



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

**RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION**

**SUBJECT:**

**VALE, VALLEYS AND CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION COLLABORATIVE**

**PURPOSE OF ATTACHED REPORT:**

To provide an update regarding the regional collaboration of the adoption services of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil CBC, the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cardiff Council which is to be known as the Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Collaborative.

To seek authorisation to enter into the Partnership Agreement which will govern the Collaborative, now known as the Collaborative Agreement.

**DELEGATED DECISION (Date):**

That the Collaborative Agreement referred to at paragraph 4.1 of the attached report be entered into and signed on behalf of the Council.

<b>Chief Officer Signature</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
	G. RINGERINI	22/05/2015

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

*[Handwritten Signature]*

**CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE**

*22/05/2015*

**DATE**

*[Handwritten Signature]*

**OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE**

*22/05/15*

**DATE**

Directorate:	Community & Children's Services
Contact Name:	Andrew Gwynn
Designation:	Service Director, Children's Services
Tel.No.	01443 495118

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16**

**REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF  
GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**CABINET MEETING**

<b>Part 1 (Non-Confidential)</b>
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<b>VALE, VALLEYS AND CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION COLLABORATIVE</b>
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**Author:** Andrew Gwynn, Adoption Service Manager  
**Tel no:** 01443 495118

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** To provide an update regarding the regional collaboration of the adoption services of Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil CBC, the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cardiff Council which is to be known as the Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Collaborative.
- 1.2** In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Group Director, Community and Children's Services as described below.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

the Collaborative referred to at paragraph 4.1 of this report be entered into and signed on behalf of the Council.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** The Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Collaborative (VVC) is one of five regional collaborative in Wales which form part of the National Adoption Service. The background to the establishment of the service and the regional arrangements can be found in reports to Cabinet on 28th October 2013, 31st July 2014 and 16th December 2014. On each occasion Cabinet endorsed the plan to establish and progress the development of the Collaborative.

- 3.2 Since the last report, considerable progress has been made in developing the regional service with a view to implementation from 1st June 2015. The posts of Regional Adoption Manager and Business Support Manager have been recruited to and arrangements have been made for existing staff to transfer to the employment of the host authority under TUPE transfer on the 1st June 2015.
- 3.3 Welsh Government published the (Joint Adoption Arrangements) (Wales) Directions 2015 in March 2015 which prescribe the regional Collaboratives in regulation and the governance structure at national and regional level.
- 3.4 Further work has been undertaken to finalise the legal governance arrangements for the Collaborative as a Joint Committee and the establishment of the Management Board in line with the Directions. These arrangements are detailed in the Collaborative Agreement.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The Collaborative Agreement has now been finalised and agreed by the respective partners. It reflects the Business Case agreed by Cabinet on 16th December 2014 which detailed the legal, financial, business and resource implications and proposed joint arrangements. The Collaborative Agreement underpins the establishment and operation of the Collaborative and authorisation of the Agreement is required to enable the completion of the staff transfer and implementation of the regional service from the agreed date.