



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

1st JULY

NOTICE OF MOTION -UPDATE REPORT

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES, WELSH
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Notices of Motion presented to the Council meetings held on the:
- [27th November 2024](#) – Defibrillators in Schools
- [24th September 2025](#) – Youth Participation in Democracy
- [22nd October 2025](#) - Ebikes
- [22nd October 2025](#) – Home to School Transport
- [28th January 2026](#) - Twinning

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council:

- 2.1 Notes the information contained within the report in respect of the aforementioned Notices of Motion (NOM).

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To strengthen the existing notice of motion reporting arrangements, to feedback to Council responses received to motions adopted by full Council.
- 3.2 To provide transparency by informing Members of the progress made following the adoption of a notice of motion through publication of 'information reports' on the Council agenda.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 [Council - 27th November 2024](#)

- 4.1.1. At a Council meeting on the 27th November 2024, Council considered a Notice of Motion in relation to feasibility of having a lifesaving defibrillator

placed in every school in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Council moved that consideration of this item be placed with the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.

- 4.1.2 At its meeting on the [28th April 2025](#), the Community Services Scrutiny Committee considered a report outlining Defibrillators in Schools and following consideration of the matter they determined to establish a working group to widen their considerations of the Notice of Motion contents.
- 4.1.3 While Members fully supported the motion of defibrillators in schools being publicly accessible, concerns were raised about public access, including safeguarding concerns, costings, insurance liability and any legal implications in relation to the guardianship of Defibrillators which Members considered during their review. After considering a wide range of information over the course of the review Members were confident that placement of defibrillators in all education settings was of paramount importance.
- 4.1.4 The working group took forward 8 recommendation as part of their Terms of Reference, and a further 2 recommendations were also put forward although this was outside of the scope of the review.
- 4.1.5 These recommendations were approved by Cabinet on [the 15th December](#), with a detailed response to each of the recommendations received from the relevant Cabinet Member in [April 2026](#).

4.2.1 Council - 24th September 2025

- 4.2.2 At the Council meeting on the 24th September 2025, Members adopted a [Notice of Motion](#) advocating for strengthened youth political engagement following the introduction of votes-at-16. The Motion emphasised the need for improved political education, coordinated support for newly enfranchised young voters, and actions to enhance youth participation in future elections.
- 4.2.3 Members recognised the importance of treating the 2026 Senedd election as a renewed starting point for votes at 16, supported by a coherent programme of political education designed to maximise participation and ensure young people understand their rights and responsibilities as voters.
- 4.2.4 The Motion highlighted the need to improve political literacy about devolved politics in Wales, address inconsistent approaches to democratic education across local secondary schools, and ensure that young people receive clear, accurate and impartial information on when and how to vote, why their vote matters, and how to register once they turn 16.

4.2.5 On 19 January 2026, the [Democratic Services Committee](#) considered a report arising from the Notice of Motion. The report set out a number of recommendations to strengthen participation and encourage engagement in voting at 16, all of which were supported by Members.

4.2.6 Further work undertaken since the Committee meeting:

- The Department was successful in securing funding for a Graduate Officer role, which will primarily focus on leading and coordinating the democratic engagement programme referenced in the report. Interviews are scheduled for later this month, with the successful candidate expected to take up post on 1 September 2026.
- Partnership working with the Council's Arts and Culture Service to support promotional activity ahead of the 2026 Senedd election, including the use of local young actors in engagement campaigns.
- The establishment of a Task and Finish Group of the Committee to review proposals contained within the report and act as consultees on participation marketing and engagement materials. The Group contributed to several resources used as part of the Council's and Youth Engagement Projects' (YEPs) awareness campaigns relating to the Senedd election and Democracy Week.
- The Council Business Unit has delivered a programme of 'Democracy Sessions', attracting 489 young people to attend the Council Chamber. These sessions provided opportunities to meet Cabinet Members, ask questions, visit the Mayor's Parlour, and take part in interactive activities explaining the role of the Council and the importance of youth voice. The Unit has also attended school careers fairs to promote the role of a Councillor and pathways for young people to engage in local democracy.

4.2.7 In March 2026, the Electoral Commission published its report *Young Voices on Democracy*, which reinforces the need for continued action. The report found that 72% of young people in Wales want more democratic education in schools, highlighting the importance of the initiatives outlined above.

4.2.8 A further report on youth participation will be presented to the Democratic Services Committee once the Graduate Officer is in post. At present, it is not possible to extract data to determine whether there has been an increase in participation among 16-year-old voters following the Senedd election.

4.3 Council 22nd October 2025.

4.3.1 Following adoption of Notice of Motion at the Council meeting on 22 October 2025 regarding Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles (EAPCs)

and the unlawful use of self-propelled electric bicycles and scooters, a report was presented to [Cabinet on 15 June 2026](#).

- 4.3.2 The report informed Cabinet of the current legislative framework and the enforcement powers available to Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) Council and partner agencies to address issues associated with the use of e-bicycles (EAPCs) and e-scooters, including anti-social behaviour, safety concerns, and illegal use.
- 4.3.3 Cabinet concluded that the evidence currently available did not justify the introduction of additional controls. However, it was recognised that this may reflect under-reporting of incidents. Cabinet therefore requested that officers undertake further work with South Wales Police and other partners to better identify and assess issues arising from the use of e-bicycles (EAPCs) and e-scooters, including anti-social behaviour, safety concerns, and illegal use, and to report back as appropriate.
- 4.3.4 Cabinet also requested that a survey of all Elected Members be undertaken to gather further insight on this issue, alongside joint working with South Wales Police to deliver an awareness-raising campaign aimed at encouraging residents to report incidents.

4.4 Council October 22nd, 2025

- 4.4.1 During the October 2025 Council meeting, Members supported a Notice of Motion in relation to Home to School Transport, following revisions to the policy that came into effect on 1 September 2025. The Motion set out a number of required actions. Responses and progress against each resolution are outlined below. Members should note that some elements remain ongoing.
- Resolution a) – On [24 March 2026](#), a special joint meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Education & Inclusion Committee was convened to support post-decision scrutiny. The report presented to the Committees outlined progress against actions arising from the Notice of Motion and included an updated Equality and Socio-economic Impact Assessment (provided as [Appendix 1](#)). Following consideration, Members requested a further report to be presented in early Autumn.
 - Resolution b) – In accordance with this resolution, the relevant Cabinet Member has written to the Welsh Government, and a response has been received.
 - [Letter to Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales](#)
 - [Response from Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales](#)

- A constructive meeting has taken place between the Leader of the Council, senior officers, and the “Save the School Transport – RCT/Wales” Campaign Group.
- Engagement with the Children’s Commissioner for Wales and the Welsh Language Commissioner is due to be undertaken shortly.

4.5 Council 28th January 2026

4.5.1 During the 28 January 2026 Full Council meeting, Members considered a Notice of Motion marking the forthcoming fourth anniversary of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The Motion reaffirmed the Council’s support for Ukraine and recognised the significant humanitarian impact of the conflict, including the displacement of millions of people and the loss of life among both civilians and military personnel.

4.5.2 Full Council resolved to:

“Request that Officers bring forward a report to the relevant Committee exploring opportunities for establishing formalised twinning arrangements between Pavlohrad and RCT.”

4.5.3 On the 28th April, the Council’s Twinning Steering Group convened to consider the Council’s resolution and discuss next steps for the Group in determining whether and how such arrangements could be developed.

4.5.4 During the meeting, Members considered a range of factors relating to the potential twinning with Pavlohrad. The Group resolved to provide direction to officers to proceed with exploratory work into potential twinning arrangements, as outlined within the report, and to support the provision of daffodils as a symbolic gesture of solidarity.

4.5.5 A further meeting of the Steering Group will be convened to review progress and consider the outcomes of the exploratory work undertaken to date.

5. INFORMATION REPORT

5.1 It was formerly agreed that any responses or outcomes relating to the Notices of Motions would be reported to Full Council in the form of information reports.

5.2 It is for Council to note the update and outcome relating to these particular NOMs and to also note that this update will be formally recorded in the Council minutes.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications arising from this report and no Equality Impact Assessment is deemed necessary for the purposes of this report. The proposal to introduce specific actions to record all outcomes following the adoption of a NOM assists a more focussed approach and an opportunity for greater transparency.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 The mechanism for reporting outcomes and updates following the adoption of a Notice of Motion to Council was agreed by Full Council on the 14th June 2023 in response to a Notice of Motion submitted by the Plaid Cymru Group requesting such measures. All Members supported the revisions proposed.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 This report provides Members with updates to the Members Notices of Motion to Full Council as highlighted above, through the information reporting mechanism, the format of which which was agreed at a previous Council meeting.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

COUNCIL

1st July 2026.

NOTICE OF MOTION -INFORMATION REPORT

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The Following Council meetings:

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