

**Social Services, Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**  
**(Multi-Location Meeting - Council Chamber, Port Talbot & Microsoft Teams)**

**Members Present:**

**2 February 2024**

**Chairperson:** Councillor C.Galsworthy

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor H.C.Clarke

**Councillors:** H.Davies, O.S.Davies, S.E.Freeguard,  
A.Lodwig, P.D.Richards and D.Whitelock

**Officers In Attendance** R Davies, J.Hodges, C.Howard, A.Jarrett,  
A.J.Thomas, K.Warren, E.Wellington, S.Hockin,  
S.Waite, H.Short, D.Jones, J.Lewis-Adie,  
M.Edwards, P.Cotgias, N.Jones and A.Thomas

**Cabinet Invitees:** Councillors J.Hale, S.Harris and A.Llewelyn

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1. **Chair's Announcements**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

3. **Pre-Decision Scrutiny**

Permission to Consult on the review of Commissioned Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Emergency Accommodation Services.

Members considered the report as circulated with the agenda pack.

Officers outlined the funding that is utilised for this item.

A review of the services has been undertaken, with the aim to identify ways to remodel services so that it is more in line with best practice and ensures that emergency accommodation services can meet current and future needs. This work is not linked to any efficiency target or driven by financial savings. The purpose of the review is to ensure that models that are commissioned offer optimised services and respond to the needs of those people who require such services.

There has been various engagement works carried out. The feedback has been positive in relation to the proposed model. Research has been undertaken across UK in good practice. The report outlines an identified need to diversify the type of accommodation that is funded.

Members expressed concern about the dispersed units identified in the options and who would utilise them. Officers confirmed that all of the services will be for people who need to remove themselves from an unsafe environment. The accommodation will not be utilised for general needs.

Members wished to ask question on the private part of the report.

Members proposed and seconded access to meetings.

**Resolved:** to exclude the public for the following item(s) pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the relevant exempt paragraphs of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

**Resolved:** To suspend access to meetings.

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was supported to Cabinet Board.

#### 4. **Committee Action Log**

The committee action log was noted.

#### 5. **Forward Work Programme 2023/24**

Members agreed to consider the reinstatement of visits to care homes.

The forward work programme was noted.

6. **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

7. **Access to meetings**

Resolved: to exclude the public for the following item(s) pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the relevant exempt paragraphs of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

8. **Pre-Decision Scrutiny of Private Item/s**

Contractual arrangements with The Hollins

Members considered the report as circulated within the agenda pack.

Following scrutiny, members noted the report.

Housing Renewal & Adaptation Service Repayment of Disabled Facility Grant Monies

Members considered the report as circulated within the agenda pack.

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was support to Cabinet Board.

Review of client fees to ensure quality and sustainable assistive technology services

Members considered the report as circulated within the agenda pack.

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was supported to Cabinet Board.

Nomination Agreement for Private Sector Temporary Accommodation

Members considered the report as circulated within the agenda pack.

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was supported to Cabinet Board with amendment.

**CHAIRPERSON**