

Appendix 2 - Management response form



Report title: Financial Sustainability review – Caerphilly County Borough Council

Completion date: August 2024

Document reference: 4438A2024

Ref	Recommendation	Management response Please set out here relevant commentary on the planned actions in response to the recommendations	Completion date Please set out by when the planned actions will be complete	Responsible officer (title)
R1	<p>The Council needs to strengthen its medium-term financial planning by:</p> <p>1.1 - Strengthening its Medium-Term Financial Plan to provide a more complete analysis and context to support understanding. For example, including the financial outlook, its assumptions, budget pressures, benchmarking, and financial scenario planning;</p>	<p>Much of this information is currently provided within the annual Budget Proposals Report, however it is acknowledged that a single document incorporating key information will support understanding of the financial context. For the 2025/26 financial year and subsequent years a more comprehensive Medium-Term Financial Plan will be appended to the annual Budget Proposals Report presented to Cabinet and Council.</p>	<p>February 2025.</p>	<p>Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer.</p>

	<p>1.2 – Modelling future service demand to better inform its MTFP and increase accuracy in calculating its funding gap;</p> <p>1.3 - Developing a savings plan across the timescale of the MTFP, to clearly show how the funding gap will be addressed or clearly communicate the challenge where this is not possible: and</p> <p>1.4 Further align its transformation plan with its MTFP.</p>	<p>The Council does consider future demand for key services when determining its budgets but will review its current arrangements to identify areas where this can be strengthened.</p> <p>The Council is developing its savings proposals through the Mobilising Team Caerphilly (MTC) Transformation Programme. There are currently fifteen “in-flight” projects which will deliver savings that will be confirmed in the coming months. A number of further projects will also be defined and developed through the MTC Programme moving forward.</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>February 2025.</p> <p>February 2025.</p> <p>February 2025.</p>	<p>Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer.</p> <p>Corporate Management Team.</p> <p>Corporate Management Team.</p>
R2	<p>The Council needs to ensure members receive comprehensive and regular financial information to enable them to effectively oversee and monitor the</p>			

<p>Council's financial position. The Council should strengthen its arrangements by:</p>	<p>For the 2024/25 financial year and subsequent years Cabinet will receive budget monitoring reports covering periods 3, 5, 7 and 9. As in previous years the annual provisional revenue budget outturn report will also be presented to Cabinet. Scrutiny reports will also be prepared for periods 3, 5, 7 and 9 with at least two of these reports being included on the main agenda for each Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>2024/25 and subsequent years.</p>	<p>Deputy Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer.</p>
<p>2.1 Providing regular budget monitoring reports to members for discussion. As a minimum, these should be quarterly;</p>	<p>For the 2024/25 financial year and subsequent years budget monitoring reports will include a detailed update on progress on the delivery of savings. This will highlight where savings are not being achieved and what mitigating actions will be required.</p>	<p>2024/25 and subsequent years.</p>	<p>Deputy Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer.</p>
<p>2.2 - Providing members with updates on progress on the delivery of savings. As a minimum, these should be quarterly; and</p> <p>2.3 - Developing reporting arrangements to provide members with the impact of its financial position and MTFP on local communities and delivery of its well-being objectives.</p>	<p>This will be incorporated into the Council's strengthened Medium-Term Financial Plan referred to in the response to recommendation R1 (1.1) above.</p>	<p>February 2025.</p>	<p>Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer / Corporate Policy Manager.</p>

