



DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD
CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF

COUNCIL SUMMONS

THURSDAY, 20 JULY 2023

GWYS Y CYNGOR

DYDD IAU, 20 GORFFENNAF 2023,

SUPPLEMENTAL PAPERS

Item	Description and Page Number(s)
13	Oral Questions (<i>Pages 3 - 8</i>)
16	Written Questions (<i>Pages 9 - 32</i>)
	Amendment Sheet (<i>Pages 33 - 34</i>)

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County Hall
Cardiff
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Friday, 14 July 2023

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

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COUNCIL, 20 JULY 2023 : ORAL QUESTIONS

1	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR MERRY (DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>The 801 Bus plays a vital role in transporting a number of children from Cardiff North to Bishop of Llandaff High School. This service is reliable, and children arrive at school in a timely and direct manner. However, this essential service is once again facing a significant threat. When considering the alternatives available, such as lengthy train or bus journeys plagued by frequent cancellations and delays, as well as potential safety concerns associated with walking long distances, it becomes crucial to retain the current service. In light of these challenges, would it be possible for the Council to provide assistance by subsidising the service?</p>
2	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR MERRY (DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Given that the Deputy Leader cited vacancy rates in the city's primary schools as being at 22% when I raised concern at last month's council meeting of the high percentage of the city's schools which are having to set deficit budgets for 2023-24, thereby suggesting a clear link between the two, why then was she unable to tell me at the Cabinet meeting on 13 July how many additional school places would be created by the proposals in her report entitled: "School Organisation Planning: Provision for children and young people with Additional Learning Needs"?</p>
3	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILD (CLIMATE CHANGE PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PROCTOR</u></p> <p>How is the Council's recycling strategy cleaner and greener?</p>

4	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR MERRY (DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR LITTLECHILD</u></p> <p>Can the cabinet member confirm that Cardiff pupils are provided with period products for use during the school holidays?</p>
5	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH (TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER</u></p> <p>In light of concerns from taxi drivers, does the council have plans to review the number and size of taxi ranks in the city centre?</p>
6	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR MERRY (DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOULTRIE</u></p> <p>How can people access period products and what steps are being taken to make people aware that they can access them?</p>
7	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH (TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>The introduction of road charging and 'clean air zones' in Cardiff may result in a change in behaviour, adversely impacting businesses, jobs and prosperity throughout Cardiff. The Council should be doing everything it can to create jobs and improve prosperity throughout our City. Road charging and 'clean air zones' will hit residents and commuters with additional costly bills and this is in the absence of adequate public transport alternatives. Cardiff Council Taxpayers are again being asked to pay more for less through ever-increasing Council Tax bills coupled with reduced services. What research has the Council undertaken in respects to the adverse impacts road charging and 'clean air zones' may have in Cardiff?</p>

8	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR BURKE (CULTURE, PARKS & EVENTS PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>In a council press statement dated 5 June 2023 about the council’s decision to put the future operation of the Secret Garden café in Bute Park out to an open tender, it was stated that: <i>“The process to award a new contract to operate the Secret Garden Café comes after the original tenancy came to an end earlier this year. Under the Council’s procurement rules, as governed by the constitution, a direct award cannot be made in these circumstances.”</i> However, in an email sent to me sent on 12 May 2023, the council’s Head of Parks & Harbour Authority advised me that: <i>“The Council could have chosen to renew the arrangements under the current form of a property lease agreement.”</i> Can you please therefore advise which of these statements is correct?</p>
9	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR LISTER (SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOULTRIE</u></p> <p>What support is available to children and young people with speech and language communication needs?</p>
10	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR BURKE (CULTURE, PARKS & EVENTS PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McEVOY</u></p> <p>Could the Cabinet member give an update on open green spaces in Cardiff?</p>

11	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS (CHAIR OF POLICY REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVIES</u></p> <p>The Council's Annual Property Plan is considered by the Policy Review and Performance (PRAP) Scrutiny Committee before being considered by Cabinet. As Chairman of PRAP, can you outline what information is shared with the Committee and Ward Members in respects to the Property Plan and proposed disposals?</p>
12	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR BURKE (CULTURE, PARKS & EVENTS PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR NAUGHTON</u></p> <p>Could the cabinet member outline why the council has taken the decision to withdraw plans to fund repairs to the Pentwyn and Llanedeyrn sides of the Rhymney Trail which are used by local residents of Pentwyn, Llanedeyrn and Llanrumney daily?</p> <p>Could the cabinet member keep the council's earlier commitment and fund the repairs to the trail making it easier for people to use the trail and helping the council meet its active travel commitments?</p>
13	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOODWAY (INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWEN-THOMSON</u></p> <p>The Cardiff Parkway Development will provide a vital economic contribution to the Welsh economy, providing an opportunity for Wales to establish a world class environment for businesses, whilst enhancing and increasing access to alternative, sustainable, transport options, locally, within Wales and beyond. This development is in our LDP and has been granted planning permission from Cardiff Council. Can you confirm that Cardiff Council supports this development in its entirety and provide an update on what Cardiff is doing to ensure this vital development goes ahead?</p>

14	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR BURKE (CULTURE, PARKS & EVENTS PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON</u></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member outline how the Council will tackle anti-social behaviour in our Parks this summer caused by off-road bikes?</p>
15	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOODWAY (INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER</u></p> <p>Why has the Retreat Pub in Llanedeyrn been selected for sale rather than redevelopment by the council?</p>
16	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR MERRY (DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR JENKINS</u></p> <p>I'm proud that my former alma mater, Danescourt Primary, is one of a handful of schools that has the Gold Award for Rights Respecting Schools, achieved last year, and I'm very glad to read that now 87% of Cardiff schools are now registered with this programme. Can the Cabinet Member set out how we will encourage the remaining schools to sign up and, more broadly, are there further updates on our work to become the UK's first Child Friendly City?</p>
17	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS (LEADER PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVIES</u></p> <p>Does the Cabinet believe that it maintains good relations with community councils?</p>

18	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOODWAY (INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Why was the council’s proposed developer partner for the next phase of the International Sport Village not initially named in the non-confidential part of the Cabinet report entitled: “International Sports Village – Full Business Case” which was considered at the Cabinet meeting on 13 July?</p>
19	<p><u>QUESTION TO COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE’ATH (TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING PORTFOLIO)</u></p> <p><u>QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HINCHEY</u></p> <p>There are a small number of so-called “floating bus stops” in the City Centre where the bus stopping area is separated from the waiting area by a busy cycle lane. Often cyclists will not stop when people are queuing and crossing the cycle lane to get onto the bus, which causes significant danger to bus passengers, particularly Guide Dogs, their owners and those suffering with sight loss. I understand that a number of cities have already revisited this type of bus stop layout and determined that they should be abandoned or re-engineered to make them safer for their most vulnerable citizens. Will the Cabinet Member comment on what is being done in Cardiff to change the design and make them safer, given the serious concerns raised by Guide Dog owners and possible court action that may be taken by charities such as RNIB and Guide Dogs Cymru, in order reduce the danger to people suffering with sight loss?</p>

COUNCIL, 20 JULY 2023 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS**CLIMATE CHANGE**
(COUNCILLOR CARO WILD)

W1	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>What additional activities were undertaken this year in Gabalfa ward to help reduce waste and fly-tipping with the ending of short term student lets at the end of June?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Throughout the year, our officers participate in information campaigns, engagement and training events aimed at both students and other stakeholders who play a role in supporting students in Cardiff. At such events, we provide information, tools and resources and seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide advice and resources on finding safe, secure and quality housing; • encourage students to take an active role in their communities by participating in local services, activities, and volunteering; • promote community-focused behaviour and sustainable practices; • equip students with recycling bags, food waste bags and food waste caddies and explain how to use them and where they can get more; • link students with services such as University Accommodation and Wellbeing Teams and the Council's Housing Enforcement and Waste Services Teams when further or specialist support is required; and • engage with students and local residents to understand their needs and concerns. <p>This year, the teams worked in Gabalfa and removed bins and bags from frontages in Allensbank Road, Manor Street and Llanishen Street. This helped to ensure that bins were emptied and bags were removed after students had left their properties.</p>
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W2

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS

Several residents have had damage done to their food waste bins during the collection process in recent weeks. When they have requested a replacement they have been informed that this could take up to 8 weeks. Given the nature of food waste this seems unreasonable and disposing of the waste in other ways is not viable or permissible. Can the council indicate what steps are being taken to avoid damage during the collection process wherever possible and to provide replacements where needed more speedily?

Reply

Recycling and Neighbourhood Services have been reviewing the process for the delivery of food caddies and how they can be prioritised.

The first phase of the digital improvement work on bin ordering has been completed. This phased programme will work to input all orders for bins and containers into a single digital system, with crews receiving orders and closing down their work digitally when deliveries have been completed. This will result in improved delivery times and tracking of customer orders, removal of duplication, and, ultimately, a better customer experience for residents.

These improvements relate to how orders are processed through the Council's internal systems. There will be no change in process for residents, who will still be able report a damaged container and request a replacement via the Council's website.

Collection crews are reminded to return emptied caddies, bins and reusable sacks to properties in an appropriate manner. The supervisors monitor any concerns, with appropriate training being provided and further action being taken as required.

W3

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR NAUGHTON

At last month's full council meeting, the Cabinet Member for Climate Change in response to my question on green bags not being available for collection at Llanedeyrn Powerhouse Hub, said all of Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn will be moved to the new council waste and recycling collection system by the end of the year. Is it possible to get more information on this roll out and the timeline it is planned to take place?

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As part of the continued delivery of our recycling strategy, Recycling and Neighbourhood Services will be rolling out segregated recycling in phases to residents in houses across the city. This is due to start in November this year and continue through summer 2024.</p> <p>The Council will be communicating with local councillors with regard to the phasing of the rollout in the lead up to the changes. Residents will receive a briefing pack with the delivery of the re-usable recycling bags and glass recycling caddies to properties, which will also explain when segregated recycling for their property will commence.</p>
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CULTURE, PARKS & EVENTS
(COUNCILLOR JENNIFER BURKE)

<p>W4</p>	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Can an update be provided on any plans to provide a new pedestrian footbridge at Blackweir?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Improvements to the bridge remain a strategic objective for the Council and the Transport Vision, Policy and Strategy team. As a priority, the team is currently working on improvements to two other bridges downstream at Taff Embankment and The Marl to enhance active travel links across the river, where funding allocations exist. The Council is currently exploring funding opportunities to enable improvements to the bridge at Blackweir through grants from the Welsh Government.</p>
<p>W5</p>	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>The open space on Matthew Walk is often used by children to play sport and run about, but there are no benches for people to sit, chat, snack and relax. Can we identify funding to provide benches close to the open space?</p>

Reply

There is a Section 106 sum available that may be used for improvements at this site, which may include the provision of park furniture. I understand that officers from the Parks Service have been in contact with you and Councillor Jenkins in order to arrange a meeting and to determine how the contribution may be spent within the Llandaff ward.

W6

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL

The walls of the Bishops Palace Llandaff are in a poor condition. Buddleia has taken root, causing the walls to crumble which has seen large rocks falling into neighbouring property, which is also a danger to the public. The Bell Tower structure is also in need of attention because of self-seeding trees and shrubs causing further damage. These heritage sites are important structures to the community of Llandaff and must be preserved. I know the 2014 draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP) of 2014 was set to have a re-survey in 2019. Also, that it was to be reviewed in 2021/22. Can the cabinet member let us know when a revised CMP will be undertaken?

Also, what additional maintenance plans are in place to ensure the conservation of these ancient monuments are protected for future generations?

Reply

I can advise that officers from the Parks Service have been in discussions with a specialist conservation engineer and the Council's Conservation Officer to assess the condition of sections of the Bishops Palace wall and to identify what repairs will need to be undertaken. Arrangements are in hand to commission survey work in order to address the immediate concerns in respect of this specific area. In addition, a full condition survey is required to identify works that may be required to ensure the conservation of the structures at both sites. Parallel to this, the Conservation Management Plan will need to be updated to reflect work undertaken to date and future works that are required.

Officers within the Parks Service are working with colleagues in the Placemaking Team within the Planning Service, Cadw and external experts to prepare a funding submission to Cadw for the full survey and works required.

Officers will keep local ward members abreast of developments and, in particular, the date of when a revised Conservation Management Plan will be available. As you will be aware, the Council is heavily reliant on grant funding opportunities to undertake surveys and works to these structures.

DEPUTY LEADER & EDUCATION
(COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

W7

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

Can you please provide a list of all a) primary, b) secondary and c) special schools in Cardiff which have set deficit budgets for 2023-24?

Reply

Please see below list of those Cardiff schools who, as at July 2023, have set a deficit school budget for the 2023/24 financial year:

- a) Primary Schools:
- Adamsdown Primary School
 - Allensbank Primary School
 - Bishops Child C.W Primary School
 - Bryn Celyn Primary School
 - Bryn Deri Primary School
 - Christ The King R.C Primary School
 - Coed Glas Primary School
 - Coryton Primary School
 - Creigiau Primary School
 - Danescourt Primary School
 - Fairwater Primary School
 - Gladstone Primary School
 - Lansdowne Primary School
 - Llandaff C.W Primary School
 - Marlborough Primary School
 - Moorland Primary School
 - Pentyrch Primary School
 - Radnor Primary School
 - Rumney Primary School
 - Severn Primary School
 - St Alban's R.C Primary School
 - St Bernadette's R.C Primary School

- St Mary The Virgin Primary School
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School
- St Mellons C.W Primary School
- St Monica's C.W Primary School
- Thornhill Primary School
- Tongwynlais Primary School
- Tredegarville C.W Primary School
- Ysgol Glan Ceubal
- Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof
- Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Hamadryad
- Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pen-y-Groes
- Ysgol Y Berllan Deg

b) Secondary Schools:

- Cardiff West Community High School
- Corpus Christi R.C High School
- Mary Immaculate High School
- Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

c) Special Schools:

- The Court Special School

This position is fluid and may change before the end of the financial year.

Earlier this year, the Council received applications from 42 schools to set a deficit budget; however, since receiving those applications, 3 schools have since managed to set a balanced budget.

W8

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

Can you please provide a list of all schools in Cardiff which have surplus places, detailing how many surplus places there are in each case and what percentage of total places in each school this represents?

Reply

Please see below list includes all primary and secondary schools in Cardiff, which have surplus places, the number of surplus places and the percentage of total places in each school this represents, as of 14 January 2023:

Primary Schools:

School Name	Primary Number on Roll 14 January 2023 (Reception to Year 6) (including Specialist Resource Bases)	Capacity	Surplus capacity	Surplus %
Adamsdown Primary School	345	420	75	17.9
Albany Primary School	379	420	41	9.8
All Saints C.W Primary School	141	210	69	32.9
Allensbank Primary School	193	315	122	38.7
Baden Powell Primary School	288	403	115	28.5
Birchgrove Primary School	395	416	21	5.0
Bryn Celyn Primary School	163	210	47	22.4
Bryn Hafod Primary School	380	420	40	9.5
Christ The King R.C Primary School	194	210	16	7.6
Coed Glas Primary School	471	525	54	10.3
Coryton Primary School	178	205	27	13.2
Creigiau Primary School	348	378	30	7.9
Danescourt Primary School	406	420	14	3.3
Fairwater Primary School	175	283	108	38.2
Gladstone Primary School	177	210	33	15.7
Glan-Yr-Afon Primary School	133	210	77	36.7
Glyncoed Primary School	306	420	114	27.1
Grangetown Primary School	370	420	50	11.9
Greenway Primary School	209	210	1	0.5
Hawthorn Primary School	206	210	4	1.9
Herbert Thompson Primary School	406	422	16	3.8

Holy Family R.C Primary School	149	247	98	39.7
Howardian Primary School	412	420	8	1.9
Hywel Dda Primary School	396	420	24	5.7
Kitchener Primary School	376	420	44	10.5
Lakeside Primary School	418	438	20	4.6
Lansdowne Primary School	303	420	117	27.9
Llanedeyrn Primary School	306	387	81	20.9
Llysfaen Primary School	410	420	10	2.4
Meadowlane Primary School	280	315	35	11.1
Millbank Primary School	208	210	2	1.0
Moorland Primary School	370	382	12	3.1
Mount Stuart Primary School	362	420	58	13.8
Ninian Park Primary School	530	630	100	15.9
Pencaerau Primary School	209	210	1	0.5
Pentrebane Primary School	168	210	42	20.0
Pen-Y-Bryn Primary School	208	210	2	1.0
Peter Lea Primary School	278	320	42	13.1
Pontprennau Primary School	405	420	15	3.6
Radnor Primary School	267	315	48	15.2
Radyr Primary School	416	420	4	1.0
Rumney Primary School	390	420	30	7.1
Severn Primary School	377	420	43	10.2
Springwood Primary School	234	420	186	44.3
St Alban's R.C Primary School	157	203	46	22.7
St Cuthbert's R.C Primary School	132	149	17	11.4
St David's C.W Primary School	200	211	11	5.2
St Fagan's C.W Primary School	208	209	1	0.5
St Francis R.C Primary School	289	386	97	25.1
St John Lloyd R.C Primary School	304	315	11	3.5

St Joseph's R.C Primary School	196	210	14	6.7
St Mary The Virgin C.W Primary School	190	210	20	9.5
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	212	261	49	18.8
St Mellons C.W Primary School	97	105	8	7.6
St Monica's C.W Primary School	132	146	14	9.6
St Patrick's R.C Primary School	305	315	10	3.2
St Peter's R.C Primary School	402	540	138	25.6
St Phillip Evans R.C Primary School	351	365	14	3.8
Stacey Primary School	193	197	4	2.0
Thornhill Primary School	409	420	11	2.6
Tongwynlais Primary School	173	191	18	9.4
Ton-Yr-Ywen Primary School	404	445	41	9.2
Tredegaville C.W Primary School	199	210	11	5.2
Trelai Primary School	319	420	101	24.0
Trowbridge Primary School	157	210	53	25.2
Whitchurch Primary School	623	630	7	1.1
Willowbrook Primary School	380	420	40	9.5
Windsor Clive Primary School	414	420	6	1.4
Ysgol Bro Eirwg	339	411	72	17.5
Ysgol Glan Ceubal	156	210	54	25.7
Ysgol Glan Morfa	212	360	148	41.1
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof	248	389	141	36.2
Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd	406	420	14	3.3
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Caerau	198	207	9	4.3
Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch	272	420	148	35.2
Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna	582	630	48	7.6
Ysgol Gynradd Gwaelod Y Garth	223	237	14	5.9
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Hamadryad	258	330	72	21.8

Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pen-y-Groes	116	210	94	44.8
Ysgol Pen Y Pil	161	210	49	23.3
Ysgol Y Berllan Deg	358	420	62	14.8
Ysgol Y Wern	587	630	43	6.8

Secondary Schools:

School Name	Number on Roll 14 January 2023 (Years 7-13) (including Specialist Resource Bases)	Capacity	Surplus capacity	Surplus %
Cantonian High School	912	1046	134	12.8
Cardiff West Community High School	1122	1500	378	25.2
Cathays High School	1161	1257	96	7.6
Fitzalan High School	1813	1885	72	3.8
Llanishen High School	1694	1800	106	5.9
St Teilo's C.W High School	1353	1440	87	6.0
Willows High School	766	1121	355	31.7
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Eder	908	1114	206	18.5
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf	1453	1500	47	3.1
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr	1156	1170	14	1.2

W9

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

Can you please update me as to what progress the council has made towards preventing the recognised drainage problems from Ysgol Bro Eder's playing fields which can lead to water flooding into back gardens of some properties in Carisbrooke Way during periods of heavy rain, and when might residents still suffering from this problem now expect to see a resolution to it?

Reply

The Council is in the process of developing a scheme for sports provision on the site, which will resolve the historic drainage issues for these residents. A planning application is due to be submitted soon, with internal and external funding options also being considered.

FINANCE, MODERNISATION & PERFORMANCE
(COUNCILLOR CHRIS WEAVER)

W10	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Given repeated claims of underfunding made by the council administration in recent years, do they intend to call on the Welsh Labour Government to use their available powers to raise income tax to provide additional funding for local government?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>No, the decision on whether to use powers to vary income tax in Wales is a complex decision for the Welsh Government, who must consider the economic and social impact of any change, given the majority of any money raised comes from basic rate taxpayers, many of whom are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.</p> <p>I know that, last year, the Finance Minister wanted to make an informed choice by waiting for the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecasts in November and details of UK Government budget announcements in the autumn before making any decision for Wales, and I support the approach of the Welsh Government making a considered decision when they believe they have the relevant information to do so.</p>
W11	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>What steps are being taken to reduce call wait times to C2C?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>C2C is receiving a high volume of contact across all of its accessible</p>

channels and, as a result, wait times for telephone calls are higher than citizens may have experienced in the past. This situation is further impacted by difficulties experienced in recruiting staff and filling vacant posts despite these employment opportunities being promoted widely on social media platforms and with recruitment agencies.

C2C is working hard to review all C2C services and make improvements where possible, including promoting available digital avenues for those that are able to use them and working with service partners to find efficiencies within existing processes or trial new ways of working. Coupled with the introduction of a daily 'Digital Hour', average wait times have begun to decrease in recent months as shown by the graph below:



HOUSING & COMMUNITIES
(COUNCILLOR LYNDA THORNE)

W12	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Will the council consider gating the lane behind Parkfield Place and Cross Place to help deal with fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Regeneration Team is currently fully committed to gating schemes this year (2023/24) and has recently carried out an exercise to identify priority lanes for next year's gating programme (2024/25).</p> <p>The lane to the rear of Parkfield Place and Cross Place was included in this exercise; however, the lane was not identified as one of the highest priorities, in terms of levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental conditions, at that time. To put this into context, over 200 lanes were assessed as part of this exercise, with funding and resources available to take forward less than 20 of the highest priority schemes during the next programme.</p> <p>The lane will remain on our list of gating requests and so will be included in the next prioritisation exercise, following the completion of the current gating programmes. In the meantime, we would encourage residents to continue to report any incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour to the police via 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency), and any incidents of fly-tipping to the Council via C2C on 029 2087 2087.</p>
W13	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>How many houses in Gabalfa Ward are considered to be Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO)?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Figures provided by Rent Smart Wales show that there are currently 1,048 registered rental properties in the Gabalfa ward, of which 245 properties are classified as a 'Shared House'. These are registered at distinct addresses, as opposed to where a landlord registers each flat separately, which means that they are most likely to be HMOs; however, this will not be a definitive figure as there are other categories of rental properties and these figures could also include HMOs.</p>

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

What is the average length of time a family spends in temporary hotel accommodation?

Reply

Cardiff has seen a sustained increase in demand for homelessness services since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. During 2022/23, 4,583 households sought homeless assistance – a 13% increase on pre-pandemic levels. The majority of this increase in demand is due to issues with the private rented market. During the year, more than 670 households presented as homeless as a result of a no-fault notice to quit from their private landlord – an increase of 182% on the previous year. Preventing homelessness in these cases is very difficult.

At the same time, private rents are rising rapidly. The average rent for a Cardiff property has increased by 19.6% compared to 2021, with the average 3-bedroom property now costing nearly £400 over the Local Housing Allowance rate, the maximum amount that can be claimed in benefits. The number of council and housing associations properties becoming available to let has also reduced by 18% compared to pre pandemic levels.

As a result of this increase in demand, the lack of supply of affordable housing and despite the fact that we have 1,460 temporary homes, we have unfortunately had to rely on using hotels to temporarily accommodate households who become homeless.

Hotel use falls into the following three categories, with length of stay varying across the categories:

1. Emergency ad-hoc hotels

This category covers emergency short stays in hotels such as those owned by Travelodge. Families are provided with floating support and practical support such as food vouchers where needed. The Council recognises that ad-hoc hotel arrangements offer very little security or stability to individuals facing homelessness, so their use is minimised wherever possible. The service has implemented a procedure to prioritise move-on for households in these arrangements as soon as possible, and the average length of stay has now reduced to 25 days, down from 45 days in April 2023.

2. Larger hotels with on-site support services managed by council employees

To provide more stability for households, the service has secured long-term lease arrangements with hotels in the city. With these more stable arrangements, we are able to offer greater continuity and provide on-site support services from council staff, with food and other amenities provided. Most families placed into hotels in the city are resident in this form of hotel category. While this arrangement is similar to other forms of temporary accommodation, and is preferable to ad-hoc hotel use, the service still endeavours to move families to more suitable accommodation as swiftly as possible. Unfortunately, due to current pressures and lack of move on accommodation, the average length of stay in this form of hotel accommodation is currently 89 days.

3. Longer-term leased accommodation in the community

The Homelessness Service has also secured private arrangements with landlords of holiday lets (apartments and houses) in the city. These are used predominately for large families who cannot be housed within a traditional hotel setting. Whilst this type of temporary accommodation is categorised as a 'hotel', these arrangements offer the household all the amenities that they would expect in a normal residence.

The average length of stay for households across all types of temporary arrangements is 73 days. It remains a priority for the Homelessness Service to continue working on ways to reduce the length of stay, particularly the average stay for families in ad-hoc hotel arrangements.

To respond to the increased demand for homelessness services and reduce our reliance on hotel accommodation, additional temporary accommodation is being acquired. This includes new developments such as the Gasworks site in Grangetown, which will deliver 153 high quality modular homes. The first stage of this innovative scheme is in progress, delivering the first homes in September 2023, with full completion by February 2024. This, together with additional new developments, will deliver a total of 242 new units of temporary accommodation during 2023/24.

This is in addition to our ongoing ambitious new build programme, the purchase of properties from the open market and the extension of our private rented leasing schemes. This will increase move-on out of temporary accommodation and provide settled accommodation for homeless households.

Further investment in homeless prevention services will also help reduce the demand for temporary accommodation by ensuring that we intervene early to prevent homelessness wherever possible.

LEADER
(COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS)

W15

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

What steps are being taken to improve the management of trusts where the council is the sole trustee?

Reply

An officer group has been set up, which is comprised of senior council officers from Finance, Legal and Property Services. There are several outcomes being sought from this group. One is to provide assurance that all information held across the Council is consolidated. Work is also being undertaken to consider whether or not the financial transactions between the Council and the Trusts need to be more transparent going forward, particularly in respect of the cost borne by the Council on behalf of a Trust. The third objective is to consider whether or not any further improvements need to be made to the governance of the Trusts to ensure that the objectives of the individual Trusts are met.

The Asset Management Records team is looking into the possible addition of a layer to our GIS mapping system to help identify Trust assets at an earlier stage. It's also worth noting that the Cabinet report on Tennis in Parks, which was considered by Cabinet last month, included the respective legal, financial and property implications of Trusts.

TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING
(COUNCILLOR DAN DE'ATH)

W16

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

What consideration has the council made of pursuing an in-house solution to digital parking permits, rather than using a third party?

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Third party support is often procured in instances where the Council does not have the relevant expertise to undertake the work internally (e.g. software development). In this instance, the Council utilises a third party company to provide the MiPermit software system that is used for digital permits. This is the same software that is used for cashless parking stays in Cardiff. The same company also provides digital parking solutions across the UK and this benefits Cardiff residents when they visit other cities, such as Swansea and Bristol, as well as visitors to Cardiff from those cities, by enabling them to use the same MiPermit account or app to pay for their parking wherever MiPermit operates.</p>
W17	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>How are routes to schools in Gabalfa being improved?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Improvements to walking and cycling routes are planned and prioritised through our Active Travel Network Map (ATNM), as approved by Welsh Government, in line with the requirements of the Active Travel Act. The ATNM sets out a map of existing routes, which already meet Welsh Government standards for an active travel route, and proposed routes that will need improvements to bring them up to standard. Schools are included on the ATNM as key trip generators.</p> <p>The programme of works to deliver proposed routes on the ATNM is still subject to prioritisation; however, Active Travel Schools officers are working with schools in the Gabalfa ward to support and promote active travel. For example, Cathays High School has recently renewed its active travel plan and has been provided with a bike fleet, with school staff having received cycle coach and ride leader training. Work is also underway to review provision for active travel on Crown Way. In addition, officers are continuing to work with St Joseph's Primary School to support active travel.</p>
W18	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Is the council taking any action to acquire greater power to fine the owners of cars which park on grass verges (such as those in Llanedeyrn Road) and what more could be done to deal with this recurrent problem which residents frequently report but neither the council, nor South Wales Police, seems able (or perhaps willing) to do anything about?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>In Wales, it is not an offence in itself to park on a grass verge. For parking on a grass verge to be illegal, the vehicle either needs to be parked causing an unnecessary obstruction contrary to section 103 of The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 or be parked contrary to a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Parking causing an unnecessary obstruction is still a criminal matter and, therefore, enforcement can only be undertaken by South Wales Police.</p>
W19	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>I am advised by officers that, due to lack of capacity, work has been placed on hold to look at improving traffic arrangements around Ysgol Bro Edern, including looking at what could be done to deal with problem parking which causes considerable difficulties and inconvenience for local residents (including for residents in Llanedeyrn Road whose properties are accessed via the access roads off the main carriageway). When can residents and local councillors therefore expect that work on these issues can be resumed?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>We are continuing to work with the school to promote active travel and have asked that the school issues a reminder to parents to park responsibly and considerately. A scheme is being delivered in the coming months to provide pedestrian crossing facilities at the Cyncoed Road/Llanedeyrn Road junction. In the longer term, other interventions are being developed, which will improve active travel options to/from the school; however, I'm not able currently to provide you with a timescale for this project.</p>
W20	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>It has been indicated previously that the redevelopment of 17-41 Clearwater Way, Cyncoed will produce a contribution from the developer in terms of section 106 monies. Can the council confirm that this is still the case?</p> <p>When is it expected that these section 106 monies will be available and what arrangements are in place to consult on how these monies may be used to best effect?</p>

Reply

Yes, there are two Section 106 contributions linked to the redevelopment of 17-41 Clearwater Way (planning application ref: 20/00153/MJR):

- Public Open Space Contribution (£17,000) – to be used by the Council towards the design, improvement and/or maintenance of play facilities in Jellicoe Gardens and/or Roath Park planting, boat stage or signage.
- Highways and Transportation Contribution (£8,000) – to be used by the Council towards the design, provision, improvement and/or maintenance of double yellow lines at the Carnegie Drive/Clearwater Way junction and the eastern side of Carnegie Drive.

The trigger point for the payment of these contributions is on the first beneficial occupation of the development, which is currently anticipated to be towards the end of 2023. Cyncoed ward members will be contacted by officers from the Parks Service and Transport Development team in due course about how these respective contributions could potentially be spent in line with the wording of the Section 106 Agreement.

W21

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS

We are seeing increasing incidences when motor homes are parked overnight on Wild Gardens Road at Roath Park Lake. This is a narrow road and when vehicles are parked along the Wild Gardens side there is only sufficient space for one vehicle to pass from one direction at a time. The parking of motor homes on the road adds to the difficulty in navigating this road. Can the council clarify what powers it has to prohibit overnight parking by motor homes on this or other roads across the city?

Reply

The Council has the powers under sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to create Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) that prohibit or restrict the waiting of vehicles, or any particular class of vehicles, from any length of road. It may do so where it appears to the Council that it is expedient to make the TRO:

- a. for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- b. for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or
- c. for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or
- d. for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property, or
- e. (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is specially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or
- f. for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs or
- g. for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality).

However, a TRO cannot be made which would have the effect of:

- a. preventing at any time access for pedestrians, or
- b. preventing for more than 8 hours in any period of 24 hours access for vehicles of any class, to any premises situated on or adjacent to the road, or to any other premises accessible for pedestrians, or (as the case may be) for vehicles of that class, from, and only from, the road.

Unless the Council is satisfied that it must be made for:

- a. avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road to which the order relates or any other road, or
- b. preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- c. preventing damage to the road or buildings on or near it, or
- d. facilitating the passage of vehicular traffic on the road, or
- e. preserving or improving the amenities of an area by prohibiting or restricting the use on a road or roads in that area of heavy commercial vehicles.

Where introduced, such restrictions are indicated by yellow lines and signage, which states that the yellow lines apply only to motor homes.

W22

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS

When potholes are filled with temporary repairs they very quickly deteriorate necessitating further action and use of valuable resources. Is it not more cost effective to make permanent repairs in the first place?

Reply

As part of the Council's statutory highway maintenance responsibilities, we carry out reactive repairs to urgent defects such as potholes. These repairs are an essential tool in maintaining the highway asset as they can be carried out quickly to remove the immediate safety defect and can be completed in high volumes at low cost. These reactive repairs are carried out within set timescales depending on the urgency of the safety issue (e.g. within 2 hours or the next working day etc.). Both hot tarmac (collected and used daily) and cold laid material are utilised and we ensure that they meet established standards for use on the highway.

There are occasions where such repairs may fail prematurely – for example, when in order to make an area safe, the material had to be used in conditions that are less than ideal, such as in the very wet or very cold. This can mean that the repair does not last as long or may need to be repeated; however, this is not a frequent occurrence and a repeat visit to ensure that the site remains safe is still a cost-effective solution for a safety defect repair.

Patching or permanent reinstatement of the highway is undertaken on a planned programme throughout the year. This is completed on larger areas of the highway, often requiring traffic management such as road closures to be put in place and, in comparison, costs significantly more than a reactive repair. As these patching works are undertaken as part of a planned programme throughout the year, reactive temporary repairs will still be required to ensure highway safety, until the more permanent reinstatement work is scheduled and undertaken.

W23

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL

I'm grateful to our officers for making safe the fence that borders Llandaff Cathedral Cemetery that runs along the footpath down to Llandaff Rugby Club. I raised this issue in March last year, I was told we would get some costs to replace it. What's the cost and have we identified funding to get the fence replaced, if so, when will it happen?

Reply

Bereavement Services have removed a large, damaged section of the fence that borders Llandaff Cemetery and cut back the vegetation that was causing an issue. They are also able to organise a like-for-like replacement of the existing wire fencing, utilising their own staff, for an estimated total cost of around £2,000. This will be funded from Bereavement Services' revenue budget and will be completed by the end of September 2023. The intention is to keep costs low as it is currently unknown how any works undertaken now will impact on any proposed cycleway works in the area in the future.

W24

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL

Following the council's declaration of a Climate and Nature emergency, also a commitment to protect nature and biodiversity in a Stronger Greener Fairer Cardiff, will the council commit to not supporting building on Danescourt Woodland alongside Hermit Wood SINC, by rejecting the proposal put forward by developers as a candidate site for housing, which would see the destruction of this woodland?

Reply

I am aware that a current planning application for the development of affordable housing off De Braose Close in Danescourt is being considered by officers. It would therefore not be appropriate for me to comment on this process, where any decision will be made by the Planning Committee at the appropriate time.

As part of the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) Preferred Strategy, the Council will be consulting on the candidate sites submitted by developers and landowners for possible inclusion in the Replacement LDP for 10 weeks from the end of July to October 2023. This is an opportunity for local ward members and residents to submit their comments on the proposed sites. This process is separate to the regulatory role of the Council as the Local Planning Authority in determining planning applications.

Any site which is the subject of a current planning application will be considered on its planning merits, having regard to all relevant material considerations.

W25

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL

Since the enforcement camera was activated on June 26th 2023 at the junction of Western Avenue and Excelsior Road, how many fines have been issued, to what date and how much do the fines total?

Reply

The Council does not have a camera at that location and does not enforce speeding. As a result, I would suggest that you direct your question to the GoSafe Camera Safety Partnership. Further information relating to this 'speed on green' camera is available on their website at: <https://www.gosafe.org/camera-details?id=19910>

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**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**



COUNCIL:

20 JULY 2023

AMENDMENT SHEET

ITEM 8 : Budget 2024/25 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan: Update Report

The Amendment to the Report has been published and circulated previously.

ITEM 12 : Notice of Motion – 2

Two amendments to the Notice of Motion have been received; they have been published and circulated previously.

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