

Recommendation Ref No.	Name of Audit	Recommendation	Management Response	Update Dec 2020	Lead Officer	RAG Status	Open/Closed
FS1	Financial Sustainability	The Council has a medium term financial plan based on reasonable assumptions but needs to consider how it is going to meet its longer-term funding gap, including strengthening the links between its transformation programme and its medium term financial plan.	Agreed - More robust savings methodology introduced in advance of the 2020/21 budget with a focus on: a) Efficiency b) Transformation / Service Change · Business case development strengthened, and no savings included in the budget strategy 2020/21 'at planning stage' · Focus on identification and delivery of savings in year, not just as part of an annual budget setting process.	The Report and Findings were taken to Audit Committee on 17 November 2020. Awaiting Provisional Settlement on 22 December 2020. Intended Cabinet Report on Consultation for January 2021.	Ian Allwood	Green	Open
FS2	Financial Sustainability	The Council has a track record of achieving the majority of its overall savings, but it will become increasingly challenging to deliver them in the future and the Council needs to strengthen its savings planning process.	Agreed - Closer working is underway between Performance, Finance, Risk and Service Planning, both in terms of strategy planning and reporting · The critical issue remains the annual nature of funding settlements, inhibiting the ability to provide sufficiently robust longer-term planning.	The Report and Findings were taken to Audit Committee on 17 November 2020. Awaiting Provisional Settlement on 22 December 2020. Intended Cabinet Report on Consultation for January 2021.	Ian Allwood	Green	Open
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RL1	Review of Leisure	Establish a clear strategy, vision and clear priorities for leisure services, which incorporates consideration of the WFG Act. This should be used to guide the delivery of services provided by GLL.	There are a number of strategic themes already complete such as the Playing Pitch Strategy, Local Sports Plan and Facilities Planning. The Sport, Leisure, Health and Physical Activity Strategy is in development.	The strategy network is established. A specialist consultant is leading and coordinating the research and framework. Three stakeholder workshops have taken place.	Jon Maidment	Green	Open

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RL2	Review of Leisure	<p>Consider how it can strengthen application of the sustainable development principle through the services delivered by GLL, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a more strategic approach to collaboration which ensures all organisations including Cardiff and the Vale Health Board/Public Health and the Third Sector are involved in planning and developing GLL and other leisure services at a local and regional level. • Further integrate the planning and delivery of GLL Leisure Services with other public bodies and Council services, such as Education and Social Care. • Listen to, and involve, service users in the development and delivery of GLL and leisure services to ensure they represent the needs and aspirations of the full diversity of local communities they serve 	A response has already commenced, with a number of examples presented to the WAO. Further partnership work is being explored to include Council Services and local communities using the Social Value formulas.	Many examples already exist. COVID- 19 has had a significant impact in this area of work, however, the emerging strategy will identify closer collaboration with alternative sectors to strengthen the sustainable development principle. The return from COVID to this sector is currently very unpredictable and as a result the risk remains at AMBER	Jon Maidment	Amber	Open
RL3	Review of Leisure	Improve contract management arrangements to ensure they monitor delivery of the revised specification in a transparent and systematic way.	The governance and monitoring is in place and is included in the contract and service specification. There has been no deviation from the agreed monitoring arrangement other than a more robust system of risk management and reporting.	The GLL partnership is now featured in the Directorate Delivery Plan and Risk Register. This is reported against on a quarterly basis with risks escalated to SMT and reported to Cabinet where appropriate.	Jon Maidment	Green	Open
RL4	Review of Leisure	Undertake a systematic review of the GLL contract service specification to ensure it is fit for purpose and supports the delivery of the Council's vision for its leisure services and is in accordance with the WFG Act.	A response had commenced during the Audit process and was made clear to the WAO. The review is ongoing until completion in March 2021.	Service Specification under review with weekly meetings taking place to identify opportunities. This will be complete in Q4 and presented to Cabinet with legal variations to the contract implemented.	Jon Maidment	Green	Open
RL5	Review of Leisure	Ensure that the Council effectively considers the long-term financial and well-being risks of the leisure contract in its corporate risk management processes.	The financial risk forms part of the Directorate Delivery Plan and Risk Register reports on a quarterly basis as per RL3.	Cabinet briefing in Q3 on financial risk and sustainability. (RL3) The impact of COVID is still unknown however it is clear that the financial implications are significant whereby we project a £2.1M support package to the end of financial year recovered from Welsh Government Hardship Fund. There is no clarity from Welsh Government currently on what support will be available for the sector next financial year which puts the contract at serious risk.	Jon Maidment	Red	Open

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RL6	Review of Leisure	Improve reporting arrangements to ensure members receive a full and timely account of contract performance which includes revenue/expenditure.	As RL3 and RL5	As RL3 and RL5. An informal Cabinet briefing took place in Q3 with GLL and Client management to present the impact of COVID on income and expenditure	Jon Maidment	Amber	Open