complete delivery of activity and reach financial conclusion **by 31 March 2022**

3.4 **Timeline**

3.4.1 The timeline for the preparation of bids and submissions to UK Government is challenging. The bid development timeline is as follows:

- The fund was opened to applications from local businesses, groups, voluntary and community sector organisations and internal departments across the County on Wednesday 21st April 2021 and the application window closed at 17:00 on Friday 14th May;
- Appraisals were undertaken by officers within MCC and the Vale of Usk Local Action Group, who oversee the administration of the Rural Development Programme, on the 27th May 2021;
- Projects must be shortlisted and prioritised to a maximum value of £3m.
- MCC must submit shortlisted projects to UK Government by noon on **18th June 2021**.
- UK Government will assess the proposals and select projects based on the criteria – it is estimated that this will happen in July 2021;
- Subject to funding being awarded by UK Government, MCC will issue Grant agreements to successful bidders and will undertake monitoring and assurance activity.

3.5 **Applications Overview**

3.5.1 A total of 20 applications have been received from a wide variety of local groups, voluntary and community sector organisations, businesses and internal departments totalling £4,166,546. These applications need to be shortlisted and prioritised to the maximum value of £3m.

The quality of submissions has been excellent, and the projects range from:

- Digital marketing training and mentoring package for local businesses;
- Support for social housing providers with a particular emphasis on 'greener energy' optimisation and apprenticeship opportunities;
- A range of business support packages;
- Technology to support cleaner, greener communities;
- Feasibility studies for leisure and heritage sites;
- Support for the sustainability of community activities and events;
- Regional approach to employment skills;
- Community arts for young people;
- Integrated well-being provision;
- Data poverty trials;
- Collaborative approaches to sustainable food development.

3.6 The Levelling Up Fund (LUF)

3.6.1 The £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund which is available until 2024/25, will invest in infrastructure that improves everyday life across the UK, including regenerating town centres and high streets, upgrading local transport, and investing in cultural and heritage assets.

3.6.2 The UK LUF is open to all local areas in the UK and funding will be prioritised for areas which have the most significant need referenced by a priority category. In the first round of funding, the LUF will also prioritise projects which will be able to demonstrate investment or "begin delivery on the ground" (also termed "shovel ready") in the 2021/22 financial year.

3.6.3 The LUF can be used by Local Authorities to invest in:

- **Transport investments** including (but not limited to) public transport, active travel, bridge repairs, bus priority lanes, local road improvements and major structural maintenance, and accessibility improvements. UK Government are requesting proposals for high-impact small, medium and, by exception, larger local transport schemes to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, cut congestion, support economic growth, and improve the experience of transport users.
- **Regeneration and town centre investment**, building on the Towns Fund framework (this fund was not available in Wales) to upgrade eyesore buildings and dated infrastructure, acquire and regenerate brownfield sites, invest in secure community infrastructure and crime reduction, and bring public services and safe community spaces into town and city centres.
- **Cultural investment** maintaining, regenerating, or creatively repurposing museums, galleries, visitor attractions (and associated green spaces) and heritage assets as well as creating new community-owned spaces to support the arts and serve as cultural spaces.

3.6.4 Capacity funding of £125k will be allocated to each local authority in Wales to help support the development of high quality of bids to the fund and ensure that investment is targeted where it is needed most.

3.7.1 Members of Parliament, as democratically elected representatives of the area can back one bid that they see as a priority (transport related bids are in addition). The number of bids that a local authority can make will relate to the number of MPs in their area. For Monmouthshire County Council we can submit three bids as follows:

- Monmouth Constituency
- Newport East Constituency
- Transport

3.7.2 Each bid can total up to **£20m Capital funding only** and in exceptional circumstances a transport bid may range between £20m and £50m.

3.7.3 Each local authority has been categorised as measured by an index taking into account the following place characteristics:

- Need for economic recovery and growth;
- Need for improved transport connectivity; and,
- Need for regeneration.

Local Authorities have been placed into a category of 1, 2, or 3 with category 1 representing places with the highest levels of identified need. These bandings will form part of the criteria for assessing bids. While preference will be given to bids from higher priority areas, the bandings do not represent eligibility criteria, nor the amount or number of bids a place can submit. Bids from categories 2 and 3 will still be considered for funding on their merits of deliverability, value for money and strategic fit, and could still be successful if they are of exceptionally high quality.

3.7.4 Monmouthshire County Council has been placed in category 3. The Levelling Up Fund prioritisation of places methodology note can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-additional-documents/levelling-up-fund-prioritisation-of-places-methodology-note>

3.7.5 A minimum contribution of 10% match funding must be included in the bid. This can come from a local authority or other third party (public or private sector). This match funding cannot be “time in kind.”

3.8 **Timeline**

3.8.1 Bids must be submitted to UK Government by noon on the 18th June 2021 and UK Government have given an indication that they will make an announcement on the successful bids by the end of Summer/ early Autumn this year.

3.8.2 All funding provided by LUF must be spent by 31st March 2025.

3.8.3 Further detail on how future rounds of the LUF will operate from 2022/23 onwards are expected later this year.

3.8.4 If we are successful in securing both bids, we are unable to bid again or extend our bid within the programme. If we are unsuccessful in this funding round, we will receive feedback from UK Government on the bid/s submissions and will be able to resubmit them in future rounds.

3.9 **Bid Overview**

- 3.9.1 Consideration has been given to the LUF prospectus, criteria, and eligibility along with our local strategic priorities to determine projects that would be suitable for submission to UK Government in line with the timelines set out.
- 3.9.2 An extensive list of options was initially prepared by officers and this was quickly reduced to focus on two geographical areas in Monmouthshire, in particular Monmouth Town Centre and Caldicot Town Centre.
- 3.9.3 ARUP consultancy has been commissioned to support officers in the preparation of the Monmouth LUF bid (Monmouth constituency) and Chris Jones has been commissioned to support the preparation of the Caldicot bid (Newport East constituency).
- 3.9.4 Monmouth - Each package bid may include up to three individual projects, but 'weak' projects may jeopardise the chance of success of the bid overall. At this stage projects being considered are:

- Shire Hall development;
- Future use of Market Hall;
- Monnow Street / Town Centre public realm design/enhancement;
- Blestium Street project (prepared in 2014);
- Active travel demands (over and above projects supported by WG funding).

A risk assessment is being undertaken to establish which projects to include and which to simply refer to within the bid.

- 3.9.5 Caldicot - Again when submitting a package bid, three projects may be included. At this stage projects being considered include:
- Newport Road (Town centre) public realm refurbishment;
 - Leisure Centre and skate park modernisation;
 - Future Castle and countryside park offer;
 - Town Centre property acquisition/enhancement;
 - Active Travel links.

A risk assessment will establish which projects should form part of the bid.

- 3.9.6 Transport - Early discussions have taken place with Forest of Dean colleagues and further conversations are anticipated with Gloucestershire County Council members and officers to establish support for a joint bid for the continuation of the Chepstow Transport study (road solutions). At this time, it is considered impractical to deliver any significant road infrastructure works (bypass) within the LUF timescales. Therefore, a transport bid is not being pursued for the June 18th 2021 deadline. (Although separate funding has been obtained from WG in 21/22 to fund a WeITAG stage 3 report into public transport options). A transport bid can be submitted within the next round and officers will continue to consider options that can be prepared that are in line with the eligibility criteria and delivered in their entirety by 2024/25.

4. **EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

- 4.1 The proposals and projects demonstrate compliance with the well-being five ways of working, support the well-being goals and associated activities are expected to have a positive impact on all groups and people with protected characteristics.

5. **OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

5.1 An options appraisal has been undertaken in Table One below.

Table One: Options Appraisal

Option	Benefits	Risks	Comments
Do nothing	None identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local communities will not be able to access funding to trial some new innovative schemes; • Local communities and businesses could miss out on the opportunity to see their local area being developed; • Local businesses will risk closure; • Current shift towards sustainable modes of transport and active travel activities may be lost. 	
Proceed with proposed developing proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to capitalise on the renewed sense of community and place; • Opportunity to trial new and innovative approaches that will benefit local communities; • Opportunity for local High Streets to benefit from those workers working from home and the potential for them to shop locally; • Opportunity to reimagine and re-energise our town centres for future generations. • Opportunity to provide a strong visitor offer in two of our towns. • Opportunity to modernise our leisure and play offer in Caldicot. • Opportunity to improve placemaking and support Active Travel, supporting wellbeing and reducing carbon emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some changes may be misunderstood so a strong communications campaign will be required to mitigate uncertainties; • Some residents will be resistant to change which may invoke local tensions; • A cultural change will be needed to accept that the car is no longer king and active travel links will be prioritised. 	An opportunity to reinvigorate and reimagine our town centres.

6. REASONS

6.1 The UK is continuing to live through unprecedented times. As the country moves forward and life starts to return to a semblance of normality or move to living with COVID and a “new normality,” there will be continuing uncertainty for our communities and local businesses.

6.2 As a Council, the Strategic Aims of the new ‘Plan on a Page’ for Spring and Summer 2021, clearly support the aspirations of these projects and bids. The outline proposals and projects detailed in this report provide an overview of the UK CRF and LUF proposals

which will support our citizens, businesses, and communities along the road to financial recovery.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The full programme of LUF projects is yet to be determined and as a result, yet to be fully costed. Time has not allowed for all proposals to be fully costed in any detail in time for this report. However, as the bids are developed for the 18th June 2021 this will be determined.

7.2 Below are high level estimates of project costs at the time of writing but the full and final bid will include only those projects from these lists which are considered sufficiently robust enough such that they will not jeopardise the bid overall. As the bid preparation progresses up to 18th June the estimates will be further refined so these estimates are simply indicative of the gross cost at this time and may vary significantly as projects are specified in greater detail:

- Shire Hall development; - £2.6m
 - Future use of Market Hall; - £500k
 - Monnow Street / Town Centre public realm design/enhancement; - £3.5m
 - Blestium Street project (prepared in 2014); - £3.5m
 - Active travel demands (over and above projects supported by WG funding). N/A
-
- Newport Road (Town centre) public realm –refurbishment; - £3.0m
 - Leisure Centre and skate park modernisation; - £8.0m
 - Future Castle and countryside park offer; £500k
 - Town Centre property acquisition/enhancement; - £5.0m
 - Active travel links. (Newport Road west) - £2.0m

7.3 As set out within section 3.7.5 the LUF bids also require a minimum 10% match funding contribution. This match funding can come from a local authority or other third party (public or private sector) and must be included as match funding in the bid. This match funding cannot be “time in kind.”

7.3 At this stage the preparation of the LUF bids requires significant MCC officer time and support from specialist consultancies. This is estimated to cost no more than £50,000 and will be funded from the LUF budget made available to each authority to support the preparation of bids and any subsequent works required.

7.4 Should either of the bids be successful then there will be further demands upon MCC officers and consultancy support to turn the bids into successful delivery within the timescales of the LUF process. The 3rd party costs will be estimated within the LUF bids. A successful bid will include funding from LUF, other grants and MCC capital. In the event of the bids being successful then reports will be prepared to establish MCC capital funding in support of the bids.

7.5 In contrast, the UK CRF bids are 100% funded and therefore there are no match funding requirements however ‘in kind’ MCC Officer support will be provided to maximise their success.

8. CONSULTEES

- MP's;
- Strategic Leadership Team,

- Cabinet;

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/new-levelling-up-and-community-investments>

10. AUTHORS:

Frances O'Brien, Chief Officer Enterprise

Lead officers

Cath Fallon, Head of Enterprise and Community Animation

Mark Hand, Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding

Roger Hoggins, Head of Strategic Projects

Ian Saunders, Chief Operating Officer Monlife

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

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Tel: 01633 644686

Appendix B



Future Generations Evaluation (includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact)

Name of the Officer Frances O'Brien Phone no: 01633 644686 E-mail: francesobrien@monmouthshire.gov.uk	UK Government Funding Opportunities
Name of Service: Enterprise	Date: Future Generations Evaluation 27 th May 2021

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NB. Key strategies and documents that may help you identify your contribution to the wellbeing goals and sustainable development principles include: Single Integrated Plan, Continuance Agreement, Improvement Plan, Local Development Plan, People Strategy, Asset Management Plan, Green Infrastructure SPG, Welsh Language Standards, etc.

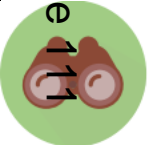


1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	Positive: Providing the infrastructure to enable citizens to enable communities to thrive and support local businesses.	There is a strategic imperative to maximise our economic growth and wealth creation capability, and increase our productivity in order to increase the GVA for the county and the country.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and	Positive: Improvements to green infrastructure, pedestrianisation, and cycle ways will raise awareness	Improved infrastructure can also enable citizens to walk and cycle thus reducing carbon emissions.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
can adapt to change (e.g., climate change)	of biodiversity and climate change issues and encourage positive participation.	
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood Page 110	Positive: Improvements to our town centres will help provide increased raise awareness of the benefits of physical activity. Improvements and modernisation of one of our leisure centres will provide the opportunity for increased physical activity and improve mental wellbeing.	Improved place-making and green infrastructure will provide the opportunity to increase physical activity and support physical and mental wellbeing and support Active Travel.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Positive: Improved access to our town centres will promote independence. Negative: We can submit only one bid per political constituency so some communities may feel left out.	Improved infrastructure will encourage wider participation in community and voluntary work. Bids must meet the scheme objectives and be deliverable, which has naturally focused the bid on the proposed projects.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global wellbeing when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Positive: Improved access can raise awareness of these issues and promote positive activity.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Positive: Improved access and facilities can raise awareness of culture, heritage and the Welsh language and encourage positive participation.	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Positive: Improved access and facilities can enable citizens to fulfill their potential, whatever their background or circumstances.	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Page 111</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p>Long Term</p>	<p>Improved access and facilities within town centres and green infrastructure short term will assist with medium- and longer-term priorities of health, wellbeing and carbon reduction.</p> <p>Pilot projects will enable us to shape high quality proposals for the future Shared Prosperity Funding.</p>	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>A partnership approach will be undertaken to ensure the best solution for communities can be found. This is likely to be with Welsh Government and a range of public and private sector partners including the business community.</p>	
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Citizens are invited to get involved by participating in the launch of the CRF programme. A call for submissions has already been undertaken and launched on social media. These submissions have been received and are being evaluated.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>Measures being proposed will have wider health benefits longer term as more citizens will have access to improved facilities, green infrastructure, cycle ways, etc thus reducing the further deterioration in town centres, reducing car reliance, reducing carbon footprint and improving wellbeing.</p>	<p>Improved physical health and mental wellbeing will reduce demand for medical and health services.</p>
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p> <p>Integration</p>	<p>Improved infrastructure including access for cyclists and pedestrians will reduce carbon emissions, rural isolation and rural poverty.</p>	

3. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below. For more detailed information on the protected characteristics, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Standards that apply to Monmouthshire Council please follow this link: <http://hub/corporatedocs/Equalities/Forms/AllItems.aspx> or contact Alan Burkitt on 01633 644010 or alanburkitt@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Improved access and facilities in town centres will reduce the barriers to access for people with protected characteristics.	Any negative impacts can be mitigated if suitable safeguarding strategies are put in place.	Affordable and accessible solutions will be identified to maximise opportunities for all.
Disability	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above. In addition, the proposals will take the needs of the disabled population into consideration during the development phase.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Gender reassignment	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Marriage or civil partnership	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Pregnancy or maternity	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Race	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Religion or Belief	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Sex	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Sexual Orientation	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	As per Age Line Above
Welsh Language	As per Age Line Above	As per Age Line above	In addition, all signage will be compliant with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 as specified in the Standards applied to Monmouthshire

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on important responsibilities of Corporate Parenting and safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities? For more information please see the guidance <http://hub/corporatedocs/Democratic%20Services/Safeguarding%20Guidance.docx> and for more on Monmouthshire's Corporate Parenting Strategy see <http://hub/corporatedocs/SitePages/Corporate%20Parenting%20Strategy.aspx>

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	During the delivery of the programme of activities, safeguarding will be at the forefront to ensure that any future service delivery promotes the well-being of children and vulnerable adults, preventing them from being harmed and protecting those who are at risk of abuse and neglect.	Any negative impacts can be mitigated if suitable safeguarding strategies are put in place.	
Corporate Parenting	During the delivery of this programme of activities the needs of any 'looked after' children will be considered to ensure any future service delivery protects their welfare.	As above	

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

- The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act;
- The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act;
- Prosperity for All;
- Growth & Competitiveness Commission Report Review and Recommendations Page 22;
- Cardiff Capital Region "Powering the Welsh Economy";
- Equality Act 2010; and
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Monmouthshire County Council Corporate Plan 22 for '22
- Shop vacancy data and town centre footfall data
- Active Travel consultation on integrated network maps 2021
- Monmouthshire Local Public Service Board plan priorities and community engagement identifying issues facing our communities
- Future Wales 2040 and the adopted Monmouthshire Local Development Plan 2011-2021

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The Assessment demonstrates compliance with the well-being five ways of working, supports the well-being goals and associated activities are expected to have a positive impact on all groups and people with protected characteristics.

7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress

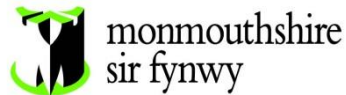
8. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

<p>The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation requirements will be set out by UK Government. Subject to any successful funding award internal monitoring requirements can be established.</p>
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9. VERSION CONTROL: The Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Cabinet	09 th June 2021	

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SUBJECT: SHIRE HALL / MONMOUTH MUSEUM

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 9 June 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: DRYBRIDGE

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update members with progress on the feasibility study to establish a new cultural destination at the Shire Hall Monmouth including the relocation of the current Monmouth Museum and the review of museum collection storage.
- 1.2 To propose a phased approach to the new provision.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the progress in undertaking a feasibility study to establish a new cultural offer at Shire Hall incorporating the Monmouth Museum and the review of museum collection storage.
- 2.2 To approve the establishment of an initial phase within Shire Hall and to confirm that Monmouth Museum will not reopen in Market Hall.
- 2.3 To reopen key areas of Shire Hall for public use, subject to Covid regulations and any restrictions required to allow the completion of the phase 1 provision incorporating temporary museum displays.
- 2.4 Cabinet recommends to Council a £250,000 contribution from capital receipts to facilitate the initial phase of works, and that in turn will also provide a match funding contribution to the Levelling Up Fund bid for Monmouth that would if successful enable the longer term vision to be achieved.
- 2.5 Future reports be presented to Cabinet as the long term proposals for Shire Hall, Monmouth and for museum collection storage are further developed.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Undertaking a feasibility study to establish a new cultural offer at Shire Hall incorporating the Monmouth Museum, including consideration of the implementation of an initial phase and options for a second phase to showcase the building and collections was approved in December 2020.

- 3.2 Innes Associates were appointed to undertake the study and it has progressed since January 2021 supported by a project team. Its scope includes examining the feasibility and phasing of an enhanced cultural destination at the Shire Hall, and to support that an assessment of collection storage options across all museum sites.
- 3.3 The study has confirmed the potential to create an exceptional, integrated visitor attraction that engages and inspires existing and new audiences: *“Powerful stories will be told about the history of Monmouth, beautiful and intriguing objects will be displayed in a magnificent setting, learning opportunities will be offered to all ages and the attraction will provide the possibility of continued third-party bookings and shop-generated sales. The project will maximise the value of this heritage asset, enhancing the vibrancy of Monmouthshire and promoting a deeply rooted sense of place”*.
- 3.4 The overall concept proposes changes to make the approach to the building more open, the entrance foyer larger and more transparent, and a clear transition to the main display area on the first floor. The scheme also creates a new, larger learning space for all ages, maintains bookable and flexible community spaces, continued accommodation for the Town Council and a larger shop / visitor information presence,
- 3.5 This would allow for a new visitor flow on the ground floor, including creating community exhibition and learning spaces. The main displays on the first floor, would use the full room volumes and the circulation spaces. The whole building will be used as a resource for storytelling, fully integrating the historic courtroom and cells into the visitor journey; all intended to create attractive animated spaces for visitors and community use.
- 3.6 The study suggest the building is suitable for museum use and the conversion can be achieved respecting the buildings historic importance and listing. Further detailed work will be required to ensure essential museum environmental conditions, energy efficiency and security standards; to confirm the acceptability of the design details with respect to building conservation requirements; and to refine the cost plan which is currently estimated to be in the region of £2.6M, subject to further detailed design.
- 3.7 In addition the study has reviewed the longer term museum storage strategy, as Shire Hall would only accommodate limited museum storage necessitating further provision elsewhere. The previously approved Museum Forward Plan envisaged a new centralised store, potentially as part of the re-provision of Monmouth museum. After discussion with potential funders, review of likely capital / revenue costs and carbon footprint the preferred option is now a decentralised storage strategy rationalising the use of space and environmentally controlled storage across all of the museums sites, supported by expanded off site stores. The museum storage strategy will be subject to further consideration by Cabinet.
- 3.8 This approach involves utilising the former conservation labs in Chepstow museum as stores and considering options for further off site storage – the basement at Chepstow Leisure Centre has been identified as a potential location, but requires more detailed assessment. The storage strategy is not costed and further detailed assessment is now required of individual collection requirements, security and environmental controls.

- 3.9 Delivery of the longer term vision will depend on resourcing and critically access to external funding. In respect of the long term ambitions for the Shire Hall museum it is proposed to include the full proposals within the Monmouth Levelling Up (LUF) bid to UK Government. Further reports will be presented to Cabinet as the long term proposals for Shire Hall, Monmouth and museum collection storage are refined.
- 3.10 Given the longer term strategy and the need to resolve the museum's current accommodation, and develop a more robust business model for Shire Hall, an initial phase is identified. This would comprise of the local history collection, temporary exhibition space, the Shire Hall courtroom and cells, learning space, shop and visitor information. It is proposed to develop the storytelling brief for the longer term provision through a wide consultative process including gauging visitor and community responses to temporary displays.
- 3.11 The estimated costs of the phase 1 provision including the necessary security and environmental adaptations, conserving collection objects for display and addressing immediate collection storage needs is in the order of £250,000. This will also be included as potentially eligible expenditure within the LUF bid. Subject to resolving detailed issues and consents it is anticipated that this provision would be in place later in 2021.
- 3.12 The proposals are informed by the wider retail assessment undertaken across all MonLife attraction and museum sites supported by the Cultural Services Fund. An overall business plan and staffing proposals are under development. It is anticipated that the combined facility and staffing will allow for extended opening hours compared to the current museum and the intention is to utilise the initial phase to explore options such as early evening opening.
- 3.13 In the ordinary course of events Monmouth Museum would have reopened after its winter closure. However given the Covid restrictions in place until recently both venues have remained closed to public use. In order to progress the collection review and associated tasks required to prepare for a move it is impracticable for Monmouth Museum to reopen in Market Hall. It is therefore proposed that key areas of Shire Hall will reopen for public use, subject to any temporary opening or access restrictions required to allow the completion of the phase 1 provision incorporating the temporary museum displays.
- 3.14 In terms of Market Hall the site is currently identified as a potential site to act as a hub for regional working. Feasibility works are being commissioned to assess options, cost implications and that will run alongside external funding sources being secured. The Market Hall also has the potential of being included in the LUF funding proposals for Monmouth.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 Creating the offer at Shire Hall better tells the Monmouth story, it will address the need to improve facilities and the visitor experience and provides a framework for long term development of the offer and the engagement of new audiences improving people's wellbeing. The process of developing new provision allows for full public engagement to help identify the stories important to all our communities. Better facilities will support children and young people, lifelong learning, wider community engagement and involvement.
- 4.2 The inherent purpose of MonLife is to make the best possible contribution to improving the quality of life for all of the communities, aligning to Public Service Board priorities from the Well-being Plan and Assessments. The positive engagement and activities with communities, customers and staff will enable a focus on investment in key aspects of this new visitor attraction to ensure the culture and business thrives and that it contributes to the economy, add vibrancy to the town centre and support artistic, cultural, heritage and tourism activity.
- 4.3 The Shire Hall has lift access to all floors and will ensure more people can view future displays and exhibitions.
- 4.4 The safeguarding responsibilities of the Authority and partners are fully integrated into the identification of appropriate actions, and reflected within MonLife's culture and documentation for these services.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Option	Benefit	Risks	Comments
Not to proceed with merging the heritage offers at Shire Hall and Monmouth Museum and explore collection storage options	None	Does not address the shortcomings in the Monmouth museum, the need for change in the business model for Shire Hall and the long term museum storage issue. Does not allow for future use of the current museum accommodation in Market Hall.	Does not progress the ambitions set out in the Museum Forward Plan
To proceed with phase 1 and explore the longer term ambitions to establishing a new attraction at Shire Hall and resolve collection storage options	Provides the opportunity to creating a new attraction at Shire Hall that tells the Monmouthshire story in an integrated, engaging and more sustainable way. Will develop a clear strategy to resolve long term museum collection storage.	Sufficient resources need to be secured to ensure that the phase 1 offer meets public expectations and maintains Museum Accreditation standards. The risk of later phases, which are dependent on attracting external funding, not proceeding in a timely way.	Supports the case for external grant.

	Allows future options for Market Hall to proceed.		
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6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 Progress will be evaluated against the relevant MonLife Business and Service Delivery Plans. The framework will incorporate performance indicators including visitor numbers, visitor satisfaction, learning outcomes and income targets.

7. REASONS:

- 7.1 The provision of a contemporary offer in Monmouth is identified within the Museum Forward Plan and provides a way to better tell the Monmouthshire story in an integrated, engaging and more sustainable way.
- 7.2 The creation of a new attraction at Shire Hall will contribute to the Destination Management Plan objective of developing the county's cultural product offer.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 The estimated costs of the phase 1 provision including the necessary security and environmental adaptations, conserving collection objects for display, moving and addressing immediate collection storage needs is £250,000. These costs will be met from capital receipts and for which Council approval will subsequently need to be sought. The investment if approved will in turn also provide a match funding contribution to the Levelling Up Fund bid for Monmouth that would if successful enable the longer term vision to be achieved.
- 8.2 It is not anticipated that there will be any additional revenue consequences on the combined Shire Hall and Monmouth museum budgets.
- 8.3 The cost of delivery of the full long term adaption of Shire Hall is currently estimated, subject to further detailed design, to be in the region of £2.6M, and will be dependent on securing external grant funding from a variety of sources. As indicated above it is proposed that the project forms part of the Monmouth LUF bid. In addition external funding will be sought to support the full community engagement proposals.
- 8.3 The collection storage proposal have yet to be costed as further detailed assessment is required prior to a further report to Cabinet.

9. CONSULTEES:

SLT
Cabinet
Ward / Monmouth members

Monmouth Town Council are supportive of the projects inclusion in the Monmouth LUF bid. Monmouth Field & History Society have presented a range of member's views

from support, to concerns over the suitability of Shire Hall, a preference to refurbish and expand within Market Hall, and concerns over long term commitment to the Nelson collection.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix A - Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

Appendix B – Feasibility Study extracts

11. AUTHORS & CONTACT DETAILS:

Ian Saunders - Chief Operating Officer MonLife –

Email: iansaunders@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07876545793

Matthew Lewis – Environment & Culture Manager MonLife

Email: matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07990783165

Tracey Thomas - Engagement and Workforce Development Manager MonLife

Email: traceythomas@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07818 016924



<p>Name of the Officer Matthew Lewis Phone no: 01633 644850 E-mail: matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk Rachael Rogers Phone no: 01873 854282 E-mail: rachaelrogers@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>Shire Hall / Monmouth Museum.</p> <p>To note the progress in undertaking a feasibility study to establish a new cultural offer at Shire Hall incorporating the Monmouth Museum and the review of museum collection storage. To approve the establishment of an initial phase within Shire Hall.</p>
<p>Name of Service area</p> <p>MonLife Attractions & Museums and Arts</p>	<p>Date 28 October 2020 updated 20 November 2020, 19 March 2021 & 20 May 2021</p>

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Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	The creation of a new heritage and museum offer in Monmouth enables us to better serve our existing and potential audiences with protected characteristics. The feasibility study outlines a community engagement programme including activities targeted at young people, families and those aged 55+	None	We are already consulting as part of the MonLife Heritage Strategy project and this will help inform our approach to the initial phase. The desired scope and content of further provision will be developed through a process of full public engagement and involvement.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Disability	As above and unlike the existing museum building Shire Hall has lift access to all floors and meets access requirements	As above	As above
Gender reassignment	As above	As above	As above
Marriage or civil partnership	As above	As above	As above
Pregnancy or maternity	As above	As above	As above
Race	As above	As above	As above
Religion or Belief	As above	As above	As above
Sex	As above	As above	As above
Sexual Orientation	As above	As above	As above

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2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?

Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	<p>Our role as a heritage service is to tell the stories of everyone in Monmouthshire. We would like to ensure we do this more effectively. The feasibility study outlines a community engagement programme including activities targeted at local people and those with lower income</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The desired scope and content of further provision will be developed through a process of full public engagement and involvement. We will consult on the display and interpretation of the Nelson collection to ensure that we take into account the modern day context.</p>
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3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh Language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	<p>Telling the stories of all our communities would be central to the development of the new provision, including achieving full bilingual provision (not currently the case at Monmouth Museum due to the age of current display material)</p>	<p>None</p>	
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce			<p>Will seek when recruiting to increase the level of Welsh speaking staff and continue to offer language training</p>
Service delivery	<p>All promotional provision is produced bilingually and we will continue to do this</p>		

Use of Welsh language in service delivery			
Promoting use of the language			


4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!




Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	<p>Creating a new heritage/museum offer at Shire Hall that better tells the Monmouth story will contribute to enhancing cultural and heritage presence in each of our towns, and uses resources to best effect. The delivery of enhanced arts, cultural and heritage provision is one of the agreed priorities within the Monmouthshire Destination Management Plan to grow tourism revenue to the county by supporting the artistic, cultural and tourism economy. The proposal utilises existing building resources in a more sustainable way and gives the opportunity for Landlord Services to consider future use of the Market Hall</p> <p>The combined offer also presents greater opportunities to support and enhance learning and skills development of all sectors of our communities.</p>	<p>The desired scope and content of further provision will be informed by stakeholder input and an assessment of how it can contribute to an improved visitor experience in Monmouth.</p>
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and	<p>Continued participation as a member of the Happy Museum community ensures contribution to</p>	<p>Shire Hall has previously hosted cultural and artistic activity such as the Wye Valley River Festival to</p>


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	initiatives to positively contribute to biodiversity and climate issues.	raise awareness of environmental issues and will continue to do so as opportunities arise
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The positive effects of cultural activities on people's wellbeing is well documented and the delivery of the new offer will enhance the ability to provide that opportunity to existing and new audiences.	The new provision would enable a contribution to a healthier Wales through cultural activities, volunteering and engagement.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Telling the stories of all our communities through heritage and museum provision is important in making our communities feel connected and attractive. Creating a new heritage/museum offer would present new opportunities to display and interpret the museum collections and Monmouth's stories in an engaging and relevant way, ensuring everyone's voice is represented	The desired scope and content of further provision will be developed through a process of full public engagement and involvement.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	The Museum Services' continued participation as a member of the Happy Museum Community ensures contribution to museum based initiatives to positively contribute to global wellbeing. Re-providing stores gives the opportunity to consider more sustainable methods of museum storage.	When fitting out new stores and deciding what objects are stored where close attention will be given to environmental impact.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Telling the stories of all our communities will be central to the development of the new provision, including achieving full bilingual provision (not currently the case at Monmouth Museum due to the age of current display material)	The desired scope and content of further provision will be developed through a process of full public engagement and involvement.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	Local culture and heritage will provide a platform for both formal and informal learning including arts provision.	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The further development of free to access provision assists together with engagement through the MonLife Heritage Strategy work and the development of the new offer will work towards reducing barriers to access	The desired scope and content of further provision will be developed through a process of full public engagement and involvement

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	Creating a new heritage/museum offer at Shire Hall that better tells the Monmouth story, including the current Monmouth Museum and the Shire Hall heritage offer address the need to improve facilities and the visitor experience and provides a framework for long term development of the offer and the engagement of new audiences.	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p data-bbox="331 272 510 504">Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p data-bbox="129 488 295 512">Collaboration</p>	<p data-bbox="544 256 1301 520">Delivery of a new heritage/museum offer involves working closely with our colleagues across MonLife and MCC, existing stakeholders, including the Town Council, market and partnership with funders. It builds on the heritage strategy and collection review work already supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and continuing partnerships related to art, cultural and heritage activities</p>	
 <p data-bbox="349 560 517 743">Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p data-bbox="143 783 300 807">Involvement</p>	<p data-bbox="544 560 1323 783">Delivery of a new heritage/museum offer involves consultation with stakeholders, volunteers and community partners. We intend to build on the engagement through the MonLife Heritage Strategy project and undertake a process of full public engagement and involvement to help us identify the stories important to all our communities.</p>	<p data-bbox="1352 560 2092 655">We will consult on the display and interpretation of the Nelson collection to ensure that we take into account the modern day context.</p>
 <p data-bbox="344 839 506 1142">Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p data-bbox="152 1078 295 1102">Prevention</p>	<p data-bbox="544 823 1317 1158">Shire Hall has struggled to deliver the expected level of business or footfall expected and Monmouth Museum is dated and would require significant investment to bring the visitor experience up to modern expectations. The Museum Stores are almost at capacity and we need to address this in order to plan for the future. The proposal utilises existing building resources in a more sustainable way and gives the opportunity for Landlord Services to consider future use of the Market Hall</p>	<p data-bbox="1352 823 2101 983">Creating a new heritage/museum offer at Shire Hall that better tells the Monmouth story helps addresses these issues relating to Shire Hall and Monmouth Museum and will contribute towards developing a wider solution for museum storage</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>It is well documented that participation in cultural life improves people’s wellbeing and this is something we consider throughout our work:</p> <p>Museums Association Report</p> <p>Happy Museums</p> <p>Happy Museums: Future Generations Act (Monmouthshire are specifically mentioned in this one)</p> <p>Welsh Government Arts and Culture Vision Statement</p>	

Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	The safeguarding responsibilities of the Authority and partners for children and young people are fully integrated into the identification of appropriate actions, and reflected within MonLife’s culture and documentation for these services.	N/A	Safeguarding procedures will be reviewed through the SAFE process as the new provision is planned and developed to ensure maintenance of existing standards.
Corporate Parenting	N/A	N/A	N/A

7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

- Visitor figures / financial performance across the sites
- Experience of operations
- Discussion amongst / input from MonLife Attractions, Learning and Museum teams
- Development of MonLife Heritage Strategy
- Shire Hall Feasibility Study Innes Associates 2021

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

Creating a new heritage/museum offer at Shire Hall that better tells the Monmouth story address the need to improve facilities and the visitor experience and provides a framework for long term development of the offer and the engagement of new audiences. It is well documented that participation in cultural life improves people's wellbeing and the process of developing new provision allows for full public engagement and involvement to help identify the stories important to all our communities. Better facilities will support the education of our children and young people and developing their sense of place within their communities.

The inherent purpose of MonLife is to make the best possible contribution to improving the quality of life for all of the communities, aligning to Public Service Board priorities from the Well-being Plan and Assessments. The positive engagement and activities with communities, customers and staff will enable a focus on investment in key aspects of this new visitor attraction to ensure the culture and business thrives and that it contributes to the economy, add vibrancy to the town centre and support artistic, cultural, heritage and tourism activity. Creating a new heritage/museum offer will contribute to the economy, add vibrancy to the town centre and support artistic, cultural, heritage and tourism activity.

The Shire Hall has lift access to all floors and will ensure more people can view future displays and exhibitions.

The safeguarding responsibilities of the Authority and partners are fully integrated into the identification of appropriate actions, and reflected within MonLife's culture and documentation for these services

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Seek approval for a feasibility study	ICMD 9 December 2020	Environment & Culture Manager
Consider the outcome of the study	Cabinet 9 June 2021	Environment & Culture Manager
Develop a full implementation plan	tbc	

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

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Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1.	ICMD	9 December 2021	Subsequent to decision amended to reflect the work undertaken on community engagement and the concept options through the feasibility study
2.	Cabinet		



Shire Hall, Monmouth (cc-by-sa/2.0), © Philip Pankhurst (geograph.org.uk/p/5452789) license by Creative Commons



Plan of Town Centre - 1881



Plan of Town Centre - 1969



Plan of Town Centre - 1986



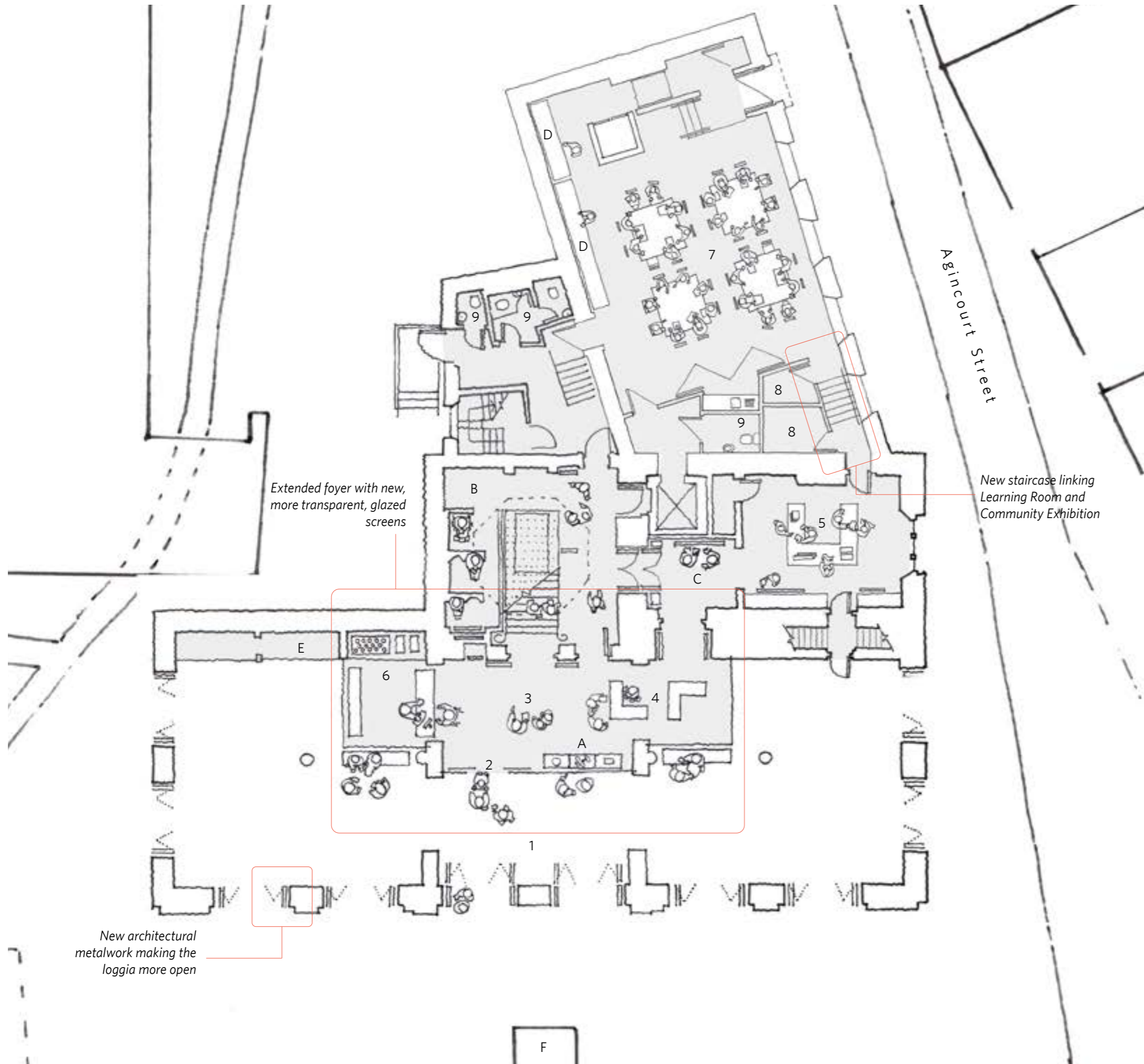
Configuration of existing railing and gates, while performing a necessary function, hinders open access to the loggia



Current screens to entrance foyer do not allow view to the inside from some angles



Entrance foyer is small and does not have much room for the shop



Shop Window, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter



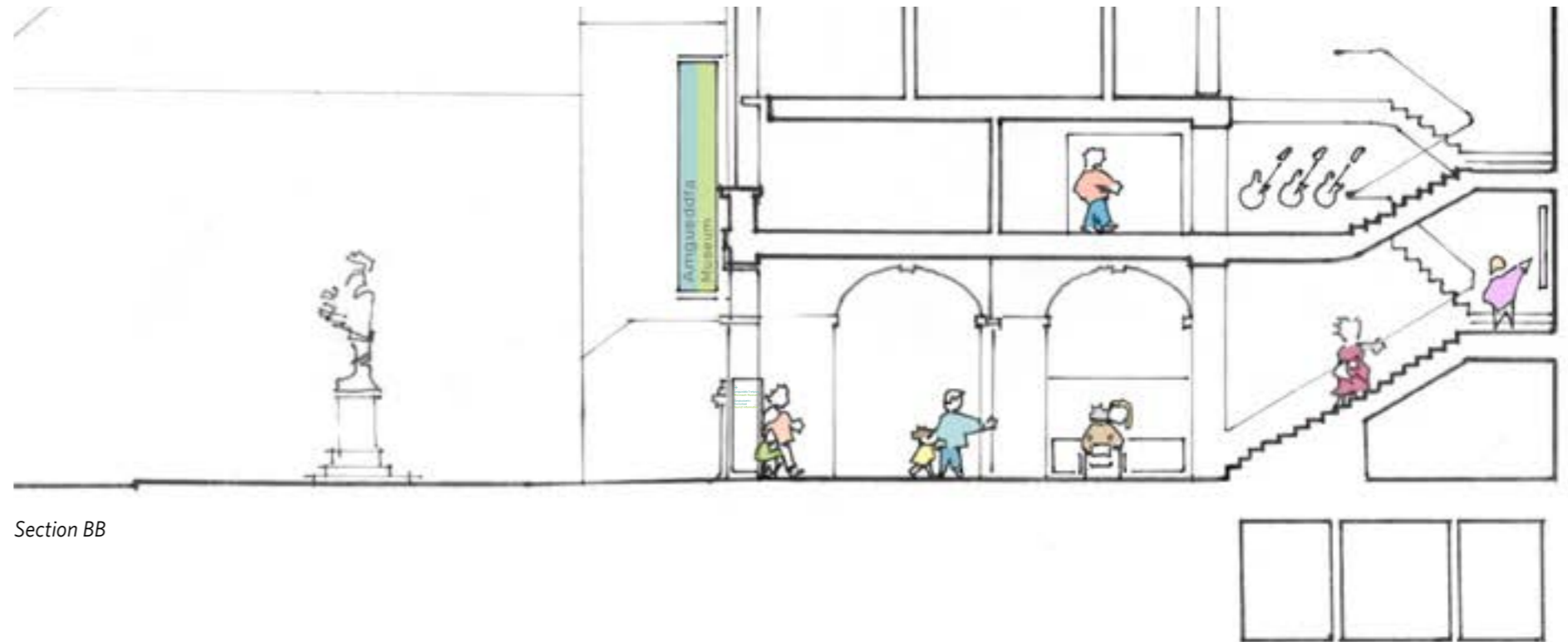
Sound sculpture giving a playful interpretation of the history of Stortorget town square as a location of vital wells, Kalmar, Sweden

Ground Floor Plan, approximately 1:150 @ A3

3.2 Approach, Entrance and Transition to Main Displays



Main Entrance



Section BB

Approach and Connection with Agincourt Square

New signage to the exterior will give the building a new visual identity and guide visitors towards the front entrance. There is a wider opportunity to take the museum out into the loggia and Agincourt Square with objects, interpretation and a playful interaction with the landscape. Examples installations such as the museum “shop window” for the *Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter* and the playful sound-sculptures in Stortorget, Kalmar show how a cultural destination can increase its presence in the town context.

New architectural metalwork able to be fully opened between stone piers will make the loggia space more accessible. Replacing the current part glazed, part timber-clad with fully glazed screens, including the new extended area, will make the entrance foyer more visible from the Square and give opportunities to entice visitors with a display of museum objects [as at Exeter], views of the shop and the other activities within. Either side of the screens are benches to give an opportunity to visitors for rest or decision-making, a sheltered place to drink a coffee.

Imaginative lighting and light and sound projections within the loggia space could extend the visual and audible identity further and create an interstitial space for intrigue and story-telling out of daylight hours.

Entrance and Foyer

Entering the new foyer through a new glazed door a visitor will see:

- > reception desk is placed to the left of the front door, freeing up the middle of the space for the route to the main staircase, and the right-hand side for the enlarged shop and route through to the Community Exhibition Space;
- > two of the three original archways remain open, the larger central one opening onto the main staircase up to the first floor and Main Displays, the smaller on the right leading to the Community Exhibition room;
- > behind the now closed left-hand archway is a space for an AV installation. This can provide an introduction, conclusion or extension of interpretation to the visit.

Education/Learning Room

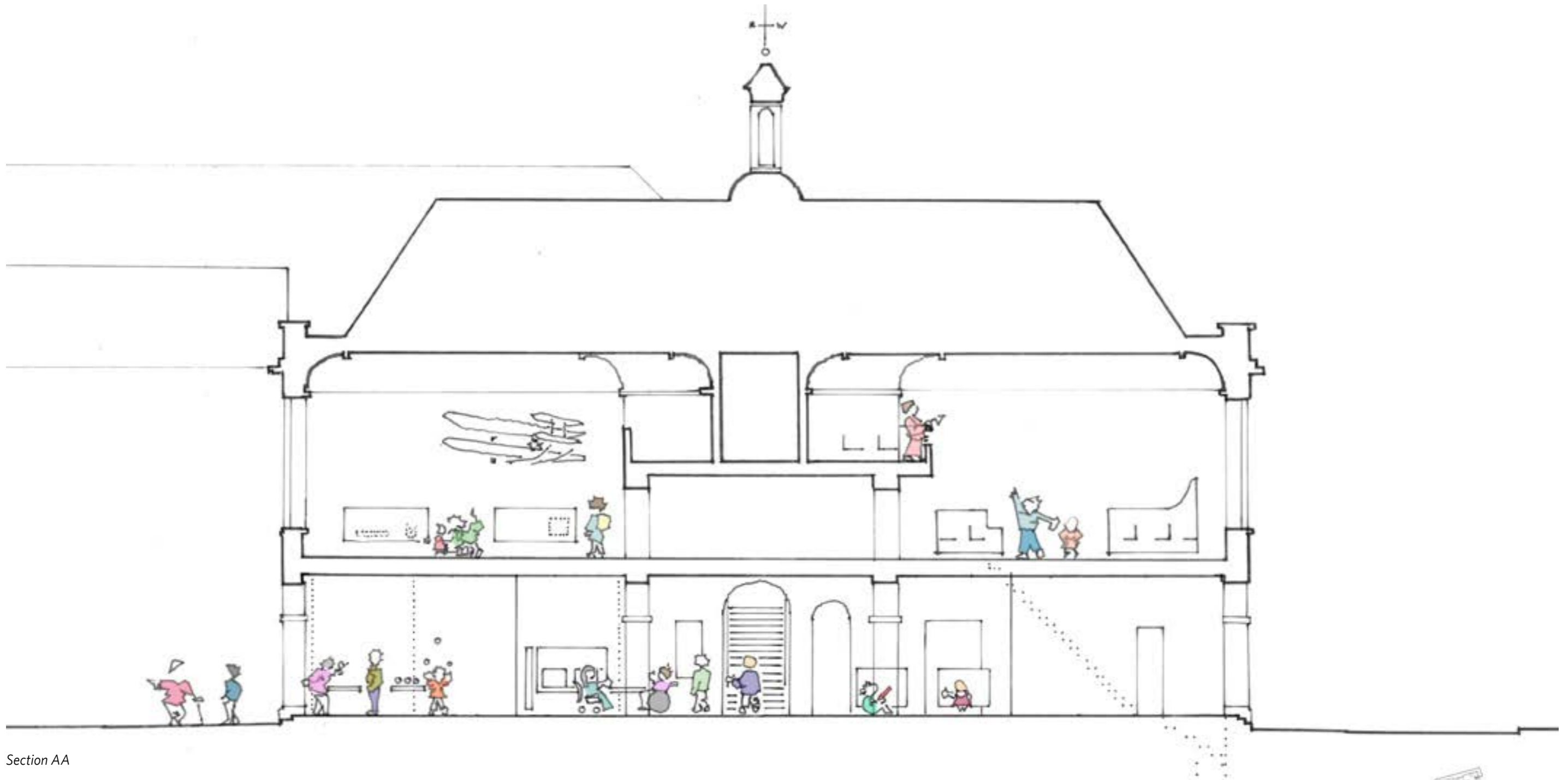
This new proposed use for the Community Room provides a space large enough to meet the Clore Education space standards. It already includes an independent front door, accessible WC, kitchenette and storage.

- > additional space is also available for further storage of MonLife collections. This is conceived as open storage, extending display and enabling collections to be used in learning exercises
- > new linking stair provided to the former Jury Room, now proposed as a community exhibition space. This increases possibilities for bookable spaces.

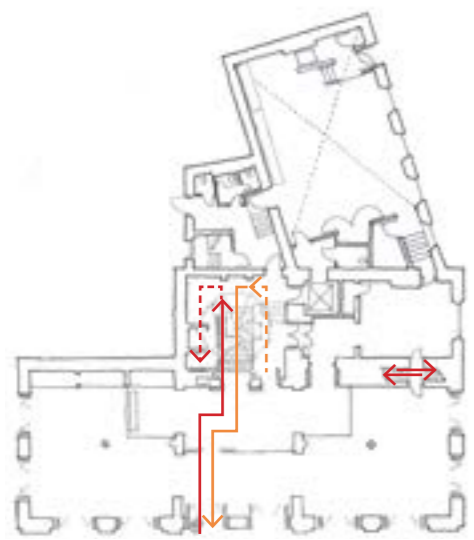
Transition to Displays

Guiding visitors up the main staircase is an intriguing installation on the wall rising above the half-landing level at the end of the first flight. Natural daylight from the elegant lantern naturally draws the eye upwards and to this surface. Either an object, interpretative device such as a the costumed figure described in the Phase 1 Visitor Journey above, or a striking graphic can create a suitable invitation.

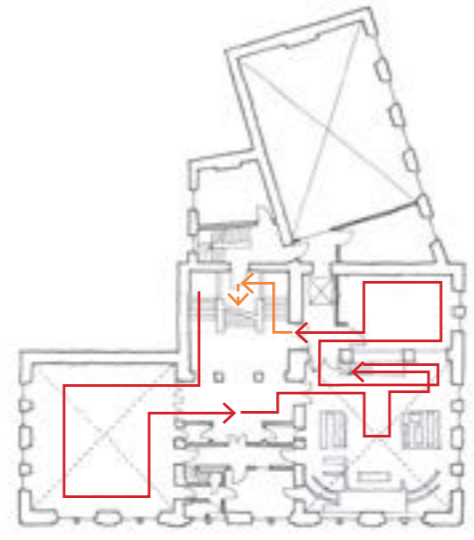
Although the Main Displays will be installed within the controlled conditions of Courtroom No.2 and the former first floor Education Room the main staircase and landings are opportunities for further display and interpretation. Projections, less-environmentally sensitive objects and interpretation can all add to these attractive and bright intermediate spaces.



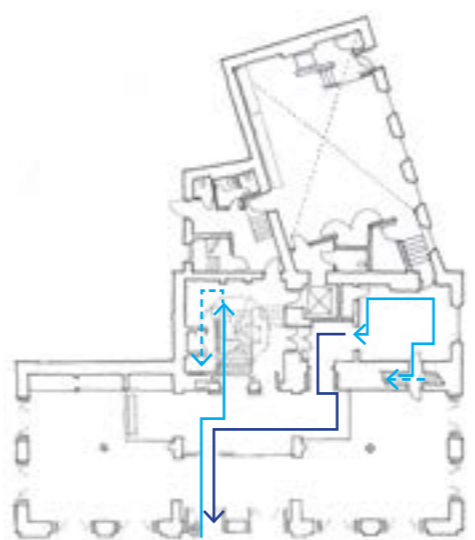
Section AA



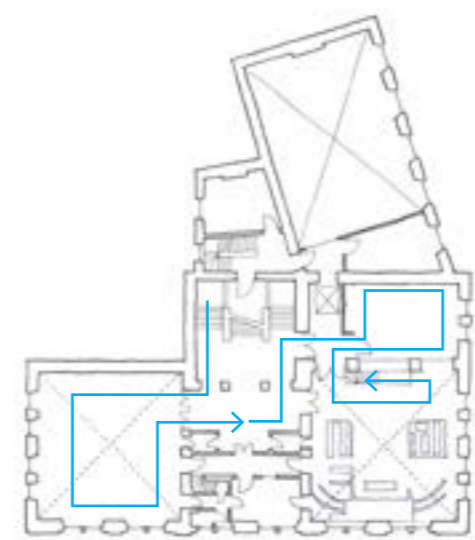
Option A - Ground Floor



Option A - First Floor



Option B - Ground Floor



Option B - First Floor



Key Plan showing position of section

- Entrance - Option A
- Exit - Option A
- Entrance - Option B
- Exit - Option B

Plans Showing Options for Visitor Journeys Through the Building

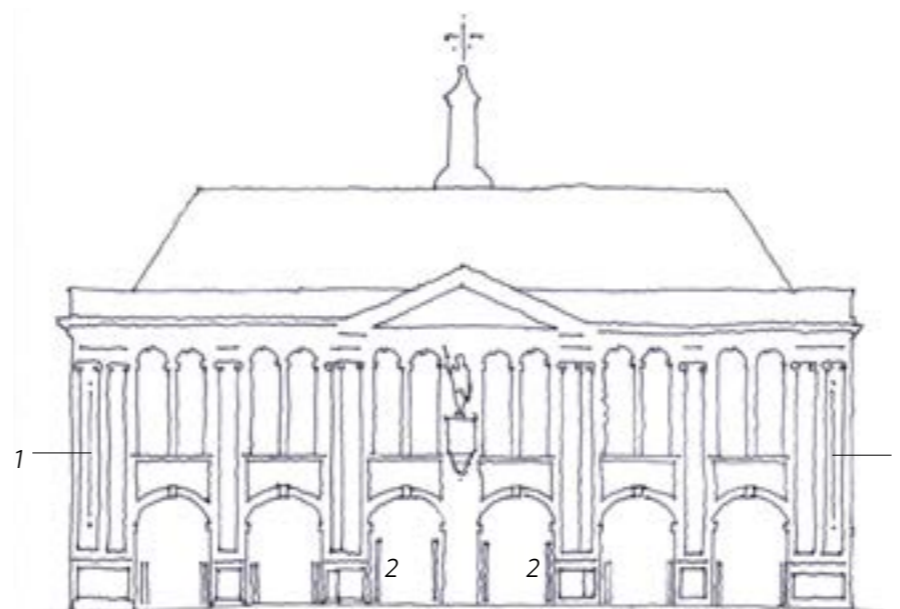
3.4 Signage and Wayfinding



Front Entrance from Agincourt Square



Flags and Banners at London's Science Museum and the RA



Sketch Elevation showing Signage Positions [1 - banner, 2 - totem]

Using the Building for Signage

Shire Hall is its own best sign, so prominent and so well-positioned it is within the town. What is needed is to communicate to townspeople and visitors the new identity, treasures within and activities to be provided when its new life begins. Our thoughts on the permanent condition and transitional Phases 1 and 2 are set out below.

Permanent Condition

Previous work has identified the potential for applying banners to the pilasters of the front elevation and we think this is a suitable proposal to help the Museum establish its presence in the Square. To this we could add the use of the flagpole and a modification to the existing fingerpost system to augment the identity when viewed from a distance. Many examples exist of sensitive banner designs for listed buildings and the consented proposals appears consistent with these.

Further consideration is necessary of how to guide visitors to the front entrance within the loggia and how to communicate the range of displays and activities available. We illustrate a slender totem adjacent the flanks of the central pilasters, both marking the entrance and providing a surface for identity and information. From this position the new glazed entrance area is clearly visible. Other museums have successfully used the idea of the "shop window" in which selected objects from the collection are displayed as an enticement to further attractions inside.

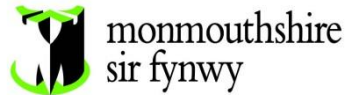
One additional possibility is the sensitive use of internal hangings to windows carrying graphics and information facing outwards. These would need to be carefully considered not to compromise the building character.

As with all work to Shire Hall detailed consultation will be required with MCC Heritage and Cadw.

Transitional Phase 1

Temporary signage inviting visitors to participate in Phase 1 will be necessary, it would be right to conserve funds until detailed proposals for storytelling and content of the museum are worked through. Sandwich boards offer a low-cost option.

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SUBJECT: Digital and Data

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 9th June 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide an overview of changes to staffing arrangements which create a new Digital Design and Innovation Team, strengthen our information governance arrangements and broadens the remit of the existing performance team to include data analytics.
- 1.2 To seek approval for the strategic direction that will be taken by these re-purposed teams as they utilise investment agreed as part of the 2021-22 budget process to transform how we meet needs and achieve our purpose beyond the pandemic and into the next stage of the development of our organisation and county.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To approve the direction of travel set out within this paper which will enable the council to build on successes to date and move at greater pace to achieve services transformation in line with the strategic direction set within the Corporate Plan.
- 2.2 The costs to implement the proposals will be funded through £300k budget provision incorporated in the 2021/23 budget and Medium Term Financial with the remainder being met from existing service budgets.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 In the coming years the council will need to adjust its delivery to fit the realities of a post Covid-landscape. Significant budget pressures will be a feature of our operating environment for many years to come as the UK exchequer grapples with the financial cost of the pandemic and public services begin to address the human cost. This challenge sits alongside the ambitious commitments of the council to address deep-rooted inequalities within our society through the social justice agenda and tackling climate change through a commitment to decarbonisation alongside long-standing policy priorities of education and support for vulnerable children and adults.

- 3.2 This provides the stimulus for innovation and radical service transformation. Many of the world's most successful companies are built on their ability to use digital, information and data to meet their customers' needs in ways which were unimaginable ten or fifteen years ago. We have already made good progress with digital transformation, the ability of our organisation to fully unlock the potential of these key assets will be integral to our viability and sustainability.
- 3.3 To do this we must ensure that these areas are sufficiently inter-connected and have the capacity and expertise to deliver on this ambitious agenda. Cabinet have already agreed to set aside £300,000 for the development of this work in the 2021-22 budget and this paper is providing further detail on how that funding will be used.

Enhancing Data Capacity and Capability

- 3.4 The financial constraints which we operate in mean that the data analysts within the performance team are presently focused almost entirely on statutory performance reporting. This leaves little scope to engage in the type of work that is needed to shape preventative services, create operational efficiencies and deliver data-led solutions that will help achieve the purpose and long-term policy priorities of the council.
- 3.5 A large part of public service is about managing and responding to information. We own, and have access to, millions of items of data; these are a strategic asset but only if used constructively. We will unlock this potential beginning in two specific areas:
- Getting better at the basics - Growing our data capability across the organisation through training and development opportunities for existing staff in all teams. This will include better use of software such as Excel, through to more sophisticated analysis tools such as PowerBI to generate better insight from existing datasets. It will result in more timely and concise reports, improved visualisation, insightful analysis and evidence-based business cases.
 - Applying data science techniques – This includes combining data sets for a deeper understanding of our population, using data analytics to predict events that may happen in future so that we can target preventative services at an earlier stage and automating manual data entry and validation to generate efficiencies. We will also focus on increasing the publication of open data which can reduce Freedom of Information requests and add civic value. This will also see the better use of geo-spatial data to improve the efficiency of service delivery.
- 3.6 Our networks and geography mean we are well placed to access development opportunities through organisations such as the Data Science Academy at Cardiff University, the Data Science Campus at the Office for National Statistics, Data Cymru and the new InFuSe programme within the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal. We will identify opportunities for existing staff within the performance team and across the wider organisation to

enhance skill levels and take our capabilities to the next level. An annual development budget of £15,000 will be created to cover staff training and software licenses.

- 3.7 The investment made by council will see the creation of three new posts to deliver this work and enable the authority to realise these benefits while ensuring continued delivery of core activity:
- A trainee Data Officer to grow capacity in line with the commitment to create new employment and training opportunities within the authority's Apprentice, Graduate and Intern Strategy.
 - A new Performance Officer Post will be added to the team to provide additional capacity to deliver statutory processes and free up existing staff members to focus on data-led solutions.
 - The post of data scientist is being created but will be held vacant for up to twelve months while the groundwork is done to identify and define the problems and opportunities we want the post holder to focus on and to prepare and cleanse the datasets they will work with enabling them to hit the ground running. In the interim, the resources identified for this post will be used to fund a series of short-term placements of data scientists from academic institutions and other partners who are keen to work on real world problems facing the Council and its communities.
- 3.8 There will be some adjustments to existing roles which will take on additional responsibilities. There is a need to ensure that salaries remain competitive and remuneration of existing staff reflects the responsibilities they will be expected to fulfil. Finally, the changes will also see the Geographic Information Service function transfer to the team which will bring additional expertise and synergies with existing work.

Re-aligning the Digital and Data Programme Office

- 3.9 The Digital & Data Programme Office (DDPO) was established 4 years ago to build digital and information capabilities across MCC. During this time the team has made huge strides such as enabling customers to self-serve via the My Monmouthshire app, developing a chatbot to enable queries to be answered 24/7 and putting in place systems that means the authority was quickly able to transition to remote working at the outset of the pandemic without any loss of productivity. The team has grown in its expertise and scope and has taken on the inter-related functions of Data Protection, Freedom of Information, Information Governance and Schools Digital services.
- 3.10 The pandemic has vastly changed the way we work, with an increased need for digital networking, processes, file management and flexible working practices. Our customers require access to our services in the same way as they access any other service in their daily lives. 24/7 access to information and services has become the norm for them, and our customer facing presence needs to be at least one-step ahead of their needs. This is all

happening with a backdrop of an increased risk of cybercrime affecting our ability to provide business continuity in the event of a cyber-attack.

- 3.11 To build on these successes and accelerate progress the Digital Design and Innovation function will move out of the DDPO into their own unit managed by the current Digital Programme Delivery Manager. This Team will support specialist digital design as well as digital business innovation and improvement, capitalising on the digital advances made over the last few years in the way we work, as well as improving customer facing digital services.
- 3.12 The Digital Design Team will operate across the whole council, with each team member working with specified service areas developing knowledge and skills of the way each service operates. Recent service re-design and changes in management responsibilities have identified gaps in capacity for the digital design team. This gap is particularly apparent within services with high volumes of transactional work that could be automated, freeing up people to work on more specialist areas. The team also work on corporate digital projects that span the whole authority and those of our SRS partner organisations. These projects are large and complex and require a dedicated project resource to keep the projects on track and in scope.
- 3.13 In addition to basic operational improvement the Digital Design Team need to keep one-step ahead of future digital technologies and advancements in Artificial Intelligence and Robotic Process Automation. The current team doesn't have the resource to prototype and trial innovative advancements in technology and digital and will stand still or, even worse, fall behind if we don't address this gap.
- 3.14 In order to plug this gap we will add two Digital Design Trainee's to the team that can develop and grow in this niche and very new market. It is also proposed that the temporary post of Project Manager is maintained to complete the very large overarching digital projects within the roadmap of the Digital Design Team. The structure of the Digital Design Team can be seen in Table 2 in Appendix 2.

Re-alignment of the remaining functions of the DDPO

- 3.15 Geographic Information Systems display information and data in a map format. However, GIS is more than digital system and it can enable the Council to join up any spatial data to pinpoint where the council needs to focus its activities. It is an excellent decision making tool as well as providing information to help us in in service re-design and Emergency Planning. Our GIS function has been discharged by Newport City Council, overseen by the DDPO. However the DDPO have not had the capacity to fully capitalise on the data and expertise from the Newport team. With the suggested changes to enhance data capacity and capability within the Policy & Performance Team, it makes sense that the relationship and arrangements with Newport are managed within the Policy & Performance Team. This will ensure that our graphical information can be combined with other organisational datasets to

provide greater insights. There are no budget implications with the move of these responsibilities.

- 3.16 The remainder of the functions of the Digital & Data Programme Office will stay, though there are changes need there in order to bolster our information governance and security.
- 3.17 Implementing SharePoint Online will mean that our workforce can access information from any device and any location. This project will also enable our information to be structured in such a way that it can be used to provide our Service Areas with useful and relevant information for the Data Analysis specialists to turn into data to aid decision making and policy formation. Sharepoint online has the functionality to set automated retention and deletion rules therefore ensuring that our data complies with GDPR.
- 3.18 The statutory functions of Freedom of Information, Subject Access Requests and Data Breach management have increased in complexity and volumes, and the current post holders are not able to keep up to date with demand at the same time as implement new digital processes and essential training. The Data Protection officer is a mandatory post in a Local Authority now also requires knowledge and understanding of cyber-security. A high calibre staffing team in this space is essential for a complex organisation such as our and will pay dividends in managing and mitigating both reputational and financial risks.

4 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 The proposals give the authority enhanced capacity to work in new ways. There are no specifics proposals that will have a direct impact on people with protected characteristics. However, as the authority accelerates its use of digital and data there will be a number of areas that specific projects will need to take into account. For example:
- Solutions may in future contain an element of artificial intelligence or AI. Research has shown that AI has the potential to reinforce existing biases.
 - The need to be mindful of safeguarding in on-line solutions which could leave vulnerable people exposed to risk of exploitation.
- 4.2 The overall impact of digital and data will be positive. For example digital solutions make services more accessible, such as remote meetings which reduce the need for unnecessary car journeys and assisted living solutions which open up new ways of meeting the needs of older people and those with disabilities. Enhanced data capabilities also help understand problems experienced by certain groups and develop more bespoke solutions.

5 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- Do Nothing – Not making any changes to the current structure would carry no short-term financial cost. However, there would be significant opportunity cost as the authority would be not make progress in these key areas of activity which would reduce our ability to improve efficiency and reduce costs in the medium term.
- Outsource – Joining with another person or organisation to deliver these services may result in some economies of scale. However, on balance, the increased flexibility, influence and ability to direct work according to Monmouthshire’s priorities outweighs any potential saving.
- Improve in-house – This carries the highest short-term cost. However, this can be treated as capital expenditure due to the transformative nature of the investment. It provides significant opportunity to re-shape services and solutions which will result in financial and non-financial benefits in the medium to long-term.

6 EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 The success of these changes will need to be evaluated against the specific work programmes within the appended road maps. These are aligned with the corporate plan where digital and data feature prominently within the objective to become a future focused council.

7 REASONS:

- 7.1 To ensure that the organisation has the digital and data expertise needed to re-shape services to transform how we meet needs and achieve our purpose beyond the pandemic and into the next stage of the development of our organisation and county.
- 7.2 Together these will position the organisation to transform how we meet needs and achieve our purpose beyond the pandemic and into the next stage of the development of our organisation and county.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 The total cost of the proposals will be £324,322. A sum of £300,000 was earmarked for digital and data in the Revenue and Capital Budget 2021/22 proposals agreed by Cabinet in March. This will be funded through flexible use of capital receipts in relation to costs associated with service reform. The remaining sum will be afforded from re-allocation of existing budgets within the service areas.
- 8.2 Digital services are flexing and changing at pace, and in order to maintain ‘future readiness’ our roadmaps and plans will flex too. As we move forward, there will be a requirement for additional investment to fund and resource key

digital projects. Business cases for these projects will give supporting data and evidence along with benefits and/or financial savings.

9. CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet
Digital Programme Delivery Manager
Performance Manager

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

14. AUTHORS:

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny
Sian Hayward, Head of Digital

15. CONTACT DETAILS:

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Tel (01633) 644309
E-mail: sianhayward@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Digital Design and Innovation Roadmap

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Workstream 1 - Digital by Design	Monty customer journey & conversational updates			Monty integration with My Monmouthshire forms						
	Update existing My Monmouthshire Forms with new online payment service				RPA Discovery			Define RPA Use Cases		
					What 3 Words' location mapping Discovery					
					My Monmouthshire Form/Process User Design Discovery			MyMonmouthshire Form/Process User Design Pilots		
					Internal Chatbot Discovery					
					Work with People Services to improve internal forms/processes & ensure Myview is the HR/Payroll platform**					
Workstream 2 - get better with data	Update & integrate Resourcelink & Active Directory (our people information updated in both core systems)**			Identify opportunities for My Monmouthshire datasets						
	Work with Office Services to link Telephony datasets									
				PowerBI Discovery						
Workstream 3 - modern, secure, interoperable systems	Unified Communications Programme - rollout Teams Telephony/replace CISCO platform									
	Trial AOVPN with SRS			Trial Windows Hello with SRS						
	Improve New Starter/Leaver/Changes processes with SRS**			Zellis / Microsoft Power Apps for HR processes**						
	Review Book A Desk 'paper based' processes									
				PowerAutomate Discovery						
Workstream 4 - building digital capacity	Continue work with Service Areas to sell/build the Training Portal									
	Introduction of Microsoft O365 masterclass training starting with Teams Livestream/ Break-out rooms									
	Review & bolster Digital Champions with SLT									
	Upskill Digital Design Team on Service Design									
				User Design Training Discovery with Blaenau Gwent & TCBC						
					Review & upskill Business Support Roles					

Information Technology & Security Roadmap

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & SECURITY ROADMAP													
WORKSTREAM	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Workstream 1 - Education digital strategy	Overarching education digital strategy			SLA evaluation			Teams telephony						
	Device rollout to end of phase 4 Ed		Dealing with new device order and rollout			Individual schools Strategy					SIMS training schedule		
	Migration to HWB Plan				Migration of email accounts to HWB			Migration of school network storage to HWB					
	Set up schools Q&A / training forum				Ongoing evaluation, training and Q&A								
Workstream 2 - SRS & Technology Infrastructure Management	Cloud First' - SAS for key systems			Business continuity Plans in Place for all line of business Applications									
	Education SLA review		21st century schools infrastructure										
	Asset replacement strategy				Plan in place for removal of ISDN lines								
Workstream 3 - Structured Information, Mobility and Governance	Implementation of SharePoint Online - giving access to information from anywhere on any device												
	Data Protection Impact Assessment			Structured Training plan published									
	Record of Processing Activities register			identification of Open Data for FOI/Information page on web site									
	review and further digitise structure FOI and Data Breach proces			Review service area requirements for information storage, identifying key data sets for analysis									
Workstream 4 - Cyber resilience and security	Implementation of Events Management System - provides early warning of cyber security incidents												
	Review and rollout of cyber security training to all staff and members												
	Build a cyber security strategy for MCC			Review service area requirements for information storage, identifying key data sets for analysis									
	PSN/ PCI accreditation			view & prioritise the level of support needed in key service are									
	Information Security Team to attend cyber security training and gain accreditation												

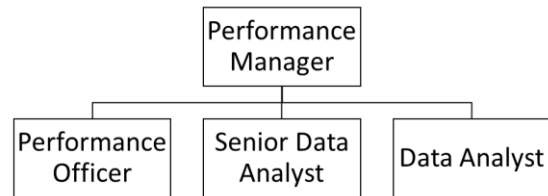
Data Capacity and Capability Roadmap

	Short Term	Medium-Term	Longer-Term
<i>Increasing capacity and capability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a network of data practitioners • Increase staff training and development to grow capability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the use of PowerBI for more powerful data analytics • Improve analysis and interrogation of data to deliver service optimisation 	
<i>Improved visualisations and publication of data</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the timeliness and presentation of key performance information • Embed GIS capabilities within the new data team • Increase publication of open data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live data dashboards; respond to emerging trends; increased transparency and accountability • More data is published on maps, improved understanding of local challenges and opportunities • Pilot use of live data feed to enhance emergency /operational responses 	
<i>Delivering key data products</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and publish Gwent-wide Well-being Assessment • Introduce new Social Services Performance Framework • Use MyMonmouthshire data to generate insights and inform service prioritisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core datasets inform self-evaluation required under Local Government and Elections Bill 	
<i>Applying data science techniques</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to scope data science projects that will achieve council priorities or deliver efficiencies • Build links with data science practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining datasets which are currently in inaccessible department folder structures using APIs or Robotic Process Automation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of predictive analytics to identify potential problems before they occur and target preventative services • Enhanced understanding of community vulnerability to target preventative and emergency responses

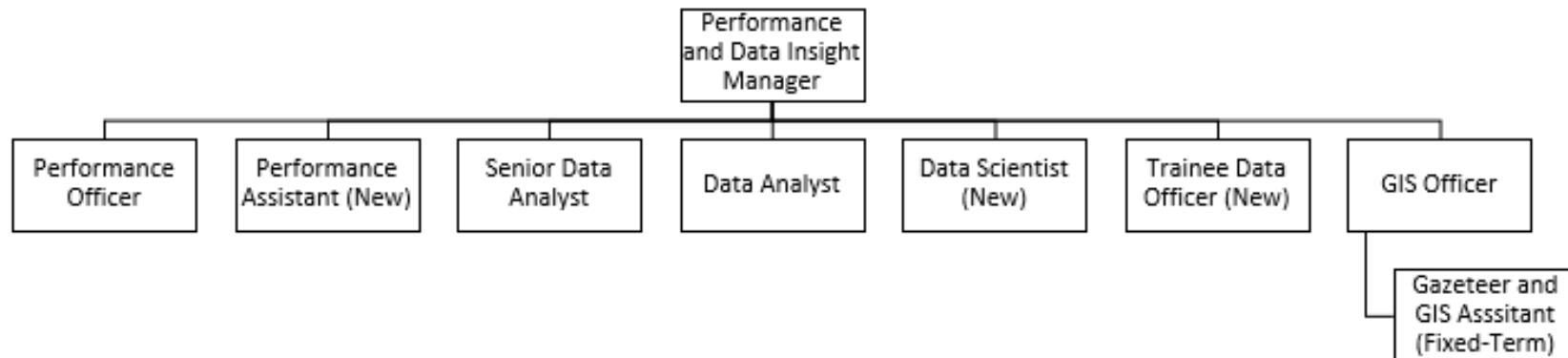
STAFFING CHANGES

APPENDIX 2

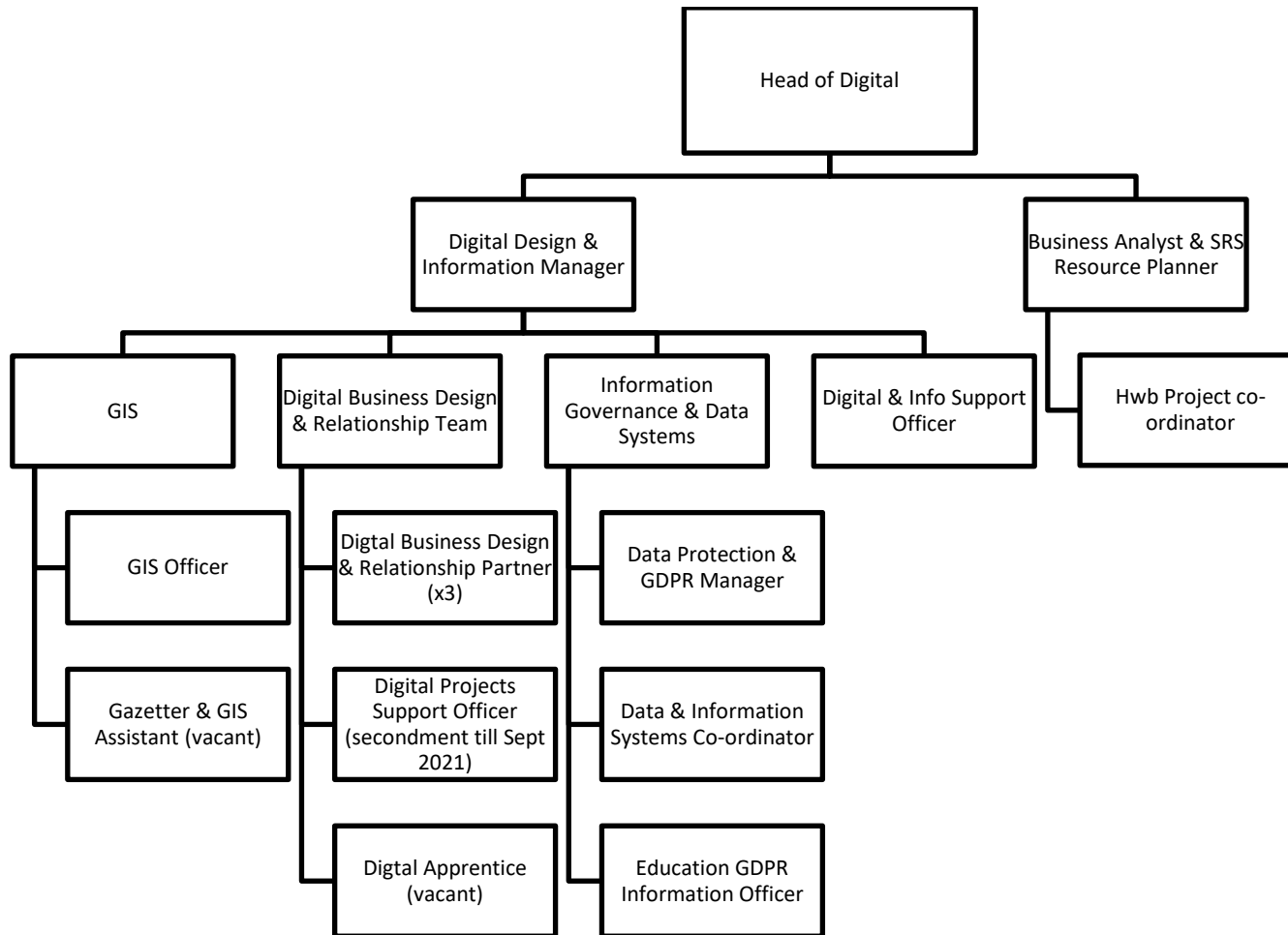
Performance Team - As is



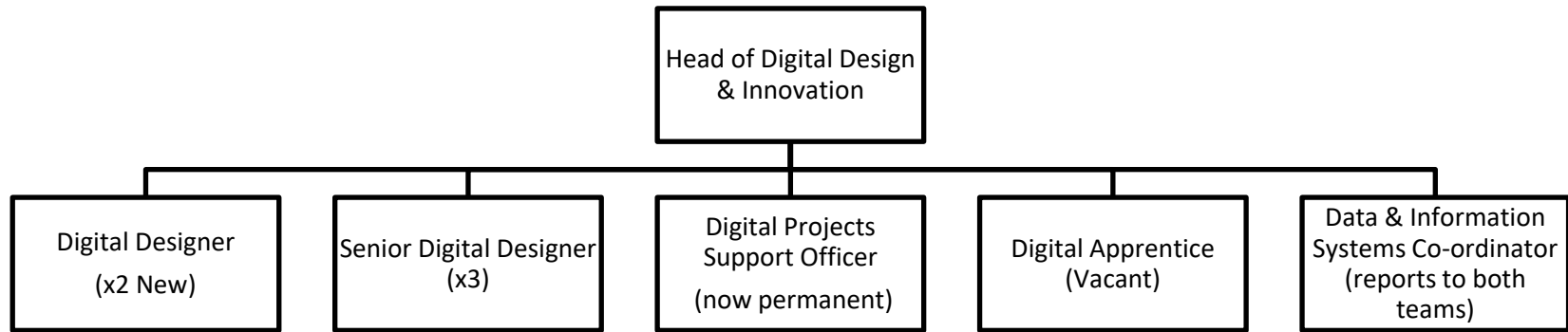
Performance Team – Proposed



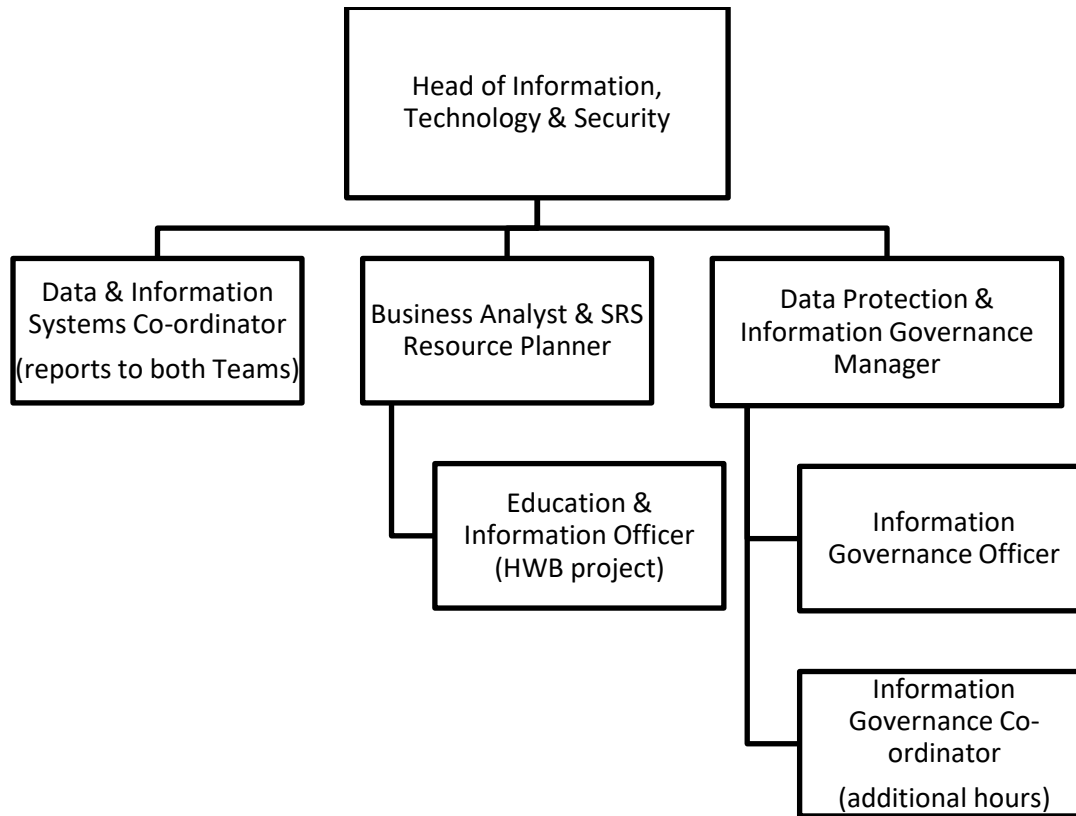
Digital Data Programme Office (as is)



Digital Design & Innovation (proposed)



Information, Technology & Security (proposed)



Total Costs of Proposals	324,322
Agreed as part of 21-22 budget	300,000
To be found from existing service budgets	24,322

* Posts costed at top of scale except where marked

All new and re-graded posts subject to job-evaluation

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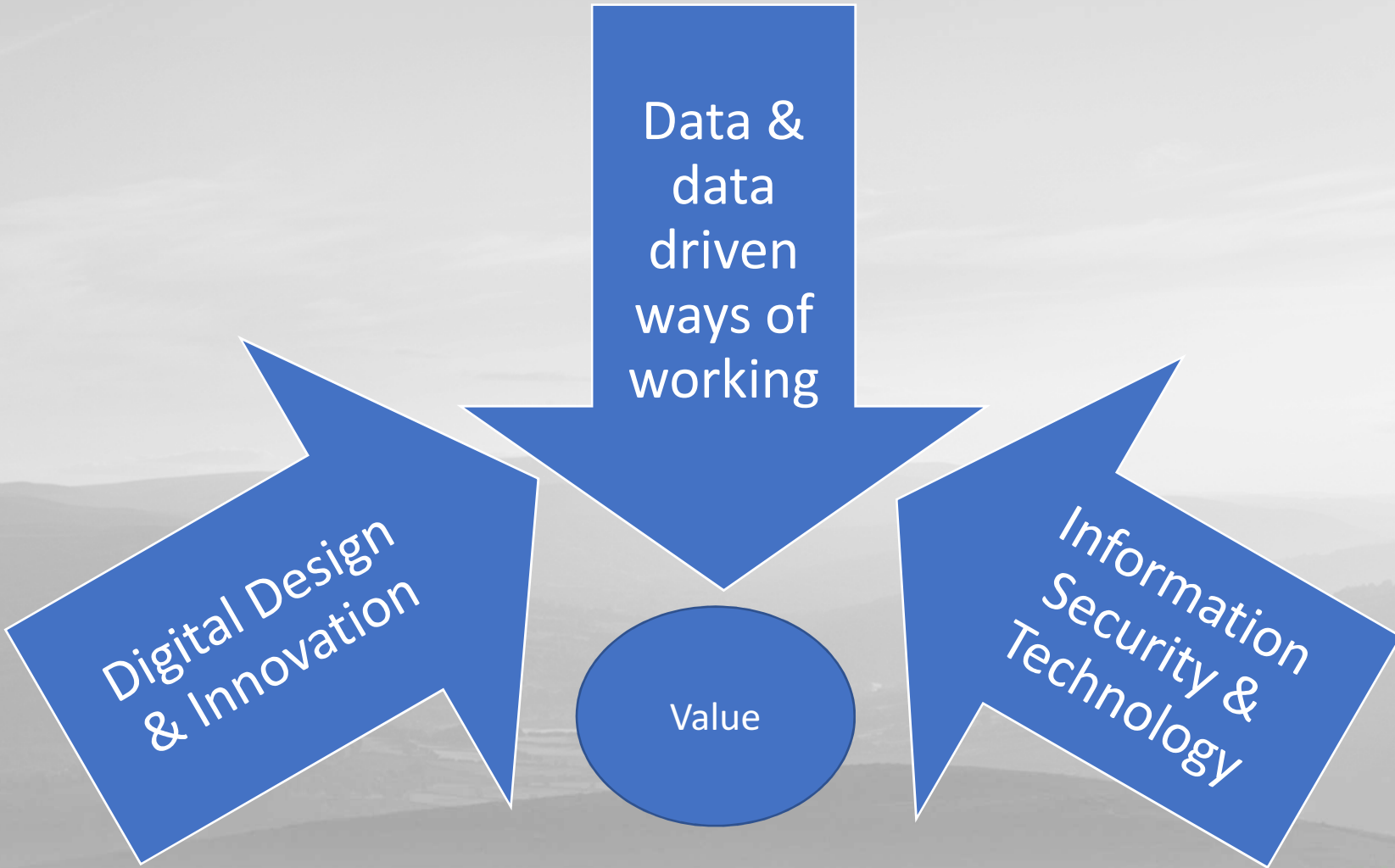
Data, Digital, Information & Technology

Page 155



Restructure

Page 156



Digital Design & Innovation

Page 157



Build upon our existing resident services so that all services are offered online by default, with support on other channels for those where it is needed



Get better with data, identifying systems that have 'golden' record



Make our systems modern, secure and interoperable



Build digital capacity

Key projects – Telephony



Teams Calling



Mobile Phones



Teams Contact Centre









Schools



Mindset/Culture/Process











Key projects – Microsoft 0365

-  Internal Chatbot Functionality
-  Power Apps
-  Integration with HR/Payroll System
-  Sharepoint Online
-  Microsoft Forms
-  Power Automate – process automation



Key projects – Directorate priorities

-  Trade Waste System
-  Animal Breeding Platform for Wales
-  Passenger Transport System
-  Community Links
-  Waste Review of Digital Processes
-  HR/Payroll System development
-  Catering process digitisation
-  Assistive Tech



Information Security and Technology

Page 16/17



Cyber resilience



I.T. Infrastructure



Structured & managed information



Education digital strategy



Mobility – Information on the go

Cyber resilience



Physical protection to avoid loss of data

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Business continuity and mobility



People and cyber awareness



Information Governance



Data Breaches, Freedom of Information & Subject Access

Page 163



Structured information turns into valuable data



Workforce mobility – Right person, right time, right place, right data



Education Digital Strategy



Digital teaching and learning



Inclusion and sustainability



The right tools to do the job



Data Capacity and Capability



Grow our data capability across the organisation



Improve the timeliness and presentation of key performance data



Make more use of spatial data and maps to understand population needs and target responses








Increase data capacity and expertise centrally to use data science techniques and predictive modelling



Get better at evaluating the relative effectiveness of different policy options to inform decision-makers

Data Capacity and Capability

-  Build a network of data practitioners across the organisation
-  Put training and development in place for staff who have data as part of their role
-  Connect and combine datasets that sit in department folders for new insights
-  Increase use of analytics tools such as PowerBI
-  Embed GIS staff in the data team and make more use of spatial data to target service responses



Application, Analysis and Insight



Publish open data to reduce FOI requests and add civic value



Pilot use of live data feeds from partners to improve insights



Gather and define directorate/Corporate Plan challenges that can be solved with data



Collate and analyse data to inform policy choices e.g. decarbonisation, social care



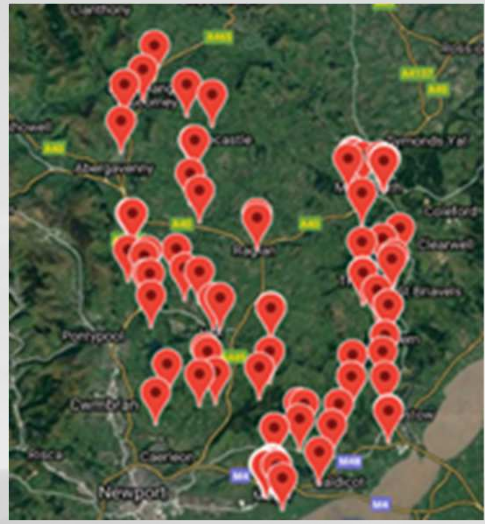
Combine datasets for greater population insight and targeted responses



Application, Analysis and Insight



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<p>Name of the Officer Sian Hayward</p> <p>Phone no: 01633644309 E-mail: sianhayward@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>The aims of this proposal are to link the 3 pillars of Digital, Information and Data in order to provide data and evidence led decision making and policies</p>
<p>Name of Service area</p> <p>Digital Programme Office</p>	<p>Date</p> <p>09/05/21</p>

1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

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Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Younger age groups are more likely to be digital natives and will benefit from the availability of digital.	A higher proportion of older people are likely to be digitally excluded and less likely to benefit from investment in digital solutions	This proposal is designed to ensure we collect and hold accurate, clean and structured information in order to support evidence-led decision making and policies. This data can only benefit people with any protected characteristics as it will enable us to target and prioritise services to the people who need it most. There are no reduction in face-to-face services as a result of the expansion of digital and data

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Disability	Increased digital service availability can have positive benefits for some people with disabilities. For example people with hearing impairments where self-service may be preferable to a contact centre. Digital solutions also encompass assistive technology.	None	As above. In addition digital services will be designed in line with accessibility standards
Gender reassignment	This proposal will enable us to collect and analyse information, turning it into accurate data and evidence to prioritise service delivery as appropriate.	None	As above
Marriage or civil partnership	No specific impacts identified	None	As above
Pregnancy or maternity	No specific impacts identified	None	As above

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Race	This proposal will enable us to collect and analyse information, turning it into accurate data and evidence to prioritise service delivery as appropriate. This can include having a better understanding about needs of groups of people who can make up a statistically small part of Monmouthshire's population	Digital and data-led solutions may in future contain an element of artificial intelligence or AI. Research has shown that AI has the potential to reinforce existing biases. This is because computer algorithms are unequipped to consciously counteract learned biases in the same way that humans do.	Ensure that we understand any future applications where this could potentially occur within the council's digital and data solutions and immediate any remedy immediately.
Religion or Belief	This proposal will enable us to collect and analyse information, turning it into accurate data and evidence to prioritise service delivery as appropriate.	Digital and data-led solutions may in future contain an element of artificial intelligence or AI. Research has shown that AI has the potential to reinforce existing biases. This is because computer algorithms are unequipped to consciously counteract learned biases in the same way that humans do.	Ensure that we understand any future applications where this could potentially occur within the council's digital and data solutions and immediate any remedy immediately.
Sex	No specific impacts identified	None	As above
Sexual Orientation	This proposal will enable us to collect and analyse information, turning it into accurate data and evidence to prioritise service delivery as appropriate	None	As above

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</p>	<p>The enhanced data capacity will enable us to have a more detailed understanding of areas where people are on low incomes and may suffer disproportionately from the impacts of poverty. We know this can often be masked in large data sets where poverty sits alongside affluence. This understanding, in turn, enable us to target more effective solutions to seem to ameliorate the impacts of poverty.</p> <p>Data analysis will play an important role in prioritizing activity within the social justice strategy</p>	<p>People on low incomes can sometimes suffer from digital exclusion. We need to be mindful of this when designing digital services to ensure that they work on a wide range of devices including smartphones.</p>	<p>The positive aspects of this proposal are that we will be able to collect, analyse and share information to enable us to identify those living in less favourable circumstances than others.</p> <p>Collecting accurate data will enable the council to target services in a more equitable way, ensuring they are available for those who need it most.</p> <p>Storing information in a digital format that can be accessed by the right people in the right place at the right time will help mitigate against any loss of personal information and protect vulnerable people.</p> <p>Collecting personal data brings an additional responsibility to hold it securely and fairly, securely and protect it from loss. This risk can be mitigated by storing and sharing it via securely protected digital systems.</p>

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards?	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
<p>Policy Making</p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language, no less favourably</p>	<p>Digital systems and processes will assist with building in provision for the Welsh Language to be included in content design.</p>	<p>Lower number of people using Welsh can sometimes impact on the development in digital solutions with certain solutions optimised for English. Welsh speakers can sometimes opt for English language digital versions if the Welsh is sub-optimal</p>	<p>Any data and information shared outside the council will be in Welsh and English. The service areas will be encouraged to provide digital content in both English and Welsh.</p> <p>Ensure that developers are aware of the need for solutions to work equally well in both languages</p>
<p>Operational</p> <p>Recruitment & Training of workforce</p>	<p>People expect to find jobs on social media or job sites rather than in the local paper. Digital advertising and recruitment can target the best places to source employees e.g. Welsh speakers on LinkedIn.</p> <p>Workforce data analysis can help us plan our future workforce, taking into account current age and skill profiles and the new skills requirements.</p>	<p>There are no negative aspects of this proposal</p>	<p>Using information and data will enable us to target training to the people who need it most. The HR system holds data on the current workforce and structuring that data will enable the council to look at future training needs and workforce trends. To this end, the digital HR system will be cleansed and structured to ensure we can extract speedy accurate data to aid with workforce planning.</p>

			Without doubt, the shift to digital data storage and digital working will mean more training is required in digital systems and methodology. The Digital Design Team are there to ensure that digital systems are intuitive and simple to use.
Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	When advertising our services, you must promote the fact that people can deal with the council in Welsh by phone, email, twitter, Facebook, letters, forms, website transactions etc.	Sometimes digital solutions can be optimised to work in English. Lower number of people using Welsh can sometimes impact in the development in digital solutions, for example the Welsh language version of our chatbot receives less queries and therefore 'learns' less quickly than the English version	Service areas will be encouraged to ensure that all of their content is in English and Welsh. When working with developers we will ensure that they understand that products must work equally well in both languages and correct for any unintended bias caused by the higher number of English language users.

4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	This proposal involves – 1. Collecting and storing clean, accurate, accessible information in a structured secure, format	This will require data and evidence with which to target training resources to those with the greatest need.



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>2. Analysing this information to provide accurate data and evidence with which to redesign services and meet future needs.</p> <p>3. Introducing digital systems and processes to automate data input and high-volume transactions.</p> <p>All of this will free people to make ‘human’ decisions that machines can’t.</p> <p>Digital processes can reduce the instance of fraud and error, helping to avoid duplication and loss of resources.</p> <p>Digital teaching and learning can supplement the traditional face to face learning for those people who are unable to access classroom and face to face training.</p> <p>Open data allows developers to create solutions that add civic value over and above those offered by local authorities and enable them to generate revenue</p>	<p>Data and evidence will also be needed to prioritise the transport infrastructure to maximise access to work and jobs whilst minimizing travel.</p> <p>Digital communications and systems will enable people to work closer to home, minimizing the impact on the environment and supporting local communities.</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>Collecting and storing information digitally will mean that the right people can access the right information at the right time, without resorting to carrying around paper or driving around unnecessarily.</p>	




Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	This in turn can reduce the impact of waste and fuel emissions upon climate change.	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Digital information and systems will enable people to access the right information they need to access health and leisure services.</p> <p>Data analysis will provide information with which to target health and leisure services in different parts of the community, ensuring that socially and economically disadvantaged people are not left behind.</p>	<p>Mitigating against the negative aspects of 'digital socialising' will require considerations to offset the reduction in 'human' contact.</p> <p>Care will be needed to identify digitally disadvantaged people to ensure they are supported with digital skills and tools to enable them to access care and health services.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>Geographical data analysis can identify areas within our communities that require further development or where crime and antisocial behavior is more prevalent. We can then target interventions and resources to these specific areas.</p> <p>Good design in digital communications systems can enable us to promote events and inform people when highways and schools are closed.</p> <p>Open data can assist communities to gather and analyse all the local data they need to help community groups to develop facilities in the area</p>	<p>Digital systems can be developed to enable people to work and live within their communities, contributing to local employment opportunities as well as enabling people to stay connected via social media and promotion of local events.</p> <p>This will require MCC as a large local employer to digitally enable its workforce to go into the community raising skills and awareness with families, friends and Neighbours.</p> <p>Designing digital apps and processes that are more 'human' will assist in our communities being able to access public services. We will need to ensure strong links with the police and</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
		health services and share appropriate information and data with them.
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>This proposal will enable MCC to connect with the global workforces, goods, services and information. This is most obvious in the reduction of emissions and waste that contributes to global climate change. Digital services will link us with countries throughout the world, providing us with data and best practice from them, as well as enabling us to see the impact we are having in their countries.</p>	
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>		
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>Sharing our data and information digitally can enable people to access services, knowledge and training, enabling them to fulfil their potential regardless of their circumstances or background.</p> <p>Careful digital design of our services will ensure that it is simple for people to access what they need. Effective digital design will make it so simple for people to use digital services that they wouldn't want to do it any other way.</p>	<p>It is essential that all departments of the council consider how to promote their services and enable people to access them as simply as possible without people having to travel long distances or access them between the hours of 9-5. This will require all services to consider their 'customers' needs rather than their own administrative convenience. Training in customer service design will be required for this.</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
		<p>Raising digital maturity through a structured training programme of our workforce is also critical to reducing digital exclusion in the community.</p> <p>At all times we will need to consider the digital maturity of our communities when service areas re-design their systems and processes. We will be required to work with other organisations and the third sector to reduce the impact of digital exclusion in a structured way.</p> <p>Our schools will need to deliver excellent digital knowledge and equipment in order to target all children and young people, including digitally disadvantaged families.</p>

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>Digital and information services change at a fast pace, with cyber security and new technology constantly being introduced. We know that digital design will enable us to capitalize on simple processes and systems to eliminate waste and improve access to services. We will have a 1 year, 3 year and 5-year focus to enable us to go for a long-term goal without being distracted by short term gains. We will keep a focus on our goals and not get distracted by solutions seeking a problem to solve, or by influential people seeing an overview without understanding the interactions and interconnections between systems and infrastructure.</p>	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>Emergency, health and government services who rely on our data</p> <p>Third sector organisations and those who can assist with digital exclusion</p> <p>Education and training services to enhance the digital skills of our children, our workforce, our businesses and our communities.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The stakeholders in this proposal are-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our workforce who will need digital skills to promote within the community • Our schools who will enhance digital teaching and learning • Our communities to identify the digitally excluded and vulnerable people 	
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The accurate collection, storage and analysis of information provides us with data to prioritise resources where they are most needed.</p>	
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>.The proposals involves thinking in an integrated way about digital, information governance and data to maximize impacts on well-being</p>	

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Collecting, storing and analysing relevant information in a secure way in order to provide the services that vulnerable children and adults need.	We must be mindful of on-line safety with any digital solutions. There are no specific negative impacts of this proposal, as it will provide the safe storage of accurate data and information in well-designed digital systems in order to protect vulnerable people in our communities.	Continually assess and change our proposal in order to keep this data accurate and safe.
Corporate Parenting	This proposal will enable us to gather data we can use to prioritise opportunities and services for our looked after children. It could also provide opportunities for trainee positions in a developing area of employment.		

7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

This proposal will provide the evidence the authority needs to make all of its decisions and support all of its proposals. This lies at the heart of data and evidence provision itself.

- Equalities dashboard link. [Equality data dashboard for EQIA's 2020.xlsx](#)

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

Design digital systems and processes that make it simple for internal and external customers to access services and information
 Collect, structure, store and secure our information in a way that the right person can access it at the right time.
 Analyse our data to provide evidence for decision making, policy and opening up for people to us it.

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do?	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Establish a digital design service to ensure that all processes and systems are intuitive for people to use	Roadmap of events withing the body of the report	Head of Digital Design & Innovation
Provide secure digital information management systems to enable people to access the information they need whenever and wherever they need it.	Roadmap of events within the body of the report	Head of Technical & Information Security

Identify relevant information to collect and analyse, providing accurate data to inform decision making, policies and open up our data for others to use.	Roadmap of events within the body of the report	Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny
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10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision-making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built-in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1. 1	Pre-Cabinet Consultation	May 2021	

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SUBJECT:	WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP
MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	09th June 2021
DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting 1 held on the 15th April 2021 and meeting 2 held on the 13th May 2021

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 We resolved that the following grants be awarded as per the schedule of applications.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2021/22 – MEETING 1.

1. **Usk in Bloom**, requested £1,000 in funding for assistance in purchasing 2 large eco-friendly low water requirement planters to match existing two large planters situated within Usk Town

Recommendation: £1,000, awarded to assist in funding assets to assist in providing community assets that enhance the public area and provide pleasure to the many visitors to the award winning town centre.

2. **Caerwent Historic Trust**, requested £500 to assist in staging a Community focussed archaeological excavation involving both Caerwent and Shirenewton local history societies as well as local schools and residents.

Recommendation: £500 awarded to assist in supporting a community event that will benefit long-term understanding of the historical area by the local community and in particular the younger generations.

3. **Abergavenny Community Trust**, requested £2,900 to help create a new safe path with associated drainage to access the Community Centre from the car park. This will be made of porous materials to prevent flooding.

Recommendation: £2,900 awarded to assist in funding a new safe and level footpath to assist the many users of this community asset

4. **St Mary's Church, Llanvair Discoed**, requested £1,000 of funding to improve the lighting within the church.

Recommendation: The application has been deferred for clarification into the total project specifications and cost

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2021/22 – MEETING 2.

- 1. Chepstow Bowling Club**, requested £1,000 to restore and maintain the Green at Chepstow Bowling Club, which includes updating a watering system pump, Roto-rack, Aerator and Lawn Mower

Recommendation: £1,000 awarded to support this community sports group and promote health and wellbeing amongst the generations.

- 2. St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth**, requested £5,000 to undertake a major redevelopment of the St John Kimble room in an ancillary building at the church. This work includes replacing four sash windows, ventilation slates to the roof, carpet replacement, plasterwork and other minor works.

Recommendation: £2,000 was awarded to support the refurbishment of a part of this historic church that provides a well utilised community facility. .

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Options available to the Committee are driven by the information supplied by the applicants

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

No evaluation criteria is applicable to the grant awarded by the trust

5. REASONS

Meetings took place on Thursday 15th April and Thursday 13th May of the Welsh Church Fund Committee Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1).

County Councillors in attendance at meeting 1:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)
County Councillor B. Strong
County Councillor S. Woodhouse

County Councillors in attendance at meeting 2:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)
County Councillor D. Evans (Vice Chair)
County Councillor B. Strong
County Councillor S. Woodhouse

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE at meetings 1 and 2

D Jarrett Central Finance
W Barnard Committee Administration

5.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Meeting 1.

County Councillor B. Strong declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as the counter signatory for the following application:

item 1. Usk in Bloom

County Councillor S. Wodhouse declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as the counter signatory for the following applications:

item 3. Abergavenny Community Trust

5.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE at meeting 1

County Councillor D. Evans (Vice Chair)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE at meeting 2

None

5.3 CONFIRMATION OF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on the 11TH March 2021 and 14th April 2021

.RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A total of £7,400.00 allocated at Meeting 1 and 2 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee. The remaining balance of £27,040 is available for distribution within the 2021-22 financial year.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

There are no Future Generations, equality, safeguarding, corporate parenting or sustainable development implications directly arising from this report. The assessment is contained in the attached appendix.

6.1.1 CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
All Cabinet Members
Head of Legal Services
Assistant Head of Finance
Central Finance Management Accountant

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Church Fund Schedule of Applications 2021/22– Meeting 1 and 2 (Appendix 1)

8. AUTHOR:

David Jarrett – Senior Accountant – Central Finance Business Support

9. CONTACT DETAILS

Tel. 01633 644657

e-mail: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

WELSH CHURCH FUND - APPLICATIONS 2021/22
MEETING 1 & 2: 15th April 2021 /13th May 2021

APPENDIX 1

ORGANISATION	ELECTORAL DIVISION	Signed by Councillor	REQUEST	DECISION	NATURE OF PROJECT REQUEST	PROJECT TOTAL COST	DATE Application Received	D of I*	Additional Information	
NEW APPLICATIONS AWAITING DECISION			£	£		£				
MEETING 1										
1	Usk in Bloom	Usk	B Strong	£1,000	£1,000	Assistance in purchasing 2 large eco-friendly low water requirement planters to match existing two large planters thereby replacing 3 high maintenance small planters that tend to be used as rubbish receptacles at present	£2,078	29/03/21	Yes	These planters are situated outside of the Co-op in the precinct and there position currently prohibits regular watering that is currently required in this highly accessed pedestrian and seating area. The three smaller planters will be relocated near the New Market Street Memorial.
2	Caerwent Historic Trust	Caerwent	P Murphy	£500	£500	Funding assistance required for a Community focussed archaeological excavation involving both Caerwent and Shirenewton local history societies and younger local residents from Shirenewton Primary School and Explorer Scouts	£7,400	29/03/21	No	The team will include a Professional Archaeologist as this is a requirement of Cadw. The object of the exercise is to uncover artefacts and involve younger age groups in local history and archaeology in particular
	Abergavenny Community Trust	Grofield	S. Woodhouse	£2,900.00	£2,900	To create a new, safe path & associated drainage, to access the Community Centre from the ramp from the car park measuring 9m x 1.2m. This will be made of porous materials to prevent flooding.	£3,903.41	06/04/21	Yes	In 'normal' times an average of 600 people use the Centre each week with the majority gaining access from the car park. The current path is unsuitable as it is uneven and floods. The prime reason is for health and safety.
	St Mary's Church, Llanvair Discoed	Caerwent	P Murphy	£1,000	defer	Contribution towards the replacement of inadequate lighting within the church as people are struggling to read the Hymn books	unknown	06/04/21	No	
MEETING 2										
	Chepstow Bowling Club	Severn	R.J. Higginson	£1,000	£1,000	Funding assistance required to restore and maintain the Green at Chepstow Bowling Club, which includes a watering system pump, Roto rack, Aerator and Lawn Mower	£16,170	22/04/21	No	The Bowling club provides bowling facilities for the Chepstow community including junior memberships and as been active as a club since 1928.
	St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth	Dixton with Osbaston	R. Roden	£5,000.00	£2,000	Funding assistance required to undertake a major redevelopment of the St John Kimble room in an ancillary building at the church. This work includes replacing 4 sash windows, ventilation slates, carpet replacement, plasterwork and other minor works	£62,688.06	11/05/21	No	St Mary's Church is a grade II listed building located in Monmouth town conservation area, The Church since 1793 have supported the disadvantaged and vulnerable of Monmouth. Regular attendance is between 120 - 150 weekly with young families making up roughly a fifth of the congregation
SUB TOTAL Meeting 1 & 2			£11,400	£7,400						
					OTHER INFORMATION :					
	MEETING	DATE	CABINET	AWARD						
	1	April 15th 2021		4,400						
	2	May 13th 2021	June 09th 2021	3,000						
	3	June 24th 2021	July 07th 2021	0						
	4	July 22nd 2021	Sept 01st 2021	0						
	5	Sept 23rd 2021	Oct 06th 2021	0						
	6	Nov 04th 2021	Dec 01st 2021	0						
	7	Dec 16th 2021	Jan 05th 2022	0						
	8	Jan 27th 2022	Mar 02nd 2022	0						
	9	Mar 10th 2022	April 06th 2022	0						
TOTAL AWARDED FOR 2021/22 TO DATE				7,400						
BUDGET 2021/22				34,440						
BALANCE B/F TO 2021/22				£0						
Monmouthshire's Allocation for 2021/22				£34,440						
REMAINING BALANCE				£27,040						

*D of I = Declaration of Interest

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<p>Name of the Officer D Jarrett Phone no: 4657 E-mail: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal To assess the Grant Allocation Processes of the Welsh Church Fund for the meetings of the Welsh Church Fund Working Group on the 15th April 2021 and the 13th May 2021</p>
<p>Name of Service Finance</p>	<p>Date Future Generations Evaluation 15th April 2021 and 13th May 2021</p>


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1 Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.

Well Being Goal	How does the proposal contribute to this goal? (positive and negative)	What actions have been / will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>Positive in relation to developing the skills and proficiencies of applicants</p>	
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>Positive in the teaching of biodiversity and ecological issues through the provision of educational resources</p>	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Positive in that people's mental health and physical health is enhanced by a collective activity / process.</p>	

Well Being Goal	How does the proposal contribute to this goal? (positive and negative)	What actions have been / will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Positive in relation to connecting the community and its constituents	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Positive in relation to social well-being. Also, helping the environmental well-being of the community through preservation of history.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Positive in relation to the promotion of culture in the community	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Positive in respect of helping people to achieve their potential irrespective of individual circumstances	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	How does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle?	What has been done to better to meet this principle?
 Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	

Sustainable Development Principle	How does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle?	What has been done to better to meet this principle?
 <p>Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Integration Positively impacting on people, economy and environment and trying to benefit all three</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	

3. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Encouraging the socializing of differing age groups through social provision	None	
Disability	Proposal to assist in the provision of disabled facilities.	None	
Gender reassignment	No impact	No impact	
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	No Impact	
Race	No impact	No Impact	
Religion or Belief	Encouraging religion through education at the point of delivery through the provision of enhanced facilities	None	
Sex	No impact	No impact	
Sexual Orientation	No impact	No Impact	
Welsh Language	No impact on Welsh Language	No impact on Welsh Language	

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on important responsibilities of Corporate Parenting and safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities? For more information please see the guidance note <http://hub/corporatedocs/Democratic%20Services/Equality%20impact%20assessment%20and%20safeguarding.docx> and for more on Monmouthshire's Corporate Parenting Strategy see <http://hub/corporatedocs/SitePages/Corporate%20Parenting%20Strategy.aspx>

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Not applicable		
Corporate Parenting	Not applicable		

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

The evidence and data used for the assessment of each applicant to the Welsh Church Fund is supplied by the applicant upon submission of their application. The data and information supplied or subsequently requested is used to form the basis of the Committees' decision on whether to award a qualifying grant.

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The grant aid supports and highlights the positive effect that decisions the Welsh Church Fund Working Group have on the applicants funding requests from Voluntary Organisations, Local Community Groups, Individuals and Religious Establishments. All awards are made in the belief that the funding is utilised for sustainable projects and cultural activities that benefit individuals, organisations, communities and their associated assets. All grants are awarded within the Charitable Guidelines of the Trust

7. Actions. As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

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What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Award grants	June 2021	Welsh Church Fund	On target

8. Monitoring: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:	The Payment of grants awarded to the successful applicants
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