



County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2000

Neuadd y Sir  
Caerdydd  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2017, 4.30 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact [scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

11 **Correspondence Following the Committee Meeting** (Pages 3 - 18)

This page is intentionally left blank

Ref: RDB/RP/TE/05.12.2017

7 December 2017

Mr Tim England,  
Natural Resources Wales,  
Rivers House,  
St Mellons Business Park,  
Fortran Road,  
St Mellons,  
Cardiff,  
CF3 0EY.



Dear Tim,

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 5 December 2017**

On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank you and other officers from Natural Resources Wales for attending the Environmental Scrutiny Committee meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December to discuss the delivery and implementation of the Roath Flood Scheme. I hope that you found the opportunity to discuss the merits of the scheme in a public forum a worthwhile exercise.

It is important to note the extent of the remit of the Committee; it does not have the ability to force changes to the proposed scheme. Similarly, the Committee wished to provide all parties with the opportunity to present their views, but does not explicitly endorse either the scheme proposed by Natural Resources Wales or any alternatives presented.

As previously explained the Committee discussed the Roath Flood Scheme during the way forward section of the meeting and collectively agreed the following comments:

- The Committee note the range of consultation activities delivered by Natural Resources Wales during the development of the scheme and thank Gavin Jones for providing the Natural Resources Wales document titled 'Roath Flood Scheme – Key public consultation events,' which detailed the extent of this consultation. The document was dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

- It was explained during the item that the works to Roath Brook would actually reduce the overall dry land surface area of the parks within the scope of the scheme. Natural Resources Wales acknowledged that this was the case, however, were unable to accurately quantify the exact area that would be lost. I would be grateful if you could provide confirmation of the overall dry land surface area that will be lost as a result of this scheme at this location once it is available.
- During the meeting Dr Johansson referenced a number of potential alternatives for helping to manage flood risk issues along Roath Brook. The Committee would like assurance that these alternatives have been considered and evaluated as a part of the development of the scheme.
- The Committee note that the overall proposal involves the removal of 140 trees and that these will be replaced by 122 new trees. The process for deciding which types of trees to use has been supported by an arboreal study that has been funded by the scheme. The removed trees will be replaced with appropriate specimens; some of these will be mature and approximately four or five metres in height. The overall loss of mature trees will be 18 in total. The Committee notes that there will be an additional 200 saplings planted by Natural Resources Wales.
- It was stated during the meeting that approximately eight of the trees were removed on request from the Council, and that these trees would ordinarily have been felled as a part of a one to three year programme. Natural Resources Wales has accepted the financial cost for removing these trees.
- The Committee note that some of the consultation material used had incorrectly stated (between 13th October 2016 to 3rd March 2017) that over 400 properties were at risk of flooding in a 1:5 chance event. Natural Resources Wales acknowledged this error and have since clarified that the material should have stated that 405 properties were at risk of flooding in a 1:75 chance event. Natural Resources maintain that all consultation prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 used the correct figures. Where a scheme

involves complex flood risk calculations, it is imperative that Natural Resources Wales is able to articulate this to the public in as accurate and accessible a way possible.

I would be grateful if you would note the comments of the Committee on the Roath Flood Scheme and provide feedback to this letter where appropriate. Should you have any questions or queries about the content of the letter or meeting don't hesitate to contact me. Once again thank you for taking part in the meeting,

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ramesh Patel', with a stylized, cursive script.

Councillor Ramesh Patel  
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc:

Gavin Jones – Natural Resources Wales

Paul Isaac – Natural Resources Wales

Dr Melissa Johansson

Ed Gilbert

Sarah Jones

Lee Fisher

Carol White

Sylvia Harris

David Lee

Members of Cardiff's Environmental Scrutiny Committee

This page is intentionally left blank

Ref: RDB/RP/MM/05.12.2017

16 January 2018

Councillor Michael Michael,  
Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment,  
County Hall,  
Atlantic Wharf,  
Cardiff CF10 4UW.



Dear Councillor Michael,

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 5 December 2017**

On behalf of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and the officers for attending the Committee meeting on Tuesday 5 December 2017. As you are aware the meeting considered items titled 'Roles & Responsibilities for Flood Risk Management in Cardiff' and 'City Operations Directorate and Collaborative Services – Quarter 1 & 2 Performance Reports 2017/18'. The comments and observations made by Members following these items are set out in this letter.

**Roles & Responsibilities for Flood Risk Management in Cardiff**

- During the meeting an officer from the City Operations Directorate was asked if the Council allocated sufficient funding towards drainage and flood management activities. Overall he felt that adequate monies were spent in this area, however, there was a need for the Council to recruit a new Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) officer to deal with a range of new statutory responsibilities placed onto the Council (for example, working with developers to ensure that appropriate drainage systems are correctly built into new developments). The Committee felt that given the statutory nature and importance of the role, funding should be made available to proceed with recruitment into the position.
- During the item I asked how much the Council allocated towards dealing with drainage and flood management issues in Cardiff and if this was

enough to effectively manage the problem. The supporting officer was unable to confirm exactly how much is spent each year; however, he offered to obtain the figures for the last three years. I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with this information.

- During the meeting the topic of flood groups was discussed. Flood groups have been established by volunteers in many parts of the United Kingdom, mainly in the highest flood risk areas. The volunteers support these groups with time and ideas to help local communities reduce the overall risk of flooding. Support and resources are often provided to these groups by organisations like the Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales. Members thought that the groups were an excellent idea. They bring together a very valuable local volunteer resource and are a good tool for raising awareness of local flood issues. Cardiff has a number of areas that are subject to potential flooding, but it doesn't have any local flood groups. The Committee, therefore, ask that you liaise with Natural Resources Wales to explore the possibility of setting up a flood group(s) in some of Cardiff's highest flood risk areas.

#### **City Operations Directorate and Collaborative Services – Quarter 1 & 2 Performance Reports 2017/18**

- The topic of sickness levels in Commercial Services was considered during the meeting. Members asked how the sickness rates in our waste services compared against other local authorities and were told that the rates of our teams were similar or lower than those in other local authorities. It was also stressed that sickness rates in the private sector were generally lower as they had stricter sickness absence policies. Members acknowledged this and were keen to understand how sickness rates in our waste services compared against the other United Kingdom core cities. With this in mind I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with a short benchmarking report that compares the sickness rates for Cardiff's waste services against the other United Kingdom core cities.

- The Cabinet Member stated that each year Cardiff scheduled approximately 24 million waste collections and that from this total approximately 18,000 were missed; this equates to approximately 0.075%. He also explained that there are a wide variety of reasons why collections are missed, but that the target always is to reduce that number to zero. Members were also informed that no overtime was paid for sending crews out to collect the missed collections. With this in mind, I would be grateful if you could confirm if the Council incurred any additional costs for these missed collections. If additional costs were incurred please provide details of the amount and associated activities.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the content of this letter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ramesh Patel', with a stylized, cursive script.

Councillor Ramesh Patel  
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc:

- Andrew Gregory, Director of City Operations
- Matthew Wakelam, Operational Manager, Infrastructure & Operations
- Gary Brown, Operational Manager, Assets, Engineering & Operations
- Neil Hanratty, Director for Economic Development
- Tara King, Assistant Director for Commercial & Collaborative Services
- Jane Cherrington, Operational Manager, Strategy & Enforcement
- Davina Fiore, Director of Governance & Legal Services
- Members of Cardiff's Environmental Scrutiny Committee

This page is intentionally left blank

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET  
CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE**



County Hall  
Cardiff,  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2087  
www.cardiff.gov.uk  
**Neuadd y Sir**  
Caerdydd,  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088  
www.caerdydd.gov.uk

Fy Nghyf / My Ref : CM38988

Eich Cyf / Your Ref :

Dyddiad / Date: 13th March 2018

Councillor Ramesh Patel  
C/O Member Services  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Annwyl / Dear Councillor Patel

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee - 5th December 2017**

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the above.

The agreement to proceed with the funding of the Sustainable Drainage Officer is noted and welcomed. Currently, Welsh Government are hoping to lay down the legislation in May 2018 and works are ongoing to ready the Council for its implementation.

The Council have spent a total of approximately £1.2 million on drainage under both revenue and grant spends combined. Please note this value is only up to Quarter 3 of this current financial year.

Cardiff Council currently work in partnership with Natural Resources Wales and local communities at risk of flooding, most notably Rhiwbina, Roath, Talbot Street in Pontcanna, Ely Bridge and St Fagans. The Council's Flood and Coastal Risk Management and Emergency Management Team continue to work with Natural Resources Wales to identify areas for partnership working. Cardiff Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy also identifies the requirement to engage with Natural Resources Wales and the local communities.

Information on sickness stats has been requested from the Core cities in Cardiff's group, unfortunately this is not forthcoming as yet. Once it is received, the information will be passed on. From historical benchmarking it was found that the average lost days in the waste industry (private and public) typically ranges between 20 to 27 for front line operatives. This level of sickness tends to reflect the very physical nature of the role.

**ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO**

Swyddfa Cymorth Y Cabinet / Cabinet Support Office, Ystafell / Room 518, Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Glanfa Nlwydd / Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd / Cardiff, CF10 4UW

Delivering our vision of becoming Europe's most liveable capital city

The Council welcomes correspondence in English and Welsh and we will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, whether that's English, Welsh or bilingual as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to any delay.

Cyflawni ein gwledigaeth o ddod y brifddinas orau i fyw ynddi yn Ewrop

Mae'r Cytgor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn sicrhau ein bod yn cyfathrebu â chi yn eich dewis iaith boed yn Gymraeg, yn Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn creu unrhyw oedi.

With regards to the cost of missed collections, it is not possible to provide a specific figure as the work typically tends to be rescheduled to a vehicle that will be passing, rather than sending a bespoke vehicle to each property. The new incab system is being implemented to reduce such issues as missed collections and well as improve the customer interface.

I trust the above is of assistance.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Michael', written in a cursive style.

**Cynghorydd / Councillor Michael Michael**  
**Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment /**  
**Aelod Cabinet dros Strydoedd Glân, Ailgylchu a'r Amgylchedd**

Ref: RDB/RP/CW/05.12.2017

16 January 2018

Councillor Caro Wild,  
Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport,  
County Hall,  
Atlantic Wharf,  
Cardiff CF10 4UW.



Dear Councillor Wild,

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 5 December 2017**

On behalf of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and the officers for attending the Committee meeting on Tuesday 5 December 2017. As you are aware the meeting considered an item on 'City Operations Directorate and Collaborative Services – Quarter 1 & 2 Performance Reports 2017/18'. The comments and observations made by Members following this item are set out in this letter.

- The topic of 20 mile per hour zones was discussed as a part of this item. A Member asked for a list of the objectives attached to the implementation of Cardiff's 20 mile per hour zones and for clarification as to if these have been achieved. I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with an update on the matter and a summary on the Council's current position regarding increasing residential parking areas to 75% across the city.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the content of this letter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ramesh Patel', enclosed in a thin black rectangular box.

Councillor Ramesh Patel  
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc:

- Andrew Gregory, Director of City Operations
- Paul Carter, Head of Transport
- Davina Fiore, Director of Governance & Legal Services
- Members of Cardiff's Environmental Scrutiny Committee

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET  
CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref : CM39121  
Eich Cyf / Your Ref : RDB/RP/CW/05.12.2017  
Dyddiad / Date: 22nd February 2018



County Hall  
Cardiff,  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2087  
www.cardiff.gov.uk

Neuadd y Sir  
Caerdydd,  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088  
www.caerdydd.gov.uk

Councillor Ramesh Patel  
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee  
Scrutiny Services  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Annwyl / Dear Councillor Patel

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee - 5 December 2017**

Thank you for your letter dated 16 January 2018 following the Environmental Scrutiny Meeting on 5 December 2017.

In response to your 2 questions outlined below I comment as follows:-

- 1) The topic of 20 mile per hour zones was discussed as a part of this item. A Member asked for a list of the objectives attached to the implementation of Cardiff's 20 mile per hour zones and for clarification as to if these have been achieved.**

In regard to 20mph limits there are a number of reasons why speeds should be reduced to 20mph:

- To help make walking and cycling safer and more attractive.
- To help to reduce the number and seriousness of injuries suffered by road casualties.

I can inform you that there is robust evidence that lower speed limits do reduce the number and severity of collisions, with a 2-7% reduction in collisions for every 1mph reduction in average vehicle speeds. Indeed, the fatality rate for pedestrians hit by a car reduces from 31% at 40mph to 7% at 30 mph. At 20mph the fatality rate is considerably lower still at around 2%.

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO :

Swyddfa Cymorth Y Cabinet / Cabinet Support Office, Ystafell / Room 510, Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Clanta / Welydd /  
Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd / Cardiff, CF10 4UW

Delivering our vision of becoming Europe's most liveable capital city

The Council welcomes correspondence in English and Welsh and we will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, whether that's English, Welsh or bilingual as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to any delay.

Page 15

Cyflwyni ein gwledigaeth o ddod y brifddinas orau i fyw ynddi yn Ewrop

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn sicrhau ein bod yn cyfathrebu â chi yn eich dewis iaith boed yn Gymraeg, yn Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn creu unrhyw oedi.

difference make the | gwnewch wahaniaeth

Lower speed limits may also contribute towards:

- encouraging more outdoor active play amongst children, leading to healthier communities,
- increasing social inclusion and access for those without motor vehicles, and
- making local facilities more accessible e.g. by making crossing roads easier. This is important for health and wellbeing within local communities.

It was, therefore, determined that the installation of 20 mph limits in residential streets would support the general consensus that lower speed limits in residential areas can:

- improve the liveability of the city by reducing car use for local trips,
- make it easier to cross roads and access local facilities – especially for children and the elderly, and
- help to improve the environment for walking and cycling resulting in greater levels of physical activity.

This supports the LDP and its target for a 50/50 modal split by 2026.

It should also be noted that the rollout in Cardiff is symbolic in nature. When the programme was announced, the objectives of the scheme were described as: 'improving public safety, improving the liveability of our streets, reducing the attractiveness of using residential streets as short cuts for drivers as well as encouraging walking and cycling.

I would also add that the installation of 20 mph limits is a long term programme and is focussed on installing 20 mph limits on streets:

- that are mainly residential in nature
- near to schools, shops, playgrounds and
- in areas where pedestrian and cyclist movements are high or are potentially high.

Additionally, 20 mph limit areas do not replace the 20 mph zones that are delivered through the Safe Routes to School programme and the monitoring of the new 20 mph limit areas is focussed on monitoring vehicle speed and pedestrian/cyclist levels. Whilst baseline measurement was undertaken prior to the delivery of 20 mph limits I would also add that , in new areas, the monitoring of post implementation works has not yet been undertaken although a snapshot exercise will be undertaken on key streets in March 2018 with full monitoring commencing every 12 months thereafter, following completion.

**2 ) I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with an update on the matter and a summary on the Council's current position regarding increasing residential parking areas to 75% across the city.**

The Council's approved Parking Strategy and Policies (2016) provided greater opportunity to increase resident parking schemes from 50% to 75% where this was appropriate as follows (pages 4/5):-

### **Existing Schemes**

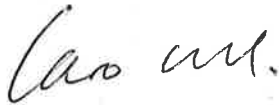
Existing resident only parking facilities may be increased up to 75% of available parking space in areas of acute parking pressure when the weekday daytime level **within the existing bays** reaches 70% or more, or a majority of Local Members for that ward request a scheme.

**Consideration will also be given to the proximity to the city centre CPA and any other adjacent resident scheme or any other area considerations in place at the time of the assessment.**

The new policies have enabled the consideration of impacts across a wider area in assessing requests for increases in resident parking provision, recognising the incremental impact that changes have on a local area. Schemes are still assessed via surveys that evaluate the level of daytime parking density in existing resident bays. A robust consultation response rate is required for a scheme to be progressed and proposals must be supported by a majority (60%) of households. Or, by 50% of households and a majority of Ward Members.

I trust that the foregoing is of assistance to you but please feel free to come back to me if you require any further information.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely



**Cynghorydd / Councillor Caro Wild**  
**Aelod Cabinet dros Gynllunio Strategol a Thrafnidiaeth**  
**Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport**

the Commission has been established to ensure that the Commission is able to carry out its functions in a manner which is consistent with the principles of transparency and accountability. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.

The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.

The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.

The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.

The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.

The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes. The Commission will be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and for the implementation of the Commission's policies and programmes.