

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 22 October 2015 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 16 October 2015.

Present: County Councillor Walker (Lord Mayor)

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Dilwar Ali, Aubrey, Bale, Bowden, Boyle, Bradbury, Bridges, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Richard Cook, Cowan, Kirsty Davies-Warner, Chris Davis, De'Ath, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Ford, Gordon, Govier, Graham, Groves, Hinchey, Howells, Hudson, Hunt, Hyde, Javed, Keith Jones, Margaret Jones, Joyce, Kelloway, Knight, Lent, Lloyd, Lomax, Magill, McEvoy, McGarry, McKerlich, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Simmons, Stubbs, Thomas, Graham Thomas, Lynda Thorne, Walsh, Weaver, White, Wild, Darren Williams and Woodman

83 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Manzoor Ahmed, Ralph Cook, Goddard, Goodway, Holden, Marshall, Morgan and Benjamin Thomas.

84 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of Interests were received as follows:-

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Councillor Aubrey	Item 12 - Motion 2 Traffic Free Day	Personal Interest as a Director of Cardiff Bus as appointed by Full Council
Councillor Bale	Item 14 - Oral Question 5	Personal Interest as a former Member of the Llanishen Reservoir Action Group
Councillor Groves	Item 8 – City of Cardiff Council Annual Improvement Report 2014/15	Personal Interest
Councillor Hudson	Item 10 – Leader's Statement	Personal Interest
Councillor Lloyd	Item 14 - Oral Question 5	Personal Interest as a Member of the Llanishen Reservoir Action Group
Councillor Magill	Item 14 - Oral Question 5	Personal Interest as a Member of the

		Llanishen Reservoir Action Group
Councillor Robson	Item 12 - Motion 2 Traffic Free Day	Personal Interest as a Director of Cardiff Bus as appointed by Full Council
Councillor Simmons	Item 12 - Motion 2 Traffic Free Day	Personal Interest as a Director of Cardiff Bus as appointed by Full Council
Councillor White	Item 12 - Motion 2 Traffic Free Day	Personal Interest as a Director of Cardiff Bus as appointed by Full Council
Councillor Woodman	Item 8 – City of Cardiff Council Annual Improvement Report 2014/15	Personal Interest as Honorary President of Diverse Cymru that delivers Direct Payments for the Council

85 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson subject to Councillor Aubrey be marked as an Apology and not as Present.

86 : RIVERSIDE BY-ELECTION

The Lord Mayor welcomed Councillor Caro Wild to his first Council meeting following his election to the vacancy in the Electoral Division of Riverside on 7 October 2015.

Councillor Caro Wild thanked Members for their welcome and expressed his thanks to the electorate and supporters and welcomed the opportunity of representing the constituents of Riverside and undertaking his new role as a County Councillor.

87 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARDIFF HALF MARATHON 4 OCTOBER 2015

Cardiff was delighted to welcome a record number of participants to the Cardiff Half Marathon on another superb day in the Welsh capital. Almost 16,000 runners crossed the line and runners were supported by more than 50,000 spectators along the course – estimated to be the biggest crowd in the event's history. The live television coverage helped the race reach a wider audience than ever before.

The Lord Mayor thanked the sponsors, runners, spectators and all support staff for a great event which again puts Cardiff on the map.

This event was a warm up for the prestigious IAAF/Cardiff University World Half Marathon Championships to be held on 26 March next year. The 2016 event is not just for the elite, it is for everyone. There will be 25,000 places available – an opportunity for anyone in this Chamber to take part.....

CONTRATULATIONS TO WALES NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOR QUALIFYING FOR EURO 2016

Congratulations to the Welsh National Football team for their success in qualifying for the first time in 57 years for European Football Championship 2016 in France. Wales' winning finale at home to Andorra on 13 October meant that we could all celebrate in their success in the pool stage.

The draw for next years' tournament will take place on 12 December.

RUGBY WORLD CUP

Cardiff has again enjoyed being a host city for the Rugby World Cup 2016, a show case event for the Capital City broadcasted all over the world. We have welcomed nearly 1 million visitors over the past month from many different nations providing an array of colour to our already cosmopolitan city.

The Ball in the Wall has been a social media phenomenon becoming one of the most photographed icons of the Rugby World Cup.

We also congratulate the Welsh Rugby team for some fantastic, entertaining and nail biting rugby. Their heroic efforts got them through the very difficult pool stages to the quarter finals and they should be proud of their achievements.

As a host City we have also been presented with a very distinctive statue that we will display in the Mansion House and is on the front table for you all to view today. Before moving on I would like to thank and acknowledge all those employees who worked so hard to make Cardiff welcoming to our visitors.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

The Lord Mayor was pleased to report on the following awards and recognitions achieved since the last meeting

Celebrate Black History Month

October marks Black History Month and an opportunity to celebrate the wonderful diversity, culture and history of Cardiff.

There are dozens of events taking place across the city this month and right up until the end of November.

Councillor Daniel De'Ath, Cabinet Member for Skills, Safety & Engagement said: "Black History Month is now a well-established event in Cardiff that celebrates the achievements of groups and individuals of a Black and Minority Ethnic background.

"Many events have been organised, including film shows, poetry recitals, and live music performances. Activities to celebrate Black History Month run from the beginning of October to the end of November, so there is plenty of time to attend the different events being held across the city.

"Everyone is welcome to attend any of the events regardless of their ethnic heritage, so please make a diary date and come along to learn more about Black History listen to poetry or enjoy a live band."

We are sharing photos and stories of our multicultural Cardiff via the Council's Facebook page. Please send in your experiences through to socialmedia@cardiff.gov.uk

Celebrating Thornhill Primary School's young eco warriors

Congratulations to all the pupils and staff at Thornhill Primary School on their wonderful achievement on becoming the 1st Welsh School to win a prestigious sustainable energy Ashden award.

Ashden is a UK-based charity that champions and promotes practical, local energy solutions that cut carbon, protect the environment, reduce poverty and improve people's lives. The school's efforts have been described as: "Thornhill Primary School's crack squad of student eco-warriors keep energy wastage to a minimum with their spot checks on whether lights and appliances have been left on in the classroom. The school's willingness to trial new ideas and share the results with others, along with its determination to reduce carbon emissions to the absolute minimum, is what makes it the first Welsh school to win an Ashden Sustainable School Award."

National Quality Award for Moorland Primary

The pupils, parents and staff at Moorland Primary School are celebrating success in the Welsh Government's Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes after being recognised with a National Quality Award.

Managed by Public Health Wales, the scheme has been running since 1999 and considers initiatives around food and fitness, mental and emotional health and wellbeing, personal development and relationships, substance use and misuse, environment, safety and hygiene.

With support from the city council, the school in Splott has been working hard over a number years, introducing initiatives designed to improve the health and wellbeing of the school community, both in and outside of school. Activities have included projects to promote equality, an on-site counselling service and comprehensive lessons on smoking, alcohol and drugs. A scooter and bike store at the school has proved very popular with the children, promoting fitness and encouraging active travel to school.

Moorland primary is the second school in Cardiff to be recognised with a National Quality Award, following Herbert Thompson Primary School in Ely's 2011 success.

Educating Cardiff Head teacher crowned the best

If you've been gripped to the recent 'Educating Cardiff' series on Channel 4, which featured pupils and teachers at Willows High School, you will have seen for yourself the inspirational head teacher, Mrs Joy Ballard, strive to make the difference for the pupils, their parents and her dedicated teaching staff at the school.

We are very proud to confirm that Joy was crowned 'Head teacher of the Year' at the prestigious annual Pearson Teaching Awards at a ceremony held at the Opera House in London.

A spokesman for the Pearson Awards described Mrs Ballard as an "outstanding" head teacher. He added: "She brought new life to a school which needed a fresh vision to improve the lives of its pupils and its community. She is committed to helping every student realise their full potential. The success she has achieved is outstanding."

In an interview with Wales Online, Mrs Ballard said: "Willows' success comes around from two different things - our desire to learn off the very best people and absolutely phenomenal staff that will go that extra mile."

Whilst Mrs Ballard has since left Willows High School to become head teacher at Ryde Academy on the Isle of Wight to be closer to her family, the recognition was awarded for the tremendously positive and long lasting impact she has had on Willows and its pupils and staff. Yet another wonderful example of how we, the staff of the City of Cardiff Council, make the difference.

Gold award for the wonderful dogs' home

Congratulations to Cardiff Dogs Home, which has been awarded the RSPCA's Stray Dog Provision gold award at a ceremony at the Senedd last week. The award is part of the RSPCA's Community Animal Welfare Footprint scheme. It's great that hard work by staff, Dog Wardens and volunteers has been highlighted through the RSPCA's gold award.

Cardiff Dogs Home is based on Westpoint Industrial Estate on Penarth Road and is open seven days a week. Every year it deals with nearly 1,000 dogs and last year 40% were successfully re-homed and 55% were reunited with their owners.

COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES

We congratulate Councillor Dianne Rees on the birth of her third grandchild Thomas, William Henry born on 9 October 2015. We hope mother and son are doing well.

LORD MAYOR'S CHARITY

The Lord Mayor was grateful for the support of Members in arranging events and activities in support of Action Against Cancer and Velindre Cancer Care. With the support of the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Dilwar Ali the Lord Mayor had visited a

number of Mosques around the City and had been delighted to accept donations to his Charity. The Lord Mayor advised that he would be continuing with further visits in the next few months, and was pleased that all Communities in Cardiff were getting involved in fundraising.

88 : PETITIONS

The following petitions were received:-

- 1 Councillor Linda Thorne – 219 signatures calling on the Council to save Grangetown Play Centre and Children’s Play Services from closure in April 2016;
- 2 Councillor Jim Murphy – 734 signatures calling on the Council to save Ely Play Centre and Children’s Play Services from closure in April 2016;
- 3 Councillor Lyn Hudson – 28 signatures requesting the Council to provide ‘Residents Only’ parking outside Heath Park Court, Highfields Road, Heath, Cardiff.

89 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question: *Mr Alex Clarke*

Two of the roles of a councillor outlined in the Council's Constitution are to:

(ii) represent their communities and bring their views into the Authority’s decision-making process, i.e. become the advocate of and for their communities;

(iii) deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;

Please would the Cabinet Member explain the procedure (e.g. timescales etc.) for elected members replying to all correspondence (including letter, email and twitter) and outline the monitoring system in place to ensure that members fulfil their obligation.

Reply: *County Councillor De’Ath*

Elected Members in Cardiff take their representational and casework responsibilities very seriously.

All Councillors provide regular ward surgeries to meet with their constituents and use a variety of methods to respond to enquiries.

All Members have clear, up-to-date contact details published on the Council website, the Capital Times, and local libraries and community hubs. They can also be contacted by Members Services in County Hall.

Elected Members are expected to respond to correspondence in a timely fashion within 21 days of the receipt of written letters or emails. Sometimes it can take longer to provide a full response while Members make further enquiries within the Council. Members do their best to keep constituents up-to-date with the progress.

There are no formal monitoring procedures in place for this, although procedures are in place to monitor all Cabinet Member correspondence and to chase up responses if there are delays.

Residents can also contact Connect 2 Cardiff with issues or concerns. All C2C contacts are monitored to ensure compliance and swift response.

Supplementary Question: Mr Alex Clarke

It is disappointing that there are no formal procedures in place to monitor Councillor correspondence. This presents a particular problem when Members fail or refuse to answer correspondence via letter, at surgeries, or on social media.

Would the Cabinet Member agree to meet with me to discuss my concerns in more detail and therefore I can be provided with an answer to my previous unanswered correspondence?

Reply: County Councillor De'Ath

I'm certainly happy to correspond with you on this to see if you can raise some suggestions or come to a conclusion to the issues you seem to be experiencing.

90 : CITY OF CARDIFF COUNCIL ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2014/15

The Council was requested to approve Cardiff Council's Annual Improvement report for publication by 31 October 2015.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Performance, Councillor Hinchey proposed the report. The report was seconded by Councillor Bale.

The Cabinet Member presented the Improvement Report 2014/15 which provided a retrospective summary evaluation of performance against the agreed outcomes, activities (improvement objectives), and targets. The report was considered by Cabinet on 1 October 2015.

The report focused on key outcomes and progress in performance in key areas including supporting vulnerable people; school performance including attendance; reducing the number of young people not in employment education or training (NEETS); progress in addressing affordable housing; improving housing; provision ;economic growth and development; and the provision of quality jobs in the city's economy all of which were Corporate Plan priorities.

The Cabinet Member drew attention to satisfaction data relating to perceptions of Cardiff and its performance as a city.

The Lord Mayor invited debate and during the discussion Members commented on Cardiff's current ranking; concerns around progress in National Strategic Indicator (NSI) and Public Accountability Measures (PAMs); weakness in Social Services Directorate performance in particular disabled facilities and adaptations – time taken to complete works; and Delayed Transfer of Care (DeTOC). The challenges of increased demand and pressures on services were ongoing particularly in Social Care and Children's Services. It was recognised that there had been improvements made in Education attainment and results and further improvements had been achieved with better results in the summer 2015. Members comments on the data on young people not in Education, Employment or Training and Looked after children.

RESOLVED – That the Annual Improvement Report 2014/15 be approved for publication by 31 October 2015

91 : MEMBER CHAMPIONS ANNUAL REPORTS

The Council received Annual Reports from the Member Champion for Cycling and Sustainable Transport ; Councillor Gordon and the Member Champion for Community Food Growing Councillor Holden and Member Champion role for Diversity and Equality former Councillor Love.

Each Champion had within the remit of the role undertaken considerable amount of work in focussing on their specific area of interest, researching good practice; questioning performance and resourcing; engaging with relevant external bodies and community /stakeholder groups with an interest in the area; and engage internally with, and complement the work of, the Cabinet Member, the Scrutiny function and lead officers in relation to the role. Member Champions had identified a number of learning points for the Council to further develop the Champion role and optimise the success both of the overall initiative and the work of individual Champions

Councillor Ali Ahmed was appointed at Full Council in June 2015 to the role of Diversity and Equality Champion and was now actively progressing and participating in internal and external initiatives.

RESOLVED – that

1. the good work undertaken by all Member Champions be acknowledged and the Champions, officers and communities be applauded for the work completed so far;
2. the Member Champion Initiative and the three roles be continued until the Spring 2016
3. the WLGA's role description and Person Specification for Member Champions be adopted;
4. further annual reports from Member Champions;

5. Members be encouraged to propose further areas suitable for a Member Champion to be appointed.

92 : STATEMENTS

Leader's Statement

MIPIM UK

Representatives from Cardiff, along with our 350 square ft. model of the city, were present at this year's MIPIM UK – the UK's biggest property trade show.

It was an opportunity to showcase the benefits of investing in Cardiff and engage in positive discussions with key figures from across the property sector.

One of the City Council's four priorities is to create more and better paid jobs and attendance at MIPIM UK helps ensure that Cardiff- as a well networked and outward facing city- has the profile it needs to attract high quality inward investment. This is important for delivering a portfolio of high quality properties as well as attracting blue chip employers.

The Cardiff stand also hosted investors, developers and construction companies from China, part of President Xi's delegation to the UK, which provided an opportunity to build on our existing relationship with our twin city of Xiamen.

City Lab

The CityLab 2015 event was held in London, hosted by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Aspen Institute and the Atlantic magazine, and was partly in recognition of the City Council's work to promote Cardiff as a world class capital city.

The event brought together city leaders and international experts to discuss the major challenges facing cities, learn about different approaches to responding to growth and city development, and to connect with a variety of individuals and organisations. It was an important opportunity to promote some of the excellent work happening in Cardiff, whilst learning from the experiences of others.

Amongst the speakers presenting at CityLab was Cardiff University's Professor John Shepherd. Professor Shepherd discussed the innovative application of data to develop public policy which delivers improved outcomes for citizens whilst also ensuring the more efficient allocation of public resources. The Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention, for instance, uses information gathered in A&E departments together with data provided by public service providers to drive violence prevention activity. Research has shown that the implementation of the data sharing approach in Cardiff led to savings in the city's health, social and criminal justice costs. The Council's Research Team have been instrumental in the analysis of the data which has been hailed as best practice both nationally and internationally.

Rugby World Cup

Cardiff has hosted its final games of the 2015 Rugby World Cup and the Leader thanked officers, residents and the people who visited the city from around the World for making it such a special couple of weeks.

With Cardiff Castle's "Ball in the Wall" being one of the most prominently featured promotional activities it ensured that the City enjoyed global exposure and excellent publicity. Over 534,000 tickets were sold for the Millennium Stadium for the Rugby World Cup and City of Cardiff's official fanzone at the Arms Park was the most well attended of any at the tournament, having welcomed over 150,000 visitors.

There is no doubt that hosting the games brought a significant amount of money into the city. City attractions, including Cardiff Castle, saw a substantial increase in visitor numbers with 10,000 more people visiting compared with the same period last year. Whilst Cardiff's role in the World Cup is over, it can be proud of once again demonstrating its ability to host major events on the world stage. We hope our many visitors will be back to enjoy the city in the future.

Local Development Plan

For the avoidance of any doubt, this administration fully supports the retention of the proposed Green Belt within Cardiff's Local Development Plan (LDP). Not only did this administration include the Green Belt proposal in the Plan, but it has consistently and robustly defended the designation throughout the LDP examination process.

The Council has provided a clear response to the Welsh Government Inspector, which is now seeking views on the merits, or otherwise, of a Green Wedge as opposed to a Green Belt. The Council has also re-affirmed its written and verbal evidence submitted to the examination process regarding this matter. Our evidence confirmed that the Council considers the Green Belt designation fully accords with Welsh Government guidance, as set out in Planning Policy Wales, and is not an issue which renders the Plan unsound. The Council therefore respectfully requested that the Inspectors take full account of the evidence submitted by the Council when deliberating on the retention, or otherwise, of the Green Belt within the Plan.

The Matters Arising Schedule relating to the LDP is now subject to a 6 week consultation, closing on 26th November. The Green Belt/Green Wedge will therefore be one of the topics for consultation, and the consultation documents makes clear that it is an Inspector-led request.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the Leader's Statement. Members welcomed the coverage Cardiff had received during the World Cup and its profile on the World stage. A Member enquired about the funding received and cost to the Council of the Rugby World Cup (for example in clearance of litter, etc.).

Health, Housing & Wellbeing Statement

Update on position: Refugees

Further progress was been made in preparing all required service inputs for the implementation of the Syrian Vulnerable Persons relocation scheme and the Afghan

Resettlement scheme. The multi-agency regional Leadership Group met on 12th October and agreed the establishment of a housing-focussed task group to identify suitable properties in the private rented sector linked to consideration of appropriate support and education services. This will inform detailed discussions with the Home Office with the objective of providing sustainable placements as quickly as possible, supported by a process that will be fit for purpose over the period to 2020.

Alarm Receiving Centre Visit

On 22nd September the Cabinet Member visited the new Alarm Receiving Centre at Willcox House and she urged all colleagues to visit if they haven't already! This is a prime example of how the Council has utilise the latest technology to provide the service more efficiently and also to open up income opportunities. In addition the Cabinet Member was delighted to met the Council's very capable Telecare team who offer a vital service to elderly and vulnerable citizens 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

Delayed Transfers of Care

The Cabinet Member advised that a new and invaluable Leadership Group had been established to oversee the partnership approach to reducing delayed transfers of care. Timely transfer and discharge arrangements are important as delays lead to poor patient experience and increased operational pressures on the whole care system.

A comprehensive joint action plan was being put in place. Officers were working diligently with Health and the Vale of Glamorgan colleagues to ensure there is a responsive service in place.

We have used the Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) to further enhance our Community Resource Team and the team is moving to 7 day working in preparation for the winter.

We are working hard to create more domiciliary care and nursing bed capacity but this still remains a challenge. We plan to host a provider event with Business Wales to facilitate a discussion and help stimulate the market place.

Housing Partnership Programme Update

The procurement process for the Housing Partnership Project has now entered its final phase. This exciting project will deliver 1,500 energy efficient homes across Cardiff, 40% of which will be affordable.

Wales Audit Office Report on Supporting the Independence of Older People

The recently released Wales Audit Office Report '*Support the Independence of Older People*' focuses on some key areas that can help to address the growing demands placed on local authorities, including the value of other services in sustaining the independence of older people; how the wider preventative services can help to prevent demand, and how we use data to support evidenced-based decision-making.

There is great pace of change within Adult Social Services in Cardiff and these changes are strongly aligned to the work in this paper, namely a new *Target Operating Model* and the *One Point of Contact* into the service. Additionally, future budgets will be built on a strong understanding of the potential consequences to people in Cardiff, supported by a robust performance management framework.

The Lord Mayor invited questions to the Cabinet Member Health, Housing and Well-being and a number of matters were raised in relation to Refugees and Asylum Seeker support and immediate needs; timescales for receiving refugees. A Members requested further details on the DeTOC Leadership Group make up and terms of reference.

Corporate Services & Performance Statement

Employee Assistance Programme

This administration places a strong emphasis on the health and well-being of all staff. We recognise our workforce as our most valuable asset, responsible for delivering valuable services across the city and its communities every day. We will therefore be launching an Employee Assistance Programme in November.

The Programme will provide all staff, including school staff, with access to a confidential telephone counselling and advice service. The service, which will include direct access to a wide range of professional advisors, will be available free of charge and accessible twenty four hours a day, seven-days a week. The Employee Assistance Programme has been secured through the all Wales National Procurement Framework, and will be delivered by Care First. Care First are an experienced provider with a proven track record of improving staff well-being, performance and attendance through active partnerships with Managers, Human Resources and Occupational Health professionals. This will complement, not replace, existing services such as the Employee Counselling Service.

Customer Relationship Management

Our Corporate Plan makes clear that the Council needs to change the way it delivers many services to ensure their long term sustainability. Internally, a 'One Council' approach is enabling more joined-up working between departments and is making services easier for residents to access. A key part of this approach involves the adoption of a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) model that will improve customer services and drive down costs, with a focus on increased use of digital channels where appropriate. The technical sign off for phase 1 of the CRM will be completed this month, with Connect 2 Cardiff (C2C) being the first service area to adopt the approach.

Collaboration in the Management of Health and Safety

A service level agreement is currently being developed with Caerphilly Council for the management of the Health and Safety Advisory Service within the Council. The Agreement will result in financial savings for the Council, whilst offering further

potential benefits in the management of health and safety services. This is another example of the City of Cardiff Council collaborating effectively with regional partners to drive down costs and improve the quality of services. The proposals have been fully consulted upon and are supported by the Trade Unions. The Health and Safety Team will remain within the employment of Cardiff Council.

Budget Settlement Timetable

Normally Local Authorities in Wales receive their Provisional Budget Settlement in October, followed by a Final Settlement in early December. This will change this year with the expected timescales for the Local Government Budget Settlement indicating that the Welsh Government will publish its Draft Budget on 8 December, with the provisional Local Government Settlement for 2016/17 announced on 9 December. The Final Settlement is then expected to be published by Welsh Government on the 2 March with approval of the Local Government Finance Report on 9 March.

The Council must, under the statutory requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, set a balanced budget by 11 March. As a consequence, not only will the confirmation of the Council's funding for next year be extremely late, it's also likely to cover only one financial year. The timescales are therefore challenging, and are likely to place significant pressure on the Council's Budget Setting Process.

Members 'paper lite' project update

Three new versions of the Tablets are now built and ready to be trialled as potential replacements for the existing Members tablets. Amongst the issues addressed with the new model are hardware reliability, speed of power on, password synchronisation issues and connecting to networks more seamlessly. The short pilot will be assessed against these 'success factors' with the aim of making a decision on potentially replacing all tablets if successful.

New Eastern High School

ICT is working with the LEA, the Head teacher of Eastern High and Cardiff & Vale College to decide how the ICT systems for the new Eastern High school will operate and best support the learning outcomes of the pupils. The new school will be run by the LEA for years 7-11 and the sixth form will be run in partnership with Cardiff & Vale College.

Two additional secondary schools who have contracted their ICT services out to third parties have asked ICT to review their existing systems and infrastructure and to suggest an action plan to implement improvements.

Online Parking Permits

Working together with our external providers – Chipside - the Council's new online parking permit system was launched this month. It allows the public to access and apply for parking permits on-line without the need for paper and postage, delivering a more convenient and cost effective service.

Members welcomed the Employee Assistance Programme to support staff through difficult times in the workplace and personal life aimed at supporting Health & Wellbeing and the Council's sickness policy. Members welcomed the review of the tablets provided as part of the Member IT project and were encouraged to hear that there would be no cost for any replacements.

Environment Statement

Partnerships

The Cabinet Member was pleased to highlight an emerging project within the City Operations Directorate, centred on a partnership between the Council, Cardiff Metropolitan University and the University of South Wales. The project which has come about through the Volunteer Development Partnership Group formed earlier in the year is aimed at providing students studying at both establishments with work experience opportunities across a range of disciplines that include Civil & Environmental Engineering, Landscape Design and Management, Public Services/ Business Administration and Wildlife & Conservation Management. It is anticipated that a programme of opportunities which will provide benefits to those studying in specific fields, with potential benefits to the Council in terms of project work will be in place next month.

Organic Waste Treatment Centre

The City of Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils are pleased to announce the start of the construction of an Organic Waste Treatment Centre. Construction has followed on from the planning and design process which included public consultation on the proposals in the local area. The ground breaking ceremony took place on the 6 October 2015 at its Tremorfa site where the new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility will be housed. An Open Windrow Composting (OWC) facility will be located at Lamby Way, with construction there to commence in Spring 2016.

Cardiff and Vale Councils are working together with Kelda, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, EnCon Construction and Anaergia to develop some of the latest technology that will not only treat and recycle the organic waste but will also produce sustainable sources of energy and growing medium for arable farming. . The site build will be completed in 2016 and will guarantee 97% of food delivered will be recycled. The green waste site build will be completed in 2016 and will guarantee the same 97% recycling rate.

The facility will allow Kelda to provide a high quality recycling service to the Councils and support the achievement of zero waste targets. This facility will also supply renewable energy to our partner, Welsh Water, for its Tremorfa site and sustainable fertiliser from both sites will be recycled to local agriculture, working to our group vision of "Taking responsibility for the water environment for good".

Cathays Chapel

Cathays Chapel renovation crowd funding website set up on 19 September 2015 to raise around £39,000 to renovate the chapel. To date, over £25,700 has been raised.

Waste Changes

The on-going recycling and waste changes have been a hot topic of debate over the last few months, the Cabinet Member was pleased to advise that the Council had reached the half way mark of the city wide changes the early data is showing promising results; comparing quarter 2 to last year's quarter 2 – green bag recycling tonnages are up 11% and food waste tonnages are up 15%. This is supported a 331% increase in green bag demand and a 120% increase in food liner demand. Recycling has therefore been made easier for residents. The delivery sticker on the green bags has been reintroduced so residents when they come to the end of their green bag roll, they simply write on their address and a new roll will be delivered by the crews.

The public are adjusting well to the changes; we may have issued over 3500 warning notices, but less than 100 people have gone on to ignore the warning given. It is pleased to see the residents of Cardiff understanding and supporting the need to recycle more/”move out of the black and into the green”.

Cardiff Dogs Home: Good as gold!

Congratulations to Cardiff Dogs Home has been presented with the RSPCA's Stray Dog Provision gold award at a ceremony at the Senedd. The award is part of the RSPCA's Community Animal Welfare Footprint scheme. City of Cardiff Council's Emergency Management Unit has received the Contingency planning bronze award at the same ceremony.

Members were invited to ask questions and a request was made for data on the total percentage of recycling for quarter 2.

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member - Early Years, Children & Families Statement

The Deputy Leader was pleased to announce that further significant progress has been achieved supported by the Children's Service's Improvement Plan, the continued engagement of the Chief Executive, the ongoing involvement by the Director in the Challenge Forum and the work of the Organisational Development Programme.

Operational Delivery

The Director's close attention to operational safety and integrity over the last 2 years means that the service is in a much more stable and healthy condition. This is evidenced by sustained lower caseloads - down from 24.5 at 30.06.14 to 17.5 at 30.09.15

stronger performance in key areas

Recording decisions on referrals 77.6% in Q1 2014-15

89.8% in Q1 2015-16

94.1% in Q2 2015-16

Initial assessments 67.1% in Q1 2015-16 91.7% in Q2 2015-16	34.6% in Q1 2014-15
Core assessments 71.2% in Q1 2015-16 75.1% in Q2 2015-16	49.8% in Q1 2014-15
Initial CP conferences 96.4% in Q1 2015-16 99.2% in Q2 2015-16	91.0% in Q1 2014-15
Care plans at start of BLA 67.0% in Q1 2015-16 81.3% in Q2 2015-16	62.1% in Q1 2014-15
Permanence plans 85.7% in Q1 2015-16 96.6% in Q2 2015-16	80.4% in Q1 2014-15
Looked after child reviews 93.2% in Q1 2015-16 96.0% in Q2 2015-16	85.3% in Q1 2014-15
Social work vacancies 23.5% in Q1 2015-16 21.4% in Q2 2015-16	30.1% in Q1 2014-15

A more stable recruitment and retention position with an increase in applications for social work posts from other authorities in the region and from agency staff. Agency staff are down from 55 in June 2014 to 30 in September 2015,

The Directorate recognises that there still remains much to do to improve performance further across a wider range of performance dimensions, particularly in terms of enhancing attainment by Looked after Children and in terms of strengthening the offer for disabled children.

This improvement work over the last year, consolidating the 2013-14 year, means that the service has been able to engage in key strategic developments and these include a sustainable and improving future for the service

Strategic Developments

Prevention - the launch of the Early Help strategy led by the Cardiff Partnership Early Intervention and Prevention Steering Group. The Deputy Leader advised that she had addressed the launch which was attended by partner agencies pledging their commitment to working with children services to address. The strategy reflects a genuine partnership in which no one agency has primacy but in which all are committed to

- Reducing the number of children, young people and families requiring 'remedial' support or intervention.
- Narrowing the gap' so that children achieve their potential.

The Deputy Leader was encouraged to see positive engagement from partner agencies at the launch of this strategy.

Refreshed Fostering Campaign - a new fostering campaign was initiated in September with a focus to recruit more foster carers for children in Care. Our ambition is to bring those children back to Cardiff who had to be placed outside of Cardiff due to a lack of foster carers in Cardiff.

At the City of Cardiff Council we strive to keep children close to their families and communities wherever possible.

We need foster carers of every kind in Cardiff

Organisational Development Programme – the Deputy Leader highlight the accelerating agenda to remodel how we deliver children's social services. I will look forward to updating you on this and other developments such as the MASH and services for disabled children at the next cabinet.

The Deputy Leader hoped that the update on development, reassures Members that the improvement journey remains on course and continues to extend its reach.

93 : MOTION 1

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Dilwar Ali and seconded by Councillor Mitchell without any amendments.

Motion 1

This Council notes the UK legislative changes brought forward via the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ASBCP Act) and the consequent amendments to the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and welcomes the fact that it is now an offence to own or be in charge of a dog that is dangerously out of control in any place, including all private property.

In particular, this Council supports the extending of the law to cover attacks on assistance dogs when one in ten assistance dogs are attacked every year in Wales.

However, the Council regrets that the draft Control of Dogs Bill was withdrawn by the Welsh Government in 2013 in the belief that the ASBCP Act would bring in Dog Control Notices (DCNs) because despite lobbying by many organisations, Cardiff Councillors, AM's, MP's and Peers these Dog Control Notices were not implemented in the Act.

This Council therefore calls upon the Welsh Government to recognise widespread concerns about the education and awareness of responsible dog ownership in Wales (including those in the Environmental & CASSC Scrutiny Report on the Control of

Dangerous Dogs in Cardiff) and bring forward legislation to implement Dog Control Notices in Wales as soon as is practicable after reviewing all the other instruments, lessons and good practices currently to be found in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion.

Following the debate a vote on the Motion taken. The vote was CARRIED

Motion agreed was as follows: -

This Council notes the UK legislative changes brought forward via the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ASBCP Act) and the consequent amendments to the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and welcomes the fact that it is now an offence to own or be in charge of a dog that is dangerously out of control in any place, including all private property.

In particular, this Council supports the extending of the law to cover attacks on assistance dogs when one in ten assistance dogs are attacked every year in Wales.

However, the Council regrets that the draft Control of Dogs Bill was withdrawn by the Welsh Government in 2013 in the belief that the ASBCP Act would bring in Dog Control Notices (DCNs) because despite lobbying by many organisations, Cardiff Councillors, AM's, MP's and Peers these Dog Control Notices were not implemented in the Act.

This Council therefore calls upon the Welsh Government to recognise widespread concerns about the education and awareness of responsible dog ownership in Wales (including those in the Environmental & CASSC Scrutiny Report on the Control of Dangerous Dogs in Cardiff) and bring forward legislation to implement Dog Control Notices in Wales as soon as is practicable after reviewing all the other instruments, lessons and good practices currently to be found in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

94 : MOTION 2

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Richard Cook and seconded by Councillor Weaver had been received.

Motion 2

Cardiff Council has an ambition to move to a 50:50 modal split between cars and public transport, walking or cycling. The Corporate Plan states our vision for Cardiff is to become "Europe's most liveable capital city".

Many cities in the UK and around the world have traffic free days where the city centre streets are closed to vehicles allowing local residents to enjoy the city centre in a pollution free, peaceful and family friendly way. This Council therefore agrees that Cardiff should have a traffic free day in 2016 with the major city centre streets closed to traffic and that a traffic free day should then be held every subsequent year.'

The Lord Mayor advised that two amendments had been received:

Amendment 1 was proposed by Councillor Dianne Rees and seconded by Councillor Graham Thomas

AMENDMENT 1 TO MOTION 2

Delete all after “*Europe’s most liveable capital city*” and insert the following:

“With regret we note that this 50:50 modal split is unlikely to be achieved. It is a matter of even greater regret that this aspiration is a pillar on which depends our Local Development Plan.

For this reason we cannot support a traffic free day in 2016 but we should like this issue to be revisited if the 50:50 modal split is ever achieved.”

The amended Motion would read:

Cardiff Council has an ambition to move to a 50:50 modal split between cars and public transport, walking or cycling. The Corporate Plan states our vision for Cardiff is to become “Europe’s most liveable capital city”.

With regret we note that this 50:50 modal split is unlikely to be achieved. It is a matter of even greater regret that this aspiration is a pillar on which depends our Local Development Plan.

For this reason we cannot support a traffic free day in 2016 but we should like this issue to be revisited if the 50: 50 modal split is ever achieved.

Amendment 2 was proposed by Councillor Boyle and seconded by Councillor Clark

Second paragraph substitution of the word “*traffic*” with “*car*”

Second line, second paragraph the inclusion of the word “*private*” before “*vehicles*”

Third Line deletion of the words “*in a pollution free*” to be substituted with “with less pollution and”

Deletion of all words following “*This Council therefore agrees that*” to be replaced with “*once officers have drawn up a list of the roads to be closed with councillors consulted in advance, Cardiff should have a private car-free day in 2016. Major city centre streets would be closed to private cars, thereby encouraging increased use of the city’s public transport network as we work towards a 50:50 modal split.*

Depending on results, a private car-free day should then be held every subsequent year.”

The amended motion will then read:

Cardiff Council has an ambition to move to a 50:50 modal split between cars and public transport, walking or cycling. The Corporate Plan states our vision for Cardiff is to become 'Europe's most liveable city'.

Many cities in the UK and around the world have car-free days where the city centre streets are closed to private vehicles, allowing local residents to enjoy the city centre, with less pollution and in a peaceful and family friendly way. This Council therefore agrees that, once officers have drawn up a list of the roads to be closed with councillors consulted in advance, Cardiff should have a private car-free day in 2016. Major city centre streets would be closed to private cars, thereby encouraging increased use of the city's public transport network as we work towards a 50:50 modal split.

Depending on results, a private car-free day should then be held every subsequent year.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion.

Following the debate a vote was taken on each of the amendments.

The vote on Amendment 1 - LOST

The vote on Amendment 2 – LOST

The Lord Mayor then took a vote on the Motion as proposed by Councillor Richard Cook and the Vote on Motion 2 was CARRIED as follows: -

Cardiff Council has an ambition to move to a 50:50 modal split between cars and public transport, walking or cycling. The Corporate Plan states our vision for Cardiff is to become "Europe's most liveable capital city".

Many cities in the UK and around the world have traffic free days where the city centre streets are closed to vehicles allowing local residents to enjoy the city centre in a pollution free, peaceful and family friendly way. This Council therefore agrees that Cardiff should have a traffic free day in 2016 with the major city centre streets closed to traffic and that a traffic free day should then be held every subsequent year.'

95 : MOTION 3

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor McKerlich

MOTION 3

The Welsh Government, on the 26th November 2013, responded to the Council's Local Development Plan (Deposit). In their response they included a section relating to the Green Belt.

The verbatim wording is :-

The Welsh Government objects to the inclusion of Policy KP3 (A) 'Green Belt' and the identification of the area shown on the Proposals Map, which should be removed in its entirety.

"The Welsh Government considers that there is no necessity for the delineation of such an area as other policies can be used to refuse inappropriate proposals. With the current suite of proposals contained within the LDP to meet the identified needs i.e. housing, there is no additional need for further policies which only duplicate the existing policy structure of the plan. This is unnecessary".

We call upon Cardiff Council to reaffirm the Council's commitment to support the Green Belt and protect the green lungs of Cardiff and oppose a green wedge which will just protect the area for the duration of the plan. We need absolute certainty

The Lord Mayor advised that one amendment had been received

The amendment was proposed by Councillor Patel and seconded by Councillor Hunt

First Paragraph the inclusion of the word "*officials*" after Welsh Government,

Include a new Second paragraph as follows:

"Following the public hearings into the Deposit LDP, the planning inspectors have now asked Cardiff Council to consult upon an alternative Green Wedge policy in place of the Green Belt policy."

Deletion of all from "*The verbatim wording is:*" to second paragraph "*unnecessary.*" and replace with

"This Council recognises the work undertaken by the Labour Administration and in particular the personal commitment by Councillor Ralph Cook in his former position as the Cabinet Member responsible for strategic planning to ensuring the Green Belt was included in the deposit plan."

Final paragraph delete the words "*We call upon Cardiff*" and replace with "*This*"

After Council delete the word "*to*"

Change "*reaffirm*" to "*reaffirms*".

Delete the remaining paragraph and insert "*the Labour Administrations commitment to the Green Belt Policy as set out in the current deposit Local Development Plan*"

The Motion would then read:

The Welsh Government officials, on 26th November 2013, responded to the Council's Local Development Plan (Deposit). In their response they included a section relating to the Green Belt.

Following the public hearings into the Deposit LDP, the planning inspectors have now asked Cardiff Council to consult upon an alternative Green Wedge policy in place of the Green Belt policy.

This Council recognises the work undertaken by the Labour Administration and in particular the personal commitment by Councillor Ralph Cook in his former position as the Cabinet Member responsible for strategic planning to ensuring the Green Belt was included in the deposit plan.

This Council reaffirms the Labour Administrations commitment to the Green Belt policy as set out in the current deposit Local Development Plan.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion.

Following the debate Councillor Cowan confirmed that she accepted the amendment as proposed by Councillor Patel

A vote was taken on the substantive Motion as amended, and the vote was
CARRIED

Substantive Motion agreed read as follows:

The Welsh Government officials, on 26th November 2013, responded to the Council's Local Development Plan (Deposit). In their response they included a section relating to the Green Belt.

Following the public hearings into the Deposit LDP, the planning inspectors have now asked Cardiff Council to consult upon an alternative Green Wedge policy in place of the Green Belt policy.

This Council recognises the work undertaken by the Labour Administration and in particular the personal commitment by Councillor Ralph Cook in his former position as the Cabinet Member responsible for strategic planning to ensuring the Green Belt was included in the deposit plan.

This Council reaffirms the Labour Administrations commitment to the Green Belt policy as set out in the current deposit Local Development Plan.

96 : ORAL QUESTIONS

There were 18 Oral Questions presented to Council.

Question: *County Councillor Carter*

What steps will the cabinet take to ensure that budget savings are realistic when preparing the 2016/17 budget?

Reply: *County Councillor Hinchey*

As you are aware from our discussions earlier today, the Council has found over £200million in savings over the past ten years, £85 million of that in the past two years, and a further budgetary gap of £117 million we need to find over the next three years. These figures are extremely challenging and so the work underpinning the proposals has needed to become increasingly complex.

However, it will not be possible to remove all risk from the budget – as ever it will be a matter of balance and political choice.

Building on the work done in preparing the 2015/16 budget, Cabinet Members and senior Officers have increased the intensity of challenge and due diligence in respect of preparing budget proposals. This work will continue, be further tested, and proposals refined where necessary as a result of responses to consultation over the period leading to budget Council.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Carter*

I think you can understand why I asked the question when in Adult Services we've seen a department where you take out the failed and [inaudible] it's a pretty balanced budget but actually the department is being saddled with a huge budget based on last year's savings that were never actually realistic.

You tell us it's going to be a very rigorous process, but I wonder when it comes down to going through scrutiny in February, by that point do you envisage yourself and Officers being able to actually give a better reassurance than last time, possibly ranking it in some way and giving members some proper reassurance, whereas last time I would say it was quite woolly?

Reply: *County Councillor Hinchey*

I was in Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee, I'm sure you've got the presentation I made – and gave some detailed questions, including from people like yourself. We're now over halfway through the year and we'll very soon be issuing that half-year monitoring report month six. And we're still fairly confident that we will bring in a balanced budget. The difficulty, as you know and I'm sure many members of the chamber have been looking on the internet at other local authorities – the issues around demographics and the pressures of a growing population, an aging population are not felt just here in Cardiff but they are felt more significantly here in Cardiff because of where we are on the economic growth that we benefit from.

So, as far as we're concerned, we are determined to bring in a balanced budget. Yes, we do need to plan around some of the difficult areas of growth and of pupil numbers and an aging population, as I described in the PRAP report. Again, I think the most important thing is to have detailed due diligence in preparing the budget in the first place, and we're doing that over the summer and over the next month.

Question: *County Councillor Hudson*

What specific projects does the council envisage spending the £1.67 million on from the bus lanes/traffic offences schemes, as I understand it has to be spent on traffic improvement measures and highway improvements?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

All civil enforcement duties, including back-office support and equipment is funded by enforcement income. This includes enforcement of traffic regulation orders, lines and signs relating to enforcement, and the provision of disabled bays for residents in the city. After paying these costs, the money received from civil enforcement is ring-fenced to fund public-transport passenger services, highway improvements, and environmental improvements.

Supplementary: *County Councillor Hudson*

I was going to ask if Council does not put more money into enforcement cars or cameras, but actually spend the money on improving the roads and highways.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Obviously, there is always a big, massive list. And what we have to do is, as we discussed earlier on, we are talking about the 50/50 modal shift, we are talking about the LDP sites with new developments coming about, or bus lanes with more enforcement. So the money will be spent in all of those kind of directions. So it will be in the yellow boxes, including the cars as well with camera cars to enforce people who are parking illegally outside schools, etc.

So there is a huge list. Also some of the money we have spent on is, for example, the car parks. A lot of the car parks have been improved, it's got CCTV cameras in there, meters put in there to stop commuters parking in there all day. So that's where some of the money is going.

Question: *County Councillor Lomax*

What arrangements will be made to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday next June?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

In line with established protocol, the authority is in discussions with both the British monarchy and Welsh Government in respect of the national programme of celebrations. There are no firm arrangements to announce at this time.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Lomax*

As a youngster, I remember clearly the celebration of the Queen's coronation – the parades, the concerts, the parties, and how much fun we had. The reason I ask this question is not whether I am a monarchist or a republican, as some people seem to think, but it gives Cardiff city the opportunity to show what a great community we have and encourage local communities to help the Council to celebrate the occasion of the Queen's birthday.

Is the Council going to encourage communities to stage events such as street parties, sports activities, and, where practical, the use of local parks, perhaps, to stage parties by waiving any charges for street closures or, if the weather is inclement, free use of community centres, school buildings, and playgrounds?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

You raised some important points there. I think it's important that we conclude those negotiations with the Palace as soon as possible so we can make an announcement on the exact celebrations that the city will be having to mark this momentous occasion.

Question: *County Councillor Boyle*

Children who are or were previously looked after by the local authority are given priority in terms of admission to reception class. However, no mention of LAC is made in the nursery admissions procedures? Is this not an anomaly and will the Council change the nursery admissions criteria to ensure LAC are given priority?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

Thank you, Councillor Boyle. I think this is an excellent question and I am minded to agree with you.

The Council currently considers looked after children under priority 'C' of the oversubscription criteria for admission to nursery education, which is under the category of compelling medical or social grounds.

I've asked Officers to raise the issue of LAC at the next Admissions Forum meeting with a view to considering whether this nursery admission criteria should be aligned with the primary admission criteria.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Boyle*

Just very quickly, that's really encouraging because others in the chamber may not know that looked after children in reception are at the top of the list for priorities. Under the nursery category that would put them down into the third category and I think, bearing in mind some of the conversations we've had today about looked after children, our responsibility to looked after children, we should do all we can to ensure that, when it comes to nursery, they get the same priority that is afforded to them when they come to reception.

So I am delighted at what you had to say today.

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

You're absolutely right, which is why I'm so grateful to you for drawing it to my attention.

Question: *County Councillor Graham*

Could Council please be given an update on the proposed deal involving Celsa and Llanishen Reservoir? Specifically, what provisions have been made to promote the restoration of the area? Additionally, how does the Council view the reservoir within the context of its strategic plan for North Cardiff?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

First of all, if I could just reiterate the personal declaration of interest that I announced at the start of today's meeting.

Officers are in regular contact with Celsa at a senior level regarding the future of the reservoir and it is hoped to be able to report back shortly with an update. Unsurprisingly, with the recent dramatic changes occurring in the steel-industry sector in the UK and mainland Europe, the focus of Celsa management has been on managing their business and, of course, the 2000 staff that they employ at the current turbulent time for the industry. Officers are confident, however, that the constructive dialogue taking place will inform further positive updates on progress in the near future.

And we will ensure that any proposals for the Reservoir are proactively and positively integrated in to the wider masterplans that may be necessary to support the development of strategic plan sites for North Cardiff.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Magill*

Councillor Graham's question focuses on Celsa, but can you confirm that the Council will continue to work with the Reservoir Action Group – I should repeat my personal interest in this – who have put a tremendous effort into trying to secure a sustainable future for the reservoirs over more than a decade and with other local interests and, in particular, ensuring that the designs around the development and the reservoir itself and the strategic sites make a proper link between the Nant Fawr Corridor and the green belt so that the whole area has a sustained approach to improving and developing the Nant Fawr Corridor as a green land for that part of the city?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

I am aware of the work that the Reservoir Action Group have done in this regard and was actually at the site recently with the Minister from Welsh Government and the local Assembly Member to listen to the views of local residents and campaigners in relation to this particular site and, indeed, wider issues around access.

I think it is important that, when a solution is found, that it is integrated as much as possible into the wider development that's taking place there. It is a part of the Nant Fawr Corridor – that's an important green corridor, a strategic green corridor – that I think we need to do what we can to ensure it's enhanced as part of any process that results from the ongoing negotiations.

Question: *County Councillor Weaver*

Could Council have an update on the effect of the “To Let” board controls in Cathays and Plasnewydd?

Reply: *County Councillor De’Ath*

Early results have been overwhelmingly positive – overwhelmingly positive, as I’m sure anyone who’s walked around Cathays or Plasnewydd in recent weeks can testify. The first changes to the regulations came into effect from 1st October. From this date all “traditional style” letting boards were no longer permitted. While a full audit has not yet taken place, enforcement action in 35 sample streets identified only a very small number of boards – mostly for companies that have ceased trading. Their removal is in process, and enforcement of the small number of remaining boards will continue, as will enforcement in other streets.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Weaver*

It has, indeed, been an astonishing success, as you will well know. We had someone coming into our first surgery afterwards wanting to hug us because of the difference it’s made to her street.

My supplementary was partly answered, but I just want to be clear: there’s a very, very tiny number of companies that haven’t complied – but the vast majority – a very tiny number. If they haven’t complied, will we be seeking cost recovery so the council tax payer doesn’t have to pay for their mistakes?

Reply: *County Councillor De’Ath*

I can certainly confirm we’re seeking 100% removal, where we can, of these boards. We’ll make companies pay for them.

Can I take this opportunity, also, to thank you, your Cathays colleagues, Members in Plasnewydd for all the work they’ve done to gather evidence to submit to Welsh Government? It’s also proper to thank most of the letting agents – the majority of them removed these boards without any prompting. And it’s really made a difference to our communities. A great example of Labour delivering for the people of Cardiff.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Clark*

Indeed many Council staff have done some great work on this. Particularly Ross Cannon, James Moore, Emma Robson, and also Keiron McCann. Would it be okay if you could just pass on our thanks to them for all their work?

Reply: *County Councillor De’Ath*

With pleasure, Councillor.

Question: *County Councillor Chaundy*

In January last year, a Cabinet paper on the sale of The Dome Community Centre in Pentwyn stated it would release money for reinvestment to existing services, namely

the Leisure Centre and The Powerhouse. How much money from the sale of The Dome has been reinvested into local services and for what purposes?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

The disposal of the Dome Community Centre site in Pentwyn realised a capital receipt of £460,000. This funding is ring-fenced for investment in improving local facilities.

To date, £172,000 has been spent on pool tile replacement at Pentwyn Leisure Centre and heating renewal at The Powerhouse.

The balance of £288,000 is planned to be spent on access improvements and a community room at Pentwyn Leisure Centre (£188,000) and a contribution of £100,000 to the Hub extension at The Powerhouse.

I believe there is a meeting planned to discuss all this with your ward colleagues as well, so if you need further information I'd be happy to give it to you.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Chaundy*

Do you believe or understand there are sufficient funds for resources for all the repairs necessary and future developments for both those premises?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

The figures I have been given are very accurate for what we need, I think. But, on future development, I can't commit myself on that, as I think you know.

Question: *County Councillor Cowan*

Will the Cabinet Member advise if the roll out of the new bin project is going according to plan?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

Yes, the programme is going to plan.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Cowan*

That's not quite my understanding, Bob. Because I understood that the rollout was going to take place where the large black bins would be emptied and then, a couple of hours later, the small black bins would be replaced. And I understand that was happening at the start – and you are nodding, so I think that was the plan – so I'm just wondering why we've seen a dramatic change. You've got some roads in Rhiwbina that have been waiting for weeks, and weeks, and weeks.

And I know we've had a note this week saying "after three weeks, phone Connect 2 Cardiff" but the onus shouldn't be on the resident – it should be on the contractors or whoever is rolling out this programme.

So do you believe it is a failure and what are you doing to try and bring it back on track?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

Just to remind you, you're now a Conservative Councillor not a Rhiwbina independent Councillor.

But, having made that point, at no stage did I or anybody else say to you or anybody else in this chamber that it would be an automatic thing, straightforward. And that's why the plan that was put in place is for us to continue with the exchange right up until December on the assumption that not all things would be collected there and then.

There are various reasons why bins aren't collected. Sometimes people go out and take the bin in before the exchange happens. What you have to bare in mind is that there is a collection going round, that is followed some time later with the people going round collecting the old bins and replacing them with the new bins. That is a slower process and, therefore, they don't always get the whole round in in a day. I can assure you that we've exchanged over 50,000 bins so far out of the 90,000. That's something like a 70% exchange rate. There's 30% still to go. That will happen over the next few months.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Davis*

Let's not forget the reason for the bin changes, which is to encourage increased recycling from our residents. So I can commend you for that, Councillor Derbyshire.

Can I just ask: as well as the bin changes, what steps have already been taken to educate residents on how they can increase their recycling?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

Yes, there's obviously a big campaign going on in many areas, in particular in the student areas in central Cardiff where it's obvious those people coming in know very little about Cardiff and therefore need that education. So there's a big campaign gone on in those areas, which I'm sure the local Councillors are aware of.

But in addition to that, what we have to think about: there's been many notices given out to people have done things incorrectly. As a result of those notices and conversations with Officers, so far there's been less than 100 of them issued with fines. And I think that's a sign that people are actually understanding what's required of them and they're doing the right thing.

Question: *County Councillor Gordon*

With the new National Express coach pick up point in Sophia Gardens, may I ask what arrangements are being made to improve the signage? At present there is a

road safety risk as coaches, taxis, cyclists, and pedestrians negotiate the approach road and entrance and exit from the car park.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

The National Express base in Sophia Gardens are managed by the company, which provides a staff presence. Signage has been installed by National Express to clarify the access arrangements and the Council will continue to liaise closely with the company to maintain safe operational facility.

Question: *County Councillor Sanders*

What is the current total of governors in Cardiff being remunerated for their appointment to Governing Bodies within the city, and for which schools?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

No governors are paid by Cardiff Council for their appointment to Governing Bodies within the city.

Question: *County Councillor Margaret Jones*

Please could you update me on the condition of the fire alarm at Cardiff High School? I understand that it has not worked efficiently for two years.

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

Firstly, I would like to reassure Members that I have been told by Officers that the fire alarm is legally compliant.

The installation of a new fire alarm at Cardiff High School was initially delayed because of extension works due to be carried out at the. The main scheme of works is being redesigned to cover the changes in use of rooms and the extension. It's anticipated this work would start in the summer of 2016.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Margaret Jones*

So you're happy that the fire alarm in Cardiff High School is quite safe and that there are no problems?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

Well, I'm not sure I'm qualified to actually judge that but I've been told by Officers it is legally compliant but work needs to be done.

The reason for delaying it until summer 2016 is because it would involve asbestos surveys.

Question: *County Councillor McKerlich*

The supplier of food bags has changed from Biobag to Vincotte; was this to achieve a lower price per bag? Please advise the technical specification for the bags provided by each supplier. If the specification does not include porosity, tensile strength, tearing resistance and g/m² can you advise why this is not the case?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

We changed from Biobag LTD as a supplier as they no longer provided the best price for the product. The Council specification for food liners must and does comply with composting standards. This is a prescribed industry standard. The standard sets out the chemical, biodegradability, and disintegrating standards that are standard across Europe. These are not the same standards as listed above as those are typical specifications for plastic bags, not food liners.

The standard specification Cardiff has always stated is the liner thickness of 16 microns. And it's not changed since the introduction of the food liners in 2008. Just to clarify, Vincotte is not a supplier like Biobag, Ltd. but is an accreditation that the product must meet to comply with the composting standards.

Since 2012 the biodegradable bag contract has been with Sphere Professionals Ltd, to all the required industry standards set by Welsh Government for food liners. Plus the Council carry out additional in-house testing, such as drop tests, to ensure the food liners are fit for purpose, because if we drop them on the floor we've still got to bin them.

The framework provides a range of standard off-the-shelf products that enable the Council to select the one that is most appropriate to its needs. In our case we require a liner that fits a 7 litre kitchen caddy and through market testing of liner thickness have selected a bag thickness of 16 micron.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor McKerlich*

I think you have been successful in conveying absolutely no information whatsoever, which was probably your intention.

Can I tell you the Titanic was built to all relevant standards at the time? And what you have done is you have managed to change the bag to save a bob or two without checking that it's capable of doing the job.

I've got a very disgruntled resident in my ward, namely my wife. Two weeks in succession, the bag has been leaking all over the place. Fortunately, the second time she put it into a plastic container so it only leaked into the container. But it's a filthy mess and it's a good way of absolutely wrecking your food campaign. Now, what's the ongoing situation? Are you going to deliver some Biobags, are you going to check the specification of Vincotte, or should she put two or three bags in each time to ensure it doesn't leak?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

You say I didn't answer the question. I actually answered the question you've just asked as your supplementary when I was racing through.

I said "since 2012 the biodegradable bag contract has been with Sphere Professionals Ltd, to all the required industry standards set by Welsh Government for food liners. Plus the Council carry out an in-house testing, such as drop tests." And that's where they put products into the bag and they drop it from a height to see if it splits.

Now, even prior to the new contract, I know from my own experience that the biodegradable bags that we had then did split from time to time. They have to be thin to be biodegradable so it's finding that particular balance, isn't it? And I think if you've got a particular issue with a roll it might just be that particular roll. And what you have to bear in mind is that was happening in the past, it'll probably happen in the future, but when you've got bags of that thickness, there's always going to be a slight issue. What you have to do is what I do is you don't put too much food in at a time and that's the way to deal with it.

Question: *County Councillor Gordon*

We understand from the briefing about changes in waste collection that you are intending to bring more areas from bags to black bin collection. How are you planning to consult about which streets to include, and will you ask for local councillors' views/advice about which streets to select?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

We will continue to explore the potential to roll out black bins, but there are no plans to do so at this juncture as we need to let the current changes become embedded so we can explore further service efficiencies at the appropriate time. There are still some streets suitable for wheeled bins, and also residents wanting bins that don't have them yet, but this is because current operational efficiencies, which I think I've discussed with you in the past. We have to make the collection rounds balance with the right number of households per shift. When we know the final position of the current changes, we can consider whether or not to have any further expansion.

The benefits of providing wheeled bins over striped bags are clear on the grounds of health and safety for our operatives, household ownership, and reduced street litter, which I've mentioned in the past.

But, unfortunately, we can't afford to deliver street by street bespoke services. I will, however, engage with local Councillors prior to making any future changes. Expansion will only occur if the provision of black wheeled bins is the best operational solution to keep our service cost effective.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Gordon*

I just want to clarify if I heard correctly. Did you say that there won't be further rollout of more streets on bins?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

No, what I was saying was that at the moment, until this current rollout's finished and we've assimilated what's taken place and worked out how well it's working, we can't look to whether or not we can roll it out any further. And at that stage, we'll make a decision.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Carter*

Do you think that on reflection your Officers will learn from the mistakes in Penylan with the rollout there that, actually, it's all well and good going for the formal consultation but if people aren't really actually engaged and then the whole thing falls flat on its face?

I appreciate the response to Councillor Gordon – there are no plans to roll out in more areas. But, if and when you choose to do so, will you take that into account and learn from those mistakes?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

I wouldn't use any word in terms of mistakes. What I've already started to do is have a roundup of how things have gone better in some areas than others. Some things have worked well, some things have worked not quite so well. That's bound to happen with a strategy as large as this.

You talk about Penylan as if it's something... We're talking about the whole of Cardiff here. 90-odd thousand bins have been rolled out to people. There's been a big exchange of bins for bags. As far as I'm aware, there's about two streets in Penylan where a small minority of people have made a rather large fuss. I'm afraid what I have to do is I have to look at Cardiff as a whole. As I said, it's an operational thing that we have to fit in.

I'm happy to speak to residents. I have spoken to residents in Penylan, as Joe knows – I've spoken to two lots of representatives from Penylan. They made their points, I've made mine. I'm the Cabinet Member – I have to make the decision at the end of the day. I've made it with the best interests of Cardiff as a whole in order to achieve, as Councillor Davis has pointed out, the recycling targets that we need to get to. So I make no apologies for that.

Question: *County Councillor Carter*

How many times have Civil Parking Enforcement Officers visited Pentwyn and Llanedeyrn in the last 12 months?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

There's been 158 visits by Officers in the last 12 months to the Pentwyn ward, which includes Llanedeyrn. The Council has set the database to report on a ward basis and, therefore, we are unable to provide a separate figure for the area of Llanedeyrn.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Carter*

The question was for the whole ward, so that's absolutely fine.

It's great that so many of the Officers have been out so many times. When we have your monthly reports, the number of people being booked tends to be between zero and two, so having that reassurance they're coming out so many times is good to know.

What worries me at the moment, Councillor Patel, is that we have a particular problem at the moment with Cardiff Metropolitan University on Circle Way West with cars routinely parking on double yellow lines and actually sometimes crossing over the double yellow lines to go and park on the grass verges and the pavements. The response we have been told by residents is that it is not being enforced.

So I'm wondering if you can give us a commitment today that Officers will meet with us Councillors to discuss those issues on site. We have discussed having a meeting but have not had confirmation of a date and time yet, so it would be great if you could use your powers to investigate that and get us our meeting.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I will certainly welcome any meeting which you've requested and certainly I will pass that on. If you could email me you are still waiting for this meeting, I will certainly chase that up with the Officers.

But I think we do have to be absolutely honest with ourselves. Some of those contraventions are not within the powers of the local authorities – some of it is down to the Police as well. So, for example, if it's obstruction, it's down to the Police. It's not necessarily always down to the Council. Although the residents may think we should be able to enforce it.

But in that area, we had 42 observations and 41 penalty charge notices served. And the observations is where we have to allow at least five minutes to load and unload, etc. and therefore we cannot issue a ticket within that five minute period. And only then the machine is programmed to issue a ticket after those five minutes. Therefore, clearly, there's been a number of observations and fixed penalty notices but, obviously, there are some which may not be within our power.

But I certainly agree you're welcome to have a meeting.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Evans*

I should probably know the answer to this but could you clarify to what extent the deployment of Civil Parking Enforcement Officers depends on the risk to public safety? I was at a Cardiff Partnership meeting recently where, across Cardiff North and parts of Cardiff West, the problem of illegal and potentially dangerous parking outside of schools was a really widespread problem. And, obviously, we know the Police's role in this but when we know there are these hotspots, probably across the

whole city, I just wonder whether some priority could be given to that, for example. But perhaps you could clarify the criteria that are used.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

If there's any contraventions which are the kinds of ones you're talking about, which is illegal parking, which is actually dangerous parking more than illegal parking, then that is some of it which it does come down to the Police. And that is something we as a local authority can certainly work with the police closely on that. And I think those are the kinds of examples where, if a school has been able to give evidence on some of the examples talked about – say cars parked on the pavement, causing an obstruction, forcing children to cross into the road rather than being able to go onto the pavement – those are examples where we would be liaising with the Police closely saying “can you also monitor that area while we're also monitoring the areas where we've got powers in.”

Obviously we're always looking for more powers. If we did get more powers with obstructions, that would make it easier, but we are reliant on the Police.

But I welcome any feedback I can get from yourselves and anybody else.

Question: *County Councillor Hill-John*

Considering the negative press which Cardiff has received regarding hotel charges during the Rugby World Cup, what discussions did you have in advance with hoteliers and the business community regarding this issue?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

The Council's strategy is to work with event organisers before dates are publicised to secure rooms at reasonable rates. However, you will probably be aware that the Council has no specific powers to control the rates the hotels actually charge in Cardiff.

In terms of the Rugby World Cup, I am informed that Officers began discussions back in 2009/10 in relation to that particular tournament and there was no scope for agreeing room rates in advance due to the English dimension of the tournament that was put together through the English bid.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Hill-John*

What process do you have in place to ensure that any learning available from events such as the Rugby World Cup are recorded and actions taken to avoid any repeats in future events?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

I think it's important for the profile of the city that we do what we can to bring in additional capacity for some of those big major events. You may have seen the arrival of Snoozebox in Cardiff Bay, which I think has been a great success. And it's

the sort of pop-up temporary accommodation uses that we need to think of when we've got big events like the Champions League final coming up in a couple of years time.

I've also recently had discussions with a senior executive from AirBNB, who've got about 1000 rooms in the region through the sharing economy. I think that's a really positive area that we can look to work with residents across the region so that we've got additional capacity in that regard.

There is more that needs to be done, I think, in terms of working with hoteliers across the region. But, ultimately, they are responsible, accountable for the rates they charge. And we've seen from some of the publicity recently that there are many people out there who aren't happy with the rates they're charging and they need to be mindful about that. It's not just a reflection on their own company but it's also a reflection on the city, as well, so we need to work to make sure that when we do have those big events we make sure that the rates that are achieved by those companies do not give a very negative impression of our city.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Stubbs*

I am absolutely delighted that there seems to be some consensus in this chamber of the perils of unfettered free-market capitalism and the damage it can do to the reputation of this city and its growth.

Would you consider, Leader, using the Conservative question from Councillor Hill-John to write to both ministers from both the Welsh Government and the UK Government perhaps calling for further regulation of the hotel industry?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

I'm not quite sure how far we'd get with that, particularly with the UK Government. There are mechanisms that we have as a city council to work with the hotel industry both in the city and the wider region and I am giving a commitment that we will continue those discussions.

And, as I said earlier, we need to be creative in terms of bringing new capacity into the region for those big events so that we can enjoy the kind of spectacle that we saw for the Rugby World Cup that I know residents in Cardiff and the wider region absolutely love to see our city hosting and doing really, really well.

Question: *County Councillor Gordon*

What is the reaction of the hackney cab drivers to the permanent closure of the taxi rank at the front of Central Station?

Reply: *County Councillor Parry*

The taxi rank in front of Central Station was closed during the Rugby World Cup for reasons of public safety and crowd control.

The rank has now reopened and will not be permanently closed until the necessary legal process has been completed.

When the rank does close, there will be additional taxi queuing space provided on Penarth Road adjacent to Saunders Road. Additional rank space has been created in Havelock Street, which has been signposted from Central Station.

Question: *County Councillor Ali*

How many complaints has Cardiff Council received from the public about taxi drivers in Cardiff refusing short distance fares?

Reply: *County Councillor Parry*

The Council has received 95 complaints in the last six-week period relating to the refusal of short fares. This is an unprecedented number in such a short time period.

Officers have indicated that the Rugby World Cup events have been a contributing factor in the increase in complaints as people have had difficulties with other aspects of the public transport system.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Boyle*

95 in just six weeks? How does that compare to, for example, the previous six weeks and what is the Council doing to educate the taxi trade that this is simply unacceptable, not least in light of the attacks that took place around the start of the university term? We need to send out a really strong message that that is simply unacceptable.

Reply: *County Councillor Parry*

Councillor Boyle, I agree with you. This is unacceptable. We are really looking at it and sending out strong messages.

Last week, we had what was called a summit meeting. But that was with the Police, with the University, and with a lot of other people and stakeholders. We had in-depth discussions also with the Police Commissioner and we are working on a continual basis to see what can be done. And something will be done because, in the next few weeks, we will be having every one of these people in to answer for whatever it is that they have done.

Question: *County Councillor Ali Ahmed*

Cardiff's newest tourist attraction – the rugby ball on Cardiff Castle – has proved to be incredibly popular on social media. It has helped showcase this city to the world. What response has the Council had to this initiative and what benefit has it had for our city during the Rugby World Cup?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

I just want to reiterate what I said earlier, Councillor Ahmed, about the tremendous response that we've had from the public. I remember doing a radio interview on the morning it was unveiled, encouraging people to come down and take a selfie with the ball and every day I go past the Castle there is someone there – a visitor, someone who lives in the city – that's doing something rather different or quirky with regards to a photo. I was also able to rather cheekily take the core city leaders down there for a photo as well, which I think reiterated the huge exposure that we've been able to get from this event.

You may have seen in the press over 10,000 additional visitors to Cardiff Castle, which has been great for the Castle but also for the city. And some independent economic analysis has put the benefit at over £316m for Cardiff. So another good reason.

And, as I said earlier, another good example of some creative, home-grown ideas. We pitched that idea against many of the other host cities for the spectacular. We got it and I think we've proven once again that we can deliver those really big, successful international events.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Ali Ahmed*

As the Lord Mayor's mentioned during his introduction about the Welsh football team, our heroes are going to be playing in a major tournament in France next year. Our Welsh football heroes, I mean. Can you assure the citizens of Cardiff, and me, that you will do everything possible to have a football on the wall of the Castle?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

[Off mic] that we could actually do. I think we've got to do something. Clearly, it's a fantastic occasion – historic occasion – for not just Cardiff, the whole of Wales. Especially with the run up to the road to Cardiff for the Champions League the following year, I'm sure Officers, Elected Members such as yourself have got lots of ideas. And we've got to work through those to come up with something again.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Graham Thomas*

To end this session on a positive would be good because I couldn't agree more that the Ball in the Wall has become such a huge tourist attraction and really highlights Cardiff's position as a rugby city. It's simply a brilliant idea.

But could you tell me what happens to the ball next as the Rugby World Cup comes to an close and if you are considering extending its life at all as its appeal promoting this city probably transcends the World Cup?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

It's a question you will be surprised to know has been coming across my desk quite a lot in the last week or so.

I understand that discussions are ongoing as to the future of the actual ball itself. It is there with temporary planning permission so it won't be there for very much longer. But we are going to consider the future use of that ball, whether it's possible to keep it or not. It was never really designed for longevity but I think it would be nice if we could do something to at least give the ball back to the city in some other way even if it's just for a short period of time.

97 : URGENT BUSINESS

98 : APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS TO SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Council was advised that the Local Authority Governor Panel had met on 15 October 2015 to make recommendations to Council for approval on Local Authority School Governors.

The recommendations were proposed by Councillor Merry and seconded by Councillor Hunt

RESOLVED – That the following appointments were approved:-

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Applications received
St Illtyd's Catholic High School	Rumney	26/07/2014	Mr Frank Holmes
The Glyn Derw Michaelston Federation	Caerau/Ely	26/09/2015	Mr Geoffrey Morgan
Albany Primary School	Plasnewydd	02/09/2015	Cllr Mary McGarry
All Saints C/W Primary School	Pentwyn	25/07/2015	Mr Stephen Hendrickson
Herbert Thompson Primary School	Ely	13/05/2015	Mrs Karin Phillips
Pentyrch Primary School	Pentyrch	08/12/2014	Miss Sarah Maunder
Pontprennau Primary School – 3 x vacancies	Pontprennau	01/10/2015 01/10/2015 01/10/2015	Prof Amanda Coffey Cllr Georgina Phillips Cllr Dianne Rees
Rhydypenau Primary School	Cyncoed	28/09/2015	Mr David Saunders
Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd –	Whitchurch	13/05/2015	Mrs Mari Vaughan-Owen
Adamsdown Primary School – 2 x vacancies	Adamsdown	22/10/2015 29/10/2015	Cllr Ahmed Manzoor Mr John Dixon

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Applications received
Stacey Primary School	Adamsdown	29/10/2015	Mr John Dixon

99 : APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE VACANCIES

RESOLVED - That the following nominations to Committees be approved

Committee	Nominations
Local Authority Governor Panel	Cllr Graham Hinchey
Children & Young People Scrutiny	Cllr Heather Joyce
Corporate Parenting Committee	Cllr Kirsty Davies-Warner

100 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CORPORATE SERVICES AND PERFORMANCE (COUNCILLOR GRAHAM HINCHEY)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOLDEN

Please give the grade, number of officers and total package of all employees with salary of over 60,000. Please include teaching staff.

REPLY

Following table shows the grade and number of officers earning a total package asked for over £60,000 p.a.

Grade	No. of Officers
Chief Executive	1
Corporate Dir.	1
Director	6
Assistant Dir.	5
Chief Officer	2
Operational Mgr.	23
Soulbury (specialist Education grade)	1
Schools Leadership	98
Grand Total	137

The total package asked for of the above officers (including on-costs of employers NI and Pension) is approximately £13.5m.

EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN & FAMILIES (COUNCILLOR SUE LENT)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDERS

Please could you provide as at 1 September 2015-

total number of Looking after Children, Cardiff elected members have responsibility for

put the total number into age bands

Where they live (total numbers in each category below)

Council foster care

'Private' foster care

Cardiff children's home

Out of area

Anywhere else

REPLY

Total number of Looking after Children, Cardiff Elected Members have responsibility for is 636 in the following age bands:

Age	
0 - 4	141
5 - 10	156
11 - 15	191
16 - 17	148
	636

The Looked After Children reside in the following areas:

er care = 146

er care = 316

en's home = 6

= 221

Comprised of:

In house fostering 22

Private fostering 129

External residential 54

Placed with Parents 10

Independent Living 4

NHS 1

Custody 1

here else – not included in a – c above = 168

Comprised of:

Placed for adoption 15

Placed with parents	57
Independent living	34
Residential home	49
Residential school	9
Secure Unit	1
Supported Lodgings	1
NHS	1
Custody	1

EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE

In light of the Welsh Government's decision to suspend the Bronze Award for Governing Bodies, how satisfied is the Council with the support and services provided by Governors Wales. What does it do well? What could it do better?

Reply

Governors Wales provides an independent source of advice for school governors across Wales. It produces documentation and guidance on all aspects of school governance. This is easily accessible through its website and helpline. The independent advice and information is valued by governors and by Chairs in particular.

The principle behind the Quality Mark is that it acts as a governing body self-review. If governing bodies are to make a significant impact upon the achievements of schools, they need to have in place excellent processes and practices that they follow.

The Bronze Award provides a benchmark against which governing bodies can assess their effectiveness. The Award benefits not only the day-to-day operation of the school is beneficial when the governing body are preparing for inspections and assessments to show that the governing body is meeting their statutory requirements.

Following its decision to suspend the Quality Mark Bronze Award, Welsh Government has asked Governors Wales to lead on the construction of a national self-evaluation template for Governing Bodies in Wales, consistent with Estyn's guidance, to complete as part of the annual school planning cycle.

Governing Bodies that want to achieve the Quality Mark Bronze Award have up to 31st December 2015 to complete the process.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE

How many incidents of physical assault against school staff has the Council logged over the past year? How does this compare to previous years? [Could any figures please be broken down by headteacher,

teaching and non-teaching staff?]

Reply

From October 2014 – September 2015 there have been 88 malicious physical assaults reported to the Education Directorate involving school staff at 29 of our 127 schools.

These can be broken down as assaults against:

Headteacher	4
Teaching Staff	76
Support Staff	8

The reported incidents include Faith, LA maintained and Special school pupils.

84 of the reported incidents were from pupils on staff. The majority of pupils involved in the incidents have a behaviour support plan in place and staff had received Team Teach training which emphasises “calm” communication and defusing skills that work best for the specific individual concerned, acknowledged within the care, behaviour or positive handling plans.

Four of the reports received were for an assault or intimidating behaviour against Headteachers, with one from a primary aged pupil and three from parents in primary schools. In each of these cases involving parents, the Governing Body has decided to ban the parent from entering the school for a set period of time to safeguard staff.

The Education Directorate have actively promoted the need for complete and timely incident/accident reporting and additionally contacted every school directly to advise of the reporting format and process - resulting in an increased number of reports for the last 12 months.

For the period October 2013 – September 2014, there were 64 malicious physical assaults and the incidents are broken down as follows:

Headteacher	4
Teaching Staff	56
Support Staff	4

For the period October 2012 – September 2013, there were 67 malicious physical assaults and the incidents are broken down as follows:

Headteacher	3
Teaching Staff	61
Support Staff	3

ENVIRONMENT (COUNCILLOR BOB DERBYSHIRE)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

Grass-free lawns using low maintenance perennials have been successfully trialled in other parts of the UK as an alternative to traditional grass. These reduce the need for mowing, absorb more rainfall, and increase the visiting pollinating insects 10- fold. Could the Council adopt this approach in parts of the city?

Reply

You will be aware of my interest in exploring less intensive, more sustainable maintenance regimes that increase and enhance biodiversity and enable the Council to make more effective use of it's decreasing resource base. With this in mind you may also be aware of the Cardiff Pollinators Project, which this year saw us converting an approximate area of 25 hectares to more informal maintenance regimes and for the reasons outlined above and I am committed to building on the work done to date, in future years.

I am aware of the concept and benefits of grass free lawns, I would however sound a note of caution in terms of the on-going maintenance implications, whilst the need to mow is reduced there are a number of other maintenance operations that would be required to be undertaken. These include over sowing, replanting / gapping up and clipping and depending on the type of lawn created, species or mix used. In many instance arisings from mowing operations would need to be collected which increases resource inputs. The costs in installation such areas most also be considered.

In considering conversion to alternative plantings / maintenance regimes for any areas of public open space the purpose and use of the land in question needs to be carefully considered.

I am, along with Officers looking at trialling a pollinator lawn perennial mix which contains over twenty five species including Lawn Daisy, Common Selfheal, Orange Hawkweed, Heartsease, and Tufted Vetch with some limited grass composition. This mix is designed to provide a jewel like, low growing meadow over a long flowering period and with the benefit of increasing pollinators.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

Dogs without leads in Cardiff parks present a hazard for other users of these facilities. Having witnessed groups of very young school children pupils being harassed by unrestrained dogs could you tell me what steps are being taken to introduce a blanket ban on unrestrained dogs in Cardiff parks?

Reply

We agree that unrestrained dogs can cause problems in certain circumstances and I am currently working with Officers to develop proposals that will be brought forwards next month. These proposals will look at wider enforcement powers for tackling environmental crime and anti-social behaviour throughout our public realm, and will include powers on dog controls.

Any changes to the controls of dogs across the City will be developed through consultation with our communities.

The current byelaw does require owners who exercise their dogs throughout our public open space provision to keep them under control.

Parks byelaws are enforced by the Council's Park Rangers who are active in challenging owners who act irresponsibly by not being in control of their dogs, spoiling the enjoyment and putting the safety of parks users at risk.

Our Park Rangers work closely with our Dog Wardens gathering intelligence and targeting patrols in problem areas. With this in mind it would be helpful if any such instances that you or your constituents are aware of are reported through to us providing as much detail as possible, in terms of owners, types of dogs and patterns of use in order for an effective response to be made.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE

Could the Council provide a street-by-street schedule for when pavements in Penylan will be swept of leaves this autumn? The main trouble-spots should be well-known by now and residents are already complaining about slippery pavements and asking when they will be swept.

Reply

The leaf-fall programme commenced on Monday the 5th October and targets areas with of high numbers of trees as well as heavy footfall. Penylan was attended on 16th October, and will then be visited fortnightly thereafter. The streets prioritised for leaf clearance in Penylan are Penylan Road, Marlborough Road, Saint Margaret's Crescent, Waterloo Road, Kimberley Road, Sandringham Road, Westville Road, Ty Draw Road, Melrose Avenue, Ty Gwyn Road, Colchester Avenue, and Llwyn y Grants Road.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

What is the estimated cost for the full roll out of the smaller wheelie bins and associated waste changes?

Reply

The full cost of the expansion of new wheeled bins and exchange of the city wide smaller bins is approximately £1.5m and the City wide communications and support resources cost £500,000.

There are also over £620,000 of saving associated with these changes as we make our collection services more efficient.

But let's not forget the main driver for these changes; The Council must make steps changes in our recycling performance or face £400,000 fine for every 1% we fail the targets by. We must increase our recycling performance or the annual fines will dramatically outweigh the cost of these changes in less than two years.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

How did the council identify staff to collect the old bins and replace with new bins? What would these staff have been doing if not required for this?

Reply

The Council undertook a procurement exercise to secure an experienced contractor that provided not only the best value quality wheeled bins, but had experience in delivering such a large scale bin exchange programme that Cardiff required.

The bin supplier has full time teams that undertake this type of work for them. The teams work all round the UK to support Local Authorities with deliveries and exchange programmes. When they have finished in Cardiff they will move on to the companies next project.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

What is the cost of disposing the old large black bins?

Reply

The old wheeled bins will be recycled into new bins by the supplier. The cost of the new bins has been off- set by the income that would have been achieved by the recycling these old bins. As we procured a complete solution, I am not able to provide a specific income associated with recycling the old bins, but our original market testing placed the income from recycling the old bins at approximately £100,000 to £150,000

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

How many times a year will pavements and roads be sprayed with weed killer?

Reply

The roads and pavements will be treated for weed growth twice a year. The treatments are generally between May and September but are weather dependant, therefore adverse conditions may cause some delay to completion times.

HEALTH, HOUSING & WELLBEING (COUNCILLOR SUSAN ELSMORE)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

What was the total cost (including travel and expenses for experts) of the Fairer deal for social care project commissioned by former Cllr Luke Holland in 2012/13 and 2013/14?

Reply

The project incurred no costs in 2012/13

In 2013/14, staff supporting in the project were internal secondments and as these posts were not backfilled expenditure was not incurred by the Directorate.

The expert advice offered to the project was funded directly by the WLGA and £675.00 was paid in expenses to the expert witnesses that were used to provide advice on the context and content of the report.

LEADER (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PARTNERSHIPS)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOLDEN

Which Councillors, or grade of officer accepted hospitality for the ashes and the rugby World Cup please specify days or matches?

Reply

As an official host city to the 2015 Rugby World Cup, Cardiff has hosted 8 matches in the Millennium Stadium. A key element of the city's commitment as host city was to support the Rugby World Cup Tournament Guest Programme. This programme brought together representatives of participating rugby nations, local and national government, sponsors, businesses and key stakeholders. Accordingly the authority developed a rota of appropriate Members and officers to support the scheduled programme and ensure that, from a host city perspective, the business and networking opportunities afforded through hosting the event were maximised. These included the Leader, Chief Executive, Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor together with four Economic Development officers who are responsible for Economic Development, Tourism and Inward Investment respectively and who were

considered best placed and suitably skilled to promote Wales and its Capital city within the Tournament Guest Forum. Senior officers from City Operations also attend to support investment and partnership opportunities.

As is customary, the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive were also required to participate in welcome arrangements for royal guests.

In addition, the Cardiff Business Council hosted an event at Twickenham for the England v Wales match. This event was used to advocate a City Deal for Cardiff and to explore investment and other opportunities on behalf of the city. It was attended by the Leader, Chief Executive and the Head of Economic Development with politicians and senior business representatives with an interest in Cardiff.

A separate invitation was also extended for one of the Council's inward investment officers to attend the England v Wales match to support a London based development company who are seeking development opportunities in Cardiff.

Details are listed below as requested:

Date	Match	Venue	Cllr or Officer Grade
19 September	Ireland vs Canada	Millennium Stadium	Principal Officer
20 September	Wales vs Uruguay	Millennium Stadium	Lord Mayor Chief Executive Leader of the Council
26 September	England v Wales	Twickenham Stadium	Principal Officer Chief Executive Leader of the Council Head of Economic Development
23 September	Australia vs Fiji	Millennium Stadium	Principal Officer
1 October	Wales vs Fiji	Millennium Stadium	Lord Mayor Cabinet Member for Community Development, Co-operatives & Social Enterprise. Director of Economic Development Principal Officer Director of City Operations Assistant Director of City Operations

2 October	New Zealand vs Georgia	Millennium Stadium	Leader of the Opposition Chief Executive
11 October	France vs Ireland	Millennium Stadium	Head of Tourism
17 October	New Zealand vs France	Millennium Stadium	Principal Officer
18 October	Ireland vs Argentina	Millennium Stadium	Deputy Lord Mayor Head of Economic Development

In terms of the Ashes, the only officers who attended were the Director and Head of Economic Development.

Members may attend events outside the knowledge of the Authority however they have a responsibility to record details of receipt of hospitality in the Register of Member's Hospitality & Gifts and the register indicates that the Leader of the Opposition attended and received hospitality at the Ashes.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOLDEN

What was the total cost of the 'Cardiff Capital Connection' report by Deloitte?

Reply

The total amount paid to Deloitte for the brochure was £25,623 coming under the contract award amount of £27,487.

The 'Competitive Capital' document was subject to a competitive tender exercise undertaken in October 2013 with Deloitte selected as the preferred bid. The contract started in January 2014 and the Council has worked closely with Deloitte over the last 2 years to develop a statistical, fact based investment document that can promote and differentiate the city on a UK and International level and highlight the advantages of investing in Cardiff.

Having the Deloitte name on the investment brochure provides re-assurance to investors that the information and statistics are reputable and provides commercial status to the document.

The Economic Development team have had a very good response to the brochure with businesses throughout the city, and particularly the property agents responsible for attracting investors, commenting on the quality of the publication and its usefulness.

TRANSPORT, PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY (COUNCILLOR RAMESH PATEL)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES

I welcome the recent proposals on parking in Cardiff, and can assure the Cabinet Member of my constructive support as he and his officers develop them. In order to ensure that Members of all party groups have the relevant information to hand when examining this issue, will you commit to holding a series of round-table meetings with interested councillors, with plenty of advance notice of timings, to elicit their views on the proposals?

Reply

Your support is appreciated in respect of this matter.

As you are aware a copy of the Consultation Draft Parking Strategy and Policies was distributed to all members via email on the 15th September, ahead of its consideration by Cabinet on October 1st.

I would very much welcome the opportunity to undertake round-table meetings over the next few weeks to gather councillors' views on the proposals, and will ensure that these are planned with plenty of advance notice.

These will take place concurrently with the 6 week public consultation period which will commence later in October.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES

The draft parking strategy contains a very welcome discussion of business permits. Will you agree to hold a detailed consultation on business permits? And in the meantime, will you extend the business permit pilot to Whitchurch Road so that you can see how the scheme works in an area with a high student population and the associated parking challenges this presents?

Reply

Public consultation of the new Parking Strategy is currently being prepared and it is planned that this will be launched by the end of October for a 6 week period. Following a review of consultation responses any necessary amendments will be made to the Strategy and its associated Action Plan.

The draft Action Plan currently includes an action to 'Review the past operation of the car park business permit scheme, utilising information from the parking sensor trial, and consider whether this could be deployed to other areas of the city.'

The current timescale for this action is for this to be undertaken by the end of March 2016. Following this review it may be considered appropriate to extend the scheme to other areas and I am sure you will agree that extending the scheme ahead of a review would be pre-emptive.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES

Page 29 (para 7.4) of the draft parking strategy contains a strong analysis of parking issues in district and local centres. It mentions that there are 12 such centres, but doesn't name them! What are they?

Reply

Thank you for alerting me to this omission. I will arrange for officers to amend the strategy document to include this information following the consultation.

For your information the main centres reviewed included:

Whitchurch Road
Penarth Road/Clare Road
Clifton Street
Crwys Road/Woodville Road
Cowbridge Road East
Llanishen
St. Mellons/Llanrumney
Merthyr Road, Whitchurch
City Road
Albany Road/Wellfield Road
Mermaid Quay/Lower Bute Street and
Cathedral Road

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES

The draft parking strategy acknowledges that residential streets around Cathays, Gabalfa and Plasnewydd are already overcrowded and that student vehicles are a contributing factor. Given this, and also taking into account the specific pressures added by new halls of residence with no on-site parking, would you support the idea of reviewing the SPG on parking in relation to guidelines for new student halls of residence?

Reply

Part of the work undertaken on the development of the Local Development Plan includes a review of the Supplementary Guidance relating to Access, Circulation and Parking.

Initial work is in progress in order to bring the SPG up to date and ensure

it meets the requirements of Cardiff for the future. This SPG is included in the LDP Annual Monitoring Framework which commits the Council to approve it within 6 months of adoption of the LDP. The adoption of the LDP will follow publication of the Inspectors Report which is anticipated to take place early in 2016.

This work will include a review of how the guidance relates to parking in respect of student accommodation in Cardiff.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

Please can you provide the list of roads which will receive preventative surface treatment (for footway and/or carriageway) in 2015/16?

Reply

APPROVED LISTS – 2015/16 PREVENTATIVE PROGRAMME

CARRIAGEWAY

Ward	Name
CAERAU	CHURCH ROAD
CAERAU	CLARKE STREET
CANTON	CHURCH ROAD
CANTON	OVINGTON TERRACE
CYNCOED	CEFN COED GARDENS
ELY	ARCHER ROAD
FAIRWATER	FAIRWATER ROAD
GRANGTOWN	MERCHES GARDENS
HEATH	CRYSTAL AVENUE
LISVANE	LLWYN Y PIA ROAD
LLANDAFF NORTH	ABERDULAIS ROAD
LLANDAFF NORTH	ABERTEIFI CRES INC WESTERN AVE NRTH
LLANDAFF NORTH	GABALFA AVENUE
LLANISHEN	GARRICK DRIVE
LLANISHEN	WYNDHAM CRESCENT
PENTWYN	GLYN COLLEN
PENTWYN	AWEL MOR
PENTYRCH	HEOL GOCH (FINATEX)
PENTYRCH	PENMAES X3 SECTIONS (FINATEX)
PENYLAN	CARISBROOKE WAY
PLASNEWYDD	ROATH COURT PLACE
RUMNEY	HARRIS AVENUE X2 SECTIONS
SPLOTT	MERCIA ROAD (GEOGRID TRIALS)
TROWBRIDGE	COLEFORD DRIVE
WHITCHURCH	MANOR RISE

The footway resurfacing/treatment programme is currently under

development and should be completed within approximately 4 weeks. Once the list has been approved the information will be made available to members.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

Please can you advise which roads were on the list of streets for consideration for preventative treatment in 2015/16 but which did not make the final list.

Please can you also advise why these roads did not make the final list and who makes the final decision as to which roads make the list?

Reply

The streets put forward for consideration in the preventative treatment programme but were not selected for inclusion in the final list are as follows:

Ward	Street
Butetown	Loudoun Square
Cyncoed	Heol Esgyn
Cyncoed	Windermere Avenue
Grangetown	Forrest Street
Grangetown	Pentre Street
Grangetown	Sevenoaks Street
Grangetown	Virgil Street
Pentyrch	Bryn Siriol
Pentyrch	Bryn-yr-Eglwys
Pentyrch	Clos Caewal
Pentwyn	Bryn Celyn
Penylan	Trafalgar Road
Penylan	Ty-Gwyn Road
Plasnewydd	Byron Street
Plasnewydd	Shakespeare Court
Rhiwbina	Heol-Yr-Efail
Rhiwbina	Lon Cae Porth
Rhiwbina	Lon Isa
Riverside	Railway Terrace
Rumney	Rhyl Road
Trowbridge	Vaendre Close

The proposed list will include a number of roads that are suitable for a preventative treatment, however, the final list must tie into available budgets and therefore some roads will not be selected. There are various reasons for elimination – existing condition, estimated deterioration rate, suitability for treatment, usage and requests for service.

The responsibility for the approval of the final list lies with the Director of

City Operations.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

Please can you advise when Lon Cae Porth will have much needed resurfacing works carried out?

Reply

Lon Cae Porth will receive preventative treatment in February/March 2016, weather conditions permitting. To bring Lon Cae Porth up to a reasonable standard and address any safety concerns a large extent of localised patching would be required. The cost differential between this patching and preventative treatment work indicates best value in the longer term to treat the whole road. This work will be completed as an addition to previously approved list of streets.