

scrutiny



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# A Report of: Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Annual Report 2018 – 2019



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**COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY**  
**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**



[Councillor Ali Ahmed](#)



(Chair Person)  
[Councillor Mary McGarry](#)



[Councillor Bablin Molik](#)



[Councillor Susan Goddard](#)



[Councillor Kathryn Kelloway](#)<sup>1</sup>



[Councillor Joe Carter](#)



[Councillor Shaun Jenkins](#)



[Councillor Saeed Ebrahim](#)



[Councillor Sue Lent](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Councillor Kelloway was a Member of the Committee until March 2019

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

To scrutinise, measure and actively promote improvement in the Council's performance in the provision of services and compliance with Council policies, aims and objectives in the area of community and adult services, including:

- Public and Private Housing
- Disabled Facilities Grants
- Community Safety
- Neighbourhood Renewal and Communities First
- Advice & Benefit
- Consumer Protection
- Older Persons Strategy
- Adult Social Care
- Community Care Services
- Mental Health & Physical Impairment
- Commissioning Strategy
- Health Partnership

To assess the impact of partnerships with and resources and services provided by external organisations including the Welsh Government, joint local government services, Welsh Government-sponsored public bodies and quasi-departmental non-governmental bodies on the effectiveness of Council service delivery.

To report to an appropriate Cabinet or Council meeting on its findings and to make recommendations on measures which may enhance Council performance and service delivery in this area.

To be the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee as required by the Police and Justice Act 2006 and any re-enactment or modification thereof; and as full delegate of the Council to exercise all the powers and functions permitted under that Act.

## CHAIR'S FOREWORD

Welcome to the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2018-2019. It has been a very interesting and full year for us. However, due to constraints, in terms of resources and time, there were quite a lot of items that we were not able to look at. These are listed at the end of the Report. Having said that, I think we managed to prioritise all of the most important items. Throughout the Report you will see suggestions for further scrutiny and monitoring. Again, these are listed at the end of the Report.

You will see from the Report that our work this year has covered a wide range of topics. We have scrutinised the development of services in adult social care, particularly around the areas of Domiciliary Care Provision, Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence and Adults with a Learning Disability. We are committed to ensuring that these strategies are implemented and commitments within them are achieved. We also looked at the Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement Scheme and the intention to continue to participate in the resettlement of vulnerable refugees until March 2020, on a regional basis with the Vale of Glamorgan, in line with the Home Office scheme.

I am particularly pleased with the work we have done with regard to Homelessness: We held one Scrutiny Meeting, totally devoted to this issue, on 21 January 2019, when we reviewed the winter arrangements for individual homeless and rough sleepers to establish whether they were fit for purpose. We heard evidence from a number of external witnesses from a range of service providers, from our own Outreach team and the Cabinet member and officers. This was an extremely useful and enlightening meeting and enabled us to make observations and recommendations to the Cabinet. Again, we are committed to ongoing scrutiny of this item.

The Committee has also considered the Council House Building Strategy and the Council's commitment to building 1,000 new homes by May 2022 and 2,000 new homes in the longer term.

As the crime and disorder scrutiny committee for the Council, we reviewed the Council's Safeguarding Policy and received a Progress Report.

All of our work is driven by our commitment to ensure sound governance for the Council, that the voice of the citizen is heard and listened to, that service changes lead to positive improvements and that those with responsibility for Council resources are held to account to make sure they are well used.

None of the work we have done could have been done without the support and hard work of staff in Scrutiny Services and Committee Services and I can't thank them enough for their dedication and support which has been invaluable to me.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Members of this Committee, for their hard work and commitment over the year and I would like to extend these thanks to the Cabinet Members, Officers and external witnesses who addressed the Committee during the year.



**Councillor Mary McGarry**  
**Chair, Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee**

## OVERVIEW

The Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee plays an important role in assessing service performance and informing service and policy development across a range of Council services, including all aspects of housing, neighbourhood renewal and adult social care. The Committee is also the Council's crime and disorder scrutiny committee.

One of the main aims of this Committee is to look at things from a service user and citizen perspective and use this to inform our observations and recommendations to the Cabinet. We have invited contributions to our work from carers, advocates, citizens, partners and the third sector as well as hearing from Council Members, officers, statutory organisations and feedback from service users.

Between June 2018 and May 2019, the Committee scrutinised the following topics:

- **Pre decision** - Where the Committee has evaluated and commented on policy proposals prior to Cabinet, giving Cabinet the opportunity to know Scrutiny Members' views prior to making their decision:
  - Cardiff & Vale Of Glamorgan Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategy 2018-2023
  - Domiciliary Care Provision in Cardiff
  - Homelessness and Housing Review Strategy 2018-22
  - Safeguarding - Progress Report and Policy Review
  - Corporate Plan
  - Budgetary Proposals
  - Older Persons Accommodation Strategy
  - HRA Business Plan 2019/20
  - Council House Building Strategy
  - Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme
  - Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability

- **Policy Development/Review** - Where the Committee has contributed to policy development processes, for example by considering draft policy documents, and/or where the Committee has considered the implementation of policies, looking at whether this has happened in a timely manner and the impact of the policy, giving the Cabinet the opportunity to know Scrutiny Members' views about whether any changes are required:
  - Welsh Audit Office Report – Welsh Housing Quality Standard Review Including Tenants' Views
  - Temporary & Supported Accommodation - Single Persons Gateway
  - Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing (Task & Finish Inquiry- jointly with the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee).
  
- **Monitoring Progress** - Where the Committee has undertaken monitoring of the Council's progress in implementing actions previously agreed:
  - Carers Assessment & Engagement
  - Social Care Wales Act (2016)
  - Community Mental Health Services
  - Adult Safeguarding
  
- **Monitoring Performance** - Where the Committee has undertaken monitoring of the Council's performance:
  - Director of Social Services Annual Report 2018/19 (joint with CYPSC)
  - Quarterly Performance Reports – Adult Social Services; and Communities and Housing
  
- **Briefing Papers**
  - Equality & Human Rights Toolkit for Councillors on Accessible Housing
  - The Impact of Universal Credit on Rent Arrears

Over the year, the Scrutiny Committee held 11 committee meetings and wrote 26 letters to the Cabinet, officers and external partners, sharing their comments, recommendations and concerns following the scrutiny of items at committee meetings. Members formed a Performance Panel, which has held 2 separate meetings this municipal year, with Quarter 3 Performance taken to full committee on 3 April 2019, with Quarter 4 scheduled for July 2019.

### **Committee Member Development**

Scrutiny is a Member-led function whose success is closely linked to the capacity and development of the Members that sit on Scrutiny Committees. The Scrutiny Team work closely with colleagues across the Council to provide a continuous range of opportunities for Members to build or refresh their Scrutiny skills, and to extend their knowledge and insight into a range of issues relevant to their Scrutiny role.

In addition, the Members attend pre-Committee meetings to discuss, analyse and understand the issues being considered, and where necessary ask for further clarification of the information provided. From this, the Members can also establish a number of “lines of inquiry” for the meeting.

## **POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY**

Members have undertaken a significant amount of pre-decision scrutiny and policy development work in respect of Social Care, Communities and Housing issues as well as Community Safety and Crime and Disorder scrutiny. Details of some of these are provided below and in the next section; a full list of the topics covered is provided earlier on page 7.

When considering pre-decision, Members are advised to:

- i) look at the information provided in the report to Cabinet to see if this is sufficient to enable the Cabinet to make an informed decision;
- ii) check the financial implications section of the Cabinet report to be aware of the advice given;
- iii) check the legal implications section of the Cabinet report to be aware of the advice given;
- iv) check the recommendations to Cabinet to see if these are appropriate.

## **Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2019/20**

On 3 March 2019, the Committee considered the 2019/20 Housing Revenue Account Business Plan prior to consideration by the Cabinet at its meeting on 21 March 2019.

The report covered:

- Maintenance of the Wales Housing Quality Standard (WHQS)
- New Build Housing Programme, including the Cardiff Living Partnership
- Maintenance of properties
- Managing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Remodelling and Refurbishment of existing homes
- Estate Regeneration
- Neighbourhood Regeneration and Area Improvements
- Community Hubs
- Money Advice Team, including the impact of Universal Credit
- Support for tenants, including tenancy management, participation, consultation and supporting vulnerable tenants

- Homelessness & Housing Need
- Independent Living
- Work Spend
- Health & Safety

Following consideration, Members commended the Business Plan; however, requested that the following feedback be considered by Cabinet:

Overall, the Committee welcomed the examples of innovative housing which had been developed in partnership with Cadwyn and concluded that this partnership arrangement should be enhanced to ensure that innovative housing opportunities continued to be provided in the future.

In addition, the Committee were also supportive of the actions that were being undertaken to address the problems with damp in the blocks of flats where cladding had been removed. When the moisture content report was available; Members requested a briefing which also identified how the situation could be improved for residents.

The Committee requested that the number of true fails relating to the WHQS be clarified, and requested details of at what level these fails will affect the achievement of the WHQS. In addition, Members also requested further information surrounding eligibility for the Major Improvement grant from the Welsh Government.

Members of the Committee were reassured with the plans to reduce the improvement works and cut back the staff budget to protect borrowing.

The Committee acknowledged concerns regarding the difficulties with the procurement process and would consult with the Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee to determine if there was an appropriate way forward to review the procurement process.

In response to Committee's letter both Cllr Lynda Thorne and Cllr Susan Elsmore expressed their gratitude for the overall support of the Committee. In terms of WHQS level of acceptable fails, the letter confirmed *'acceptable fails are deemed as technical passes in the view of the Welsh Government and therefore have no impact on the achievement of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard or eligibility for the Welsh Government (MRA) grant.'*

## **Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2023**

On 6 June 2018, the Committee considered Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan's Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2023 (VAWDASV), prior to its consideration by the Cabinet at its meeting on the 14 June 2018. The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015 laid out a requirement for local authorities and health boards to jointly prepare regional strategies to tackle this issue. The VAWDASV strategy recognises that anyone (women, men, children and young people) can experience and be affected by VAWDASV. It addresses violence and abuse directed towards women, men, girls and boys and violence and abuse perpetrated by men and women

Overall, the Committee supported the proposals and commended the report to Cabinet. In addition, Members congratulated the Cabinet Member and officers on the production of a comprehensive Strategy that addresses the complexities of this issue in a clear, easy-to-read format.

Members were concerned, that at the time the Strategy came to Committee, finances amongst partners, with regard to delivering the Strategy and its implementation, had not yet been agreed and recommended this be addressed as a matter of urgency. Members also recommended that the Action Plan accompanying the Strategy be available and published at the same time as the Strategy. Within the meeting, Members also recommended the need to ensure that promotion via public transport and taxis be included as part of the awareness raising campaign.

*No Response required – Members requested that a detailed update on the strategy be provided during 2019/20*

## Homelessness & Housing Review Strategy 2018-2022

Under Section 50 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 a local housing authority must periodically carry out a homelessness review for its area and formulate and adopt a homelessness strategy based on the results of that review. Members considered the Homelessness & Housing Review Strategy 2018-2022 on 5 Dec 2018 prior to its consideration by the Cabinet at its meeting on the 13 December 2018.

After considering the Strategy Members recommended that:

- A drive toward improving the collaborative approach between partners should be a priority.
- Improved communication on hostel provision – ensuring the message that hostels are safe and secure is relayed.
- The development and implementation of a detailed Action Plan, setting out how the commitments and actions contained in the Strategy are to be achieved, should be started as matter of priority. Members strongly recommended that this was implemented by the 31 March 2019.
- In terms of the content within the Action Plan; Members recommended it contain the following:
  - Information on the Governance Arrangements/Structures across partners.
  - Performance Measures – which include details of timescales and budgets.

Within the meeting, Members raised concerns surrounding:

- Engagement with private rented sector landlords and the ability to encourage these landlords to let their properties to tenants who may be in receipt of Housing Benefit or Universal Credit. Members therefore requested that information on how this will be addressed be supplied to the Committee.

*No Response required – Members requested that the above be monitored throughout 2019/20*

## Older Persons Accommodation Strategy

By 2037 the number of people in Cardiff aged 65 to 84 will increase by 42%, while those aged 85 and over will nearly double. The number of people in Cardiff with dementia is projected to increase by 67% for those aged 65+ and by 85% for those aged 85+ over the period 2015 to 2035. During 2018 the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board commissioned independent research to identify the future housing and associated care requirements of older people across the region and to inform future capital investment programmes for housing. The research reviewed the current provision of older persons' housing and modelled likely future demand, based on demographic change. The research findings provided the evidence base upon which the Cardiff Older Persons' Housing Strategy 2019-2023 was developed.

At its meeting on 6 March 2019, the Committee considered the Strategy prior to its consideration by the Cabinet on 21 March 2019. Overall Members welcomed the Strategy and the outcomes that were expected. Members advised that all future accommodation for older persons would equitably support diverse communities and meet their cultural, religious and social care needs. In terms of funding, the Committee were aware of the current financial position of the Council and that future financial challenges may have an impact on its ability to provide new accommodation. It was therefore suggested that the use of the private public partnership, which supported the sale and rent of properties, could be enhanced to enable the Council to sell some of the properties that it built. This would, potentially, provide a source of income to offset the cost for building council accommodation. However, the committee were aware that this proposal has some inherent risks. An additional recommendation was to ensure that consultation with Registered Social Landlords on changes to allocation policy is upheld. It was also suggested that an Accessible Home Register be created to ensure that when adapted homes become available they could be more easily assigned to those most in need.

Following the meeting, a letter was sent to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport requesting consideration be given to utilising any funding allocated in the recent budget to support bus routes and, in particular, those local transport links which were essential to older persons' access into the community.

*No Response required*

## **Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability 2019-2024**

On the 21st September 2017, the Learning Disability Partnership Group, which reports to the Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board, agreed that a Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability would be developed across Cardiff and Vale Councils and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (CVUHB). The draft Joint Commissioning Strategy was taken to the Task & Finish group in February 2019, in line with the inquiry's objectives, and then again to Full Committee at its meeting on 1 May 2019. Within the meeting, representatives from Cardiff & Vale Federation and Cardiff People First were also present and provided the Committee with their perspective on the Strategy.

Overall, Members commended the report highlighting that the co-production and partnership working undertaken within this work is a refreshing approach which has resulted in the creation of a meaningful, well set out Strategy. Members noted the importance of implementation and monitoring, highlighting that the success and impact of the Strategy will likely be determined by its execution.

Members recommended that different methods of presenting the information to adults with a learning disability, with a possible increased focus on verbal communication, would be a valued approach by adults with a learning disability and their support system. Members noted that the ethos of choice was prevalent within the strategy, however wished to highlight that choice, involvement and collaboration with the individual with a learning disability, and their support system, must be maintained throughout all service provisions – wishing to ensure that a drive towards locality was not implemented as a mandatory pathway for service provision.

Members questioned, and requested further information on, the current 2% spend on respite services in relation to the strategy's aim of providing 'the right support at the right time'. The Committee also requested further information on the current review taking place on respite services, along with detailed information on how many adults currently receive respite care, and how the level of spend within this area will be increased in line with the Strategy's aim.

With the particular focus on implementation and monitoring, Members noted that the Action Plans for the Strategy were yet to be developed and requested that these return to Committee once developed.

*Cabinet response awaited and the Strategy's Action Plan to be considered during 2019/20*

## **COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING STRATEGY**

On 3 April 2019, the Committee received a briefing on the forthcoming Council House Building Strategy. The Cabinet proposal was taken to Committee again on 1 May as a pre-decision item, prior to its consideration at Cabinet on 16 May.

Overall Members held enthusiasm for the strategy and its vision, noting that, if implemented within the planned timeframe, the Strategy should provide a significant impact for the residents of Cardiff. Members queried how the quality of the properties would be assured. Subsequent to this discussion, the Cardiff Design Standard was included in the Cabinet Proposal. However, Members were advised that the Cardiff Design Standard does require updating. It was requested this item return to Committee once the changes have been fully drafted.

Members raised concerns surrounding the possible constraints funding could have on the deliverance of this scheme with particular reference to the proposed rent cap by the Welsh Government. It was agreed that the Committee receive regular updates on the proposal. Members also raised concerns surrounding planning and queried the current schedule of planning submissions. Subsequently, Members received the updated Cabinet Proposal which included amended Appendices including information on the pipeline for delivery.

*No Response required – Members requested that the above issues be considered during 2019/20*

## MONITORING PROGRESS

During 2018/19, the Committee received updates on two issues it had previously scrutinised and had raised a number of concerns and recommendations.

### Building Maintenance Framework – Voids Management Issues

In 2015/16, the CASSC Performance Panel undertook a “deep dive” into council housing voids management, following poor performance over several years on the average time taken to re-let council housing voids.

The Performance Panel met four times to undertake the deep dive, examining the following;

- available void performance indicator information;
- benchmarking information;
- key lessons from tenant-led scrutinies in England;
- relevant Cardiff Council procedures and processes; and visiting a number of void properties to see the conditions in which properties are handed back to the Council and the standard that is reached before properties are re-let

The Performance Panel produced a report, arising from the deep dive, which contained sixteen recommendations, all of which were accepted. The Committee had requested further updates on the implementation of the improvements. Members were keen to understand the impact of the recommendations being implemented and received a number of updates, the last one being in December 2017. At this time, Members were informed of the new arrangements which were being implemented from January 2018.

At that stage, Members stated that they supported the new contractual arrangements going forward, but confirmed that they would wish to continue monitoring performance.

On developing the Committee’s work programme for 2018/19, Members requested a Brief on Voids, which was duly provided and discussed in a Committee meeting on 10 October 2018.

The brief provided, set out the following issues:

- Backlog of voids left by previous contractor;
- Difficulties experienced by new contractors in delivering void works within given timescales;
- Withdrawal of R&M Williams Contractor (Cardiff West)
- Contingency Arrangements in light of the above;
- Next Steps
- Voids Performance to July 2018

Overall, Members concluded that, in the light of ongoing problems and challenges across the service (that have been a long-term concern by the Committee), they would support the development of an in-house model, possibly based around arrangements in Swansea. Members agreed that they would wish to undertake a visit to Swansea to look at the arrangements which will be included on the work programme 2019/20.

In relation to current and future contract arrangements, Members were concerned that the procurement process and resulting contracts were not robust enough. Issues raised included:

- The volume of work that is now backlogged and resulting costs to the Council – Members requested, at the meeting, a breakdown of cost in rent loss etc. and that this should be supplied urgently.
- Concerns that the outgoing contractor, Ian Williams, not honouring work was not foreseen and dealt with earlier and so resulted in a large backlog of work for the incoming contractors to deal with.
- Concerns that the procurement process had not been rigorous enough in screening potential contractor's submissions, to test their financial viability to carry out the works, especially with regards to voids, which appears to be a particular problem and continual risk.
- That contract terms needed to be tighter and more enforceable to ensure that contractors could not pull out of contracts at short notice. They concluded that

there needed to be some kind of penalty in doing so to minimise costs to the council in terms of rent loss and costs relating to putting other arrangements in place.

- That the Council be very clear about the levels of work that contractors will be responsible for, so that they are very clear about the level of work expected of them; and that they can plan, at an earlier stage for “gearing up” once the contract has been awarded.
- That contracts are only considered and awarded once they can prove that they ARE geared up to undertake work – that, where possible, employees and supply chains are already in place.
- That penalties are implemented at the earliest opportunity, as per the contractual arrangements - whilst it was appreciated that a period of “gearing up” to take on the work was allowed for, Members felt it imperative to start enforcing this.

Members also requested to receive quarterly updates on progress in relation to performance along with detailed updates on issues relating to the management of voids. Members also requested an update on the following:

- Reporting of PI results across the Service
- Updates on:
  - Current contractor performance
  - Rent loss across the quarter
- Update on the procurement of the additional contractor
- Updates on the development of the in-house team, and the performance of the team (when applicable)
- Any further plans and initiatives that are being developed to improve the service

The updates will be added to the Committee’s work programme and shared as appropriate.

## Community Mental Health Services Review

At the November 2017 meeting of this Scrutiny Committee, Members received a briefing note and presentation by the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board on proposed changes to community mental health services. A further update was then provided at Committee in November 2018.

Members welcomed the update on the Pilot based at Barry Hospital and hearing that this had resulted in a significant improvement in the quality of facilities on offer. Members also acknowledged that the Pilot had been able to offer a much more responsive service and had presented opportunities to implement cultural changes required via legislation and to have greater input from the third sector. Members also welcomed the new and emerging stream of work in Cardiff East, providing mental health practitioners in GP surgeries, and the positive impact this has had in this area. Members were also pleased that funding appeared to be stable and that this has led to being able to provide a sustainable service to date.

However, Members were concerned that, despite raising this in their letter in November 2017, there was still no strategy and/or action plan in place to demonstrate how the programme will be delivered, including the roll-out of a new, significant stream of work. Members were also concerned about the apparent lack of progress in implementing the programme in Cardiff. Whilst Members acknowledged that a major programme would take time, Members stated that they felt there was “slow movement” in the implementation of the programme. This included the identification and development of suitable premises in Cardiff and a lack of detail of how/when this would happen (milestones, timescales etc), how it will be funded, and who would be affected.

Members did not feel they had sufficient detail to undertake effective scrutiny and as a result, requested that once a Strategy and/or Action Plan is put in place (as a matter of urgency) this is reported back to Committee to inform Members of its progress.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME & DISORDER SCRUTINY**

During 2018-19, Members have undertaken the following work to discharge their responsibilities for scrutinising the work of the Crime and Disorder Partnership and community safety in Cardiff

### **Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing – Joint Task Group with Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

In response to a letter (dated 27 June 2017) from the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, Cllr Lynda Thorne, a joint CYPSC/ CASSC Task Group was formulated. The scope of the inquiry called for close examination of the situation in the Butetown and Grangetown areas in particular. The first meeting took place on 17 October, 2017, chaired by Cllr. Saeed Ebrahim.

The Task Group reviewed the evidence gathered from discussions with a wide range of witnesses including Council Members and officers (including Youth Service); third sector organisations; Community Safety Board Members; schools; Cardiff & Vale UHB; residents and community representatives; and Probation. The Members also reviewed a number of publications and reports, and developed, distributed and analysed a community survey to gain a snapshot of opinion across Cardiff. Arising from this, a number of key findings were identified from which a number of recommendations were agreed,

The recommendations of the Task Group were endorsed by both Scrutiny committees, and commended to Cabinet for implementation, in consultation with the community safety board and organisations within the wider Cardiff partnership arrangements. The recommendations in the report have been shared with partner agencies for consideration and have been discussed at the community safety delivery board.

The Cabinet at its meeting on 18 April 2019 agreed that of the 19 recommendations, 12 have been accepted, 6 accepted in principle and 1 to follow (Recommendation 17). The response to each recommendation is detailed in the Appendix to the Cabinet Report, with

an explanation as to why the recommendation is either accepted, rejected or accepted in principle or in part.

The Committee will consider the Cabinet response at the next joint Committee meeting with Children and Young People.

## **CORPORATE PLAN & BUDGET**

The Council's Constitution allows for scrutiny committees to consider the draft Cabinet budget proposals prior to their consideration by the Cabinet and Full Council. The Committee considered the Council's draft Corporate Plan and draft budgetary proposals for 2019 -20, including their detailed savings proposals and Capital Programme at its meeting in February 2018. It reviewed the draft Corporate Plan and budget savings proposals.

The Committee identified a number of issues across the Corporate Plan, Corporate Budget and Directorate Budget reports. These concerns were included in a letter, sent to the Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee for it to take into consideration when it reviewed the overall Corporate Plan, Consultation and Budget proposals on 20 February 2019 and to the Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 21 February 2019.

The Committee's letter was considered by Cabinet and Council during their deliberations on the proposals.

## MONITORING PERFORMANCE

In response to the Wales Audit Office Corporate Assessment 2014, this Committee established a Performance Monitoring Panel to triage the quarterly performance reports and undertake 'deep dives' as needed, outside of Committee meetings. At a meeting of the Committee in October 2017, two Members agreed to take responsibility for holding quarterly meetings, and if any concerns arose, they would contact the appropriate Cabinet Members/Officers to provide responses either to the Performance Panel, or to address full Committee.

Quarter 3 Performance for Adult Social Services and People and Communities was taken to full Committee on 3 April 2019. Within the meeting, Members raised concerns in relation to:

### People & Communities

- Lack of detail with regard to implementation plans
- Further information on the Older Persons' Housing Strategy 2019-2023 Action Plans
- Resource availability and management in regard to the 'Housing First' Pilot
- Days to Re-Let figure for void properties (which at the time of the meeting stood at 89 calendar days)

As a result Members requested further information on the Older Persons' Housing Strategy 2019-2023 Action Plans along with an update on how the management and turnaround of voids properties will be addressed. These requests will be included in the 2019/20 Work Programme.

### Adult Social Services

- Level of contact with voluntary organisations in terms of commissioning and service provision
- Level of care homes and domiciliary care providers currently in escalated concerns.

Quarter 4 Performance is scheduled for full Committee on 5 June 2019.

## WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2019- 20

Members of the Committee will be invited to consider items for possible inclusion in the Committee's work programme during 2019-20. Work is currently in progress to draw together issues for the Committee to consider. A draft work programme will then be developed and brought to Committee for approval and implementation. The Committee would welcome suggestions for scrutiny items from other Members.

## FUTURE SCRUTINY WORK

During 2018/19, there were a number of issues that had been identified as Items for the Work Programme, but were unable to be considered, due to time pressures. In addition, there were a number of issues that arose from the Committee's deliberation of Items. Therefore, the following may be considered for the 2019/20 Work Programme.

- ❖ Safety in Parks
- ❖ "Designing Out Crime" in New Communities
- ❖ Locality Based Working & Neighbourhood Partnerships
- ❖ Well-Being of Staff in Social Care
- ❖ Single Licensing Enforcement Policy Update
- ❖ Review of Safety checks in High-Rise Properties
- ❖ Supporting People Local Delivery Plan
- ❖ Community & Well Being Hubs Programme
- ❖ Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan's Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2023 (*Update*)
- ❖ Performance Reports.
- ❖ Relevant Audit, Inspection and Regulatory Reports.
- ❖ Cabinet Responses to previous Inquiries.
- ❖ Implementation of agreed recommendations from previous Inquiries.
- ❖ Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability 2019-2024 (*Review of Action Plans*)
- ❖ Older Persons' Housing Strategy 2019-2023 (*Update*)
- ❖ Cardiff Design Standards
- ❖ Welsh Government Rent Cap Updates
- ❖ Council Void Properties – Quarterly Updates & Swansea Model
- ❖ Community Mental Health Services – Review of Action Plan

