CYNGOR CAERDYDD CARDIFF COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 OCTOBER 2022

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Purpose of Report

 This report seeks to provide the Committee with an overview of the recommendations made by the Committee since January 2021 when the Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker tool was introduced.

Structure of the Papers

 Appendix A provides further details of those recommendations that have not had a response from Cabinet to date

Scrutiny Recommendations

2. Since January 2021 the Committee has made 51 recommendations:

Directorate	RECOMMENDATIONS	
	Open	Closed
Planning Transport & Environment	17	20
Economic Development	10	3
Resources	0	1
TOTAL	27 (53%)	24 (47%)

3. Twelve of these recommendations were following Task and Finish inquiries in relation to the RLDP. Six have been responded too and are now closed, 5 were accepted in full and the remaining recommendation was partially accepted. The remaining six were taken to Cabinet in July and the response is being considered at October Cabinet.

- 4. Of the 24 closed recommendations:
 - 14 (58%) were Accepted
 - 7 (29%) were Partially accepted
 - 3 (13%) were Not Accepted
- 5. Of the 27 open recommendations 17 (63%) have no response logged. Some are from recent meetings or are from the pre election period, so it is understandable, however, a responses in relation to an earlier letter in relation to Intelligent Transport Systems has been requested from Cabinet Office. However, as these relate to a previous Administration it may be necessary to 'close' them as they may no longer be relevant, however the Committee are still able to refer to previous recommendations if the issue is considered by Scrutiny in the future.
- A response is outstanding for five Economic Development Directorate
 recommendations from the letter sent on 28/09/2022 regarding the Recycling
 Strategy for Cardiff recently.
- 7. In relation to Planning Transport and Environment Directorate, 12 recommendations have no Cabinet response from the following meetings:
 - 07/03/2022 Intelligent Transport System (2 recommendations)
 - 16/03/2022 Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)
 (6 recommendations)
 - 07/07/2022 Directorate Delivery Plan (4 recommendations)
- 8. Since May 2022 and the election of the new administration, the committee has made 15 recommendations:

Directorate	RECOMMENDATIONS	
Birectorate	Open	Closed
Welsh Government Bus White Paper Consultation	0	6
Planning Transport & Environment DDP	4	0
Recycling Strategy for Cardiff	5	0
TOTAL	9 (60%)	6 (40%)

Way Forward

 The Principal Scrutiny Officer continues to monitor and manage the receipt of Cabinet letters to ensure that all recommendations are responded to in a timely manner.

Legal Implications

10. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

- 12. The Committee is recommended to:
 - i. Note the content of this report.
 - ii. Support action to reduce the number of recommendations with no cabinet response, where appropriate.
 - iii. Support action to reduce the number of recommendations that remain open longer than six months.

Davina Fiore
Director of Governance & Legal Services
7 October 2022