

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 28 January 2016 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 22 January 2016.

Present: County Councillor Walker (Lord Mayor)

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

The minutes were amended by Full Council on 25 February 2016 to reflect the accuracy of Min No 130 - Petitions and to remove reference to petitions not received at the meeting.

127 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Bridges, De'Ath, Hudson and Javed.

128 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Lord Mayor reminded Members of their responsibility under Article 10 of the Members' Code of Conduct to declare any interest, and to complete Personal Interest forms, at the commencement of the item of business.

The following declarations were made:

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Councillor Bale	Item 9 – Leader's Statement.	Personal Interest as a Member of the Friends of Yr Hen Llyfrgell new Welsh Language Centre.
Councillor Chaundy	Item 11 - Notice of Motion 2.	Personal Interest as parents attend Oldwell Court Day Centre two days a week.
Councillor Gordon	Item 12 - Question 12.	Personal Interest as a volunteer (cycle training) with Cardiff Pedal Power.
Councillor Hinchey	Item 11 – Notice of Motion 2.	Personal Interest as family member is landlord/ Chief Executive of Wales and Wet Housing

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Councillor Lloyd	Item 9 – Statements & Item 12 – Question 12.	Personal interest as a member of the Llanishen Reservoir Action Group.
Councillor Magill	Item 12 Question 19.	Personal interest as a member of the Llanishen Reservoir Action Group.

129 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson subject to the alteration of Min No: 102 – Declarations of interest for Councillor Monica Walsh as a Member of Unite and not GMB.

130 : PETITIONS

The following petitions were submitted to Council:

- (1) Councillor Cowan – 138 signatures calling on Cardiff Council to have a Green Belt which will protect the countryside permanently on the outskirts of Cardiff and reject the Green Wedge which only offers protection for the lifetime of the Local Development Plan.
- (2) Councillor Cowan – 57 signatures calling on Cardiff Council to remove the orange stickers from bins which indicate a person or persons are elderly, vulnerable or disabled.
- (3) Councillor Boyle – 549 signatures petitioning the Council to stop charging to replace stolen wheelie bins.
- (4) Councillor Kelloway – 4830 signatures, online and written petition collected by the Alzheimer’s Society calling for the funding of day care services at Oldwell Court in Penylan to be protected.
- (5) Councillor Howells – a further 20 signatures to add to the petitions presented at Full Council on 29 January, 25 June and 23 July 2015, calling on the Council to respect the decision it made in February 2015 and carry out the necessary repairs to ensure that Roath Library reopens as soon as possible, and also including a petition from at Adamsdown Primary Year 6 pupils Year Teacher also to save Roath Library.

131 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Public question 1: from Mr Joel Williams

What are you doing as Leader of our capital city to ensure the bitter rivalry and infighting which has engulfed your reign as leader of the Labour group is not impacting on the delivery of vital services – including health, education, and environmental provision – for the residents of Cardiff?

Reply: County Councillor Bale

I think it's really important to emphasise that this Labour administration is delivering for Cardiff.

You've seen through our four key priorities that we are seeing significant improvements in education, where we're investing significant sums in new schools across the city. We've seen a step change in GCSE results since we took office in 2012.

In social services, the work that we are doing in areas such as delayed transfers of care is actually now starting to pay dividends.

And I think everyone in this chamber would recognise that the administration has done in leading discussions around a £1.2bn city deal and taking forward the development of Central Square and a new transport interchange.

So I'm very comfortable and confident that this city is being served very well by this Labour administration.

Supplementary question: from Mr Joel Williams

Let's go through Labour's 2012 pledges for Cardiff: Council tax increases to be capped at under 2% -- failed; raise standards in Cardiff schools by giving greater funding – you failed on that as well; reform social services to offer a first-class service – failed on that; finally, protect Cardiff's great green spaces by delivering a green belt – well, you may fail on that tonight.

Now, tonight you have the opportunity to listen to the people of Cardiff by referencing back the Local Development Plan, securing your promised green belt. Now, it's time that Labour Councillors bale out of this failing, broken, dilapidated, Labour leadership.

I ask you again: what are you doing to ensure the bitter rivalry in division within your own Labour group is not impacting on service delivery for the citizens of Cardiff?

Reply: County Councillor Bale

I think it's absolutely critical that we take the city forward at the moment and this administration is doing just that.

Many of the examples that you've just highlighted: the educational standards of our schools – we have sought to protect educational funding; in this LDP debate today, you will see that we have secured protection that wasn't going to be there for our greenfields in this city, and that's directly because we've driven that through as a Labour administration.

I feel very strongly – and I'm not surprised that a Conservative candidate in the next general election is raising these issues for party-political purposes – but I feel very strongly that we have to serve the people of this city strongly and that's exactly what

this Labour administration is doing. We've always said we're ambitious for Cardiff, and we will continue to be so.

Public question 2: from Ms Heather Ward

Can you explain what safety reports have been carried out on Caerphilly Road in respect to adding the proposed new bus lane? And, if three large HGV vehicles were to pass each other at any single spot, what margin would there be for driver error.

Reply: County Councillor Patel

Road-safety reports have been undertaken for the scheme. Your comments have been taken on board in the latest road-safety report and will be given full consideration as part of the road-safety audit process. A copy of this latest report, which addresses the issue, can be provided to you when the process is complete and information will be released through local Members.

Supplementary question: from Ms Heather Ward

Are there any alternative funding schemes or grants which could be utilised for regenerating the area of Birchgrove without installing a bus lane?

Reply: County Councillor Patel

There's been a considerable amount of consultation with the ward Members on the bus lane and, clearly, there is a demand for this. And that is certainly why this is going ahead.

Public question 3: Ms Rabab Ghazoul

Given the burgeoning reputation for arts and culture that has been built over many years, can you now demonstrate how they ecologically link with, and contribute to, the vitality of education, social services, community cohesion, criminal justice, tourism, refugee agencies, NEETs, the third age, library services, and employability, thereby assisting the Council in attracting business and commerce on the basis Cardiff is an increasingly vibrant capital city in which to invest and live?

Reply: County Councillor Bradbury

This administration fully recognises the pivotal role that arts and culture play in our capital city. Indeed, the very reason that we have continued to invest, develop, and support this important sector is because we recognise how it reaches into every corner of the city's life, whether that is supporting the complexities of community cohesion, integration, education, or developing Cardiff's cultural profile for the wider economic benefit of not only Cardiff, but the Welsh nation.

I am afraid that I could not do justice to the complexity of response required to demonstrate the undeniable value that the arts to each of the sectors you listed in your question within the time I've got allocated today. However, I can assure you

that, in recognising the value to each, we also recognise arts and culture for its own intrinsic value and its role in creating social wellbeing.

The Council has a long and demonstrable history of its commitment to the arts. The draft budget proposals to reduce current levels of financial support are only being considered as the direct result of financial challenges faced by the Council resulting from the UK Government's austerity measures.

Whatever the outcome of our final budget deliberations over the coming weeks, we will endeavour to ensure that arts and culture continue to occupy a central place in our city and its communities.

We will continue to work at strengthening and creating partnerships to help deliver the multiple social benefits and to maintain Cardiff's reputation on a local platform and the international stage.

I am grateful for the overwhelming response we have seen from the public and the arts community to the budget consultation.

Supplementary question: from Ms Rabab Ghazoul

What we wanted to ask on behalf of Cardiff without Culture is the creative and cultural industries, as you've just noted are drivers for transforming a city's fortunes – we know that because we've seen it the world over.

We feel strongly, as I'm sure do you that Cardiff is in a prime position to move forward exponentially as a European Capital of Culture in 2023. As citizens and as an arts community, we don't just hope Cardiff becomes the European Capital of Culture 2023 – we confidently expect it to be. There's no reason why it shouldn't.

How can the Council commit to that future with us if you pursue cuts that we feel will seriously downgrade and jeopardise the precious cultural assets and infrastructure that the arts community, in partnership with you, has been building carefully for decades?

Reply: County Councillor Bradbury

It's always been an ambition of this city, dating way back to the 2005 European Capital of Culture bid that that would be something that we as a city would one day achieve.

I've had meeting with the arts community over a number of years to discuss how we take the arts programme forward. It's important to note that these are just proposals at the moment – the decision will be made in February – so I can't comment any further on the specific lines that you're talking about.

As I stated outside, I'm happy to meet with you and with all your colleagues that were here today to discuss the future of arts and culture in our capital city, and I am always lobbying Welsh Government as well to ensure they understand our unique position as a capital city and I will continue to do that.

Public question 4: from Mr Sean Driscoll

Councillor Jayne Cowan put a motion to this Council asking that the Council enforce protection of the green belt around Cardiff. You and your fellow Councillors thought it was a good idea and supported the motion. In the recent Welsh Office inspector's report at section 3:4, the inspector concluded from information provided that the land north and west of Cardiff is rated MBV (best most versatile) agricultural land.

Did you put a robust and strong case to the inspectors on behalf of the people of Cardiff and your fellow Councillors that this land be protected as green belt land?

Reply: County Councillor Patel

The answer is yes. And whilst the original motion was proposed by Councillor Cowan, it was subject to a Labour group amendment and the amended motion was then agreed by the Council following a vote.

The minutes of that meeting show that, following the debate on the motion, Councillor Cowan confirmed that she accepted the Labour group amendment.

Supplementary question: from Mr Sean Driscoll

You are correct, actually, that the Council accepted unanimously the amended motion supporting the vital need for a green belt. You, Councillor Patel, also voted personally for this. Despite that, within weeks you feebly acquiesced in killing the green belt, defying Cardiff Council's unanimous vote and frustrating the will of over 70% of the people of Cardiff. How can you justify that?

Reply: County Councillor Patel

Clearly, I don't agree with what you just said because we did not kill the green belt. We have actually put a pledge in that we will continue to carry on fighting for the green belt. But this is an independent inspector's wish. At every single meeting we've had, we consistently said that we want a green belt. The final ruling was done by the inspector and the inspector changed from green belt to a green wedge.

As far as policy-wise goes, it has the same status. The only difference – which is a big difference, which is why we'll continue to fight for a green belt – is the term of the length of how long a green belt and green wedge lasts.

132 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition and Awards

The Lord Mayor congratulated and commended all on their achievements and successes.

Queen's New Year's Honours List

Award	Name	Citation
Officer of the Order of the British Empire OBE	Professor Meena Upadhyaya	For services to Medical Genetics and the Welsh Asian community.
Member of the Order of the British Empire MBE	Mr Michael Andrew McCarthy	Co-Founder, Music Theatre, Wales. For services to Music in Wales.
Member of the Order of the British Empire MBE	Mr Cedric Moon	Lately Band D, Flood and Coastal Risk Management, Welsh Government. For services to Equality and voluntary service to the Deaf Community in South Wales.
Medal of the Order of the British Empire BEM	Mr Basil Edward Priest	For voluntary service to Holme Towers Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan.

Schools 'Christmas Switch Off' sets the standard!

Over Christmas and New Year schools across Cardiff set the standard for the rest of us to follow by realising massive financial and environmental savings simply from switching off unnecessary gas and electrical equipment.

Over a two week period schools managed to avoid £63,000 in energy costs and avoided nearly 400 tonnes of Carbon being pumped into the atmosphere, cutting their energy use by a whopping 62% when compared with the previous fortnight.

Making sure equipment that's not in use is switched off and not left on 'standby' is just one way all of us can help realise large financial and Carbon savings at work and help us hit our target of reducing our energy consumption by 1% during 2015/16*.

*(reduction target based on a baseline consumption figure for 2013/14 consumption)

Waste Collections make finals of APSE Awards

Well done to our refuse collection service for making the finals of the prestigious Association of Public Service Excellence Awards, which recognises best and most improved performance.

Baby News

Two of our Councillors have become fathers again since our last meeting Congratulations to Cllr De'Ath and his partner Rebecca on the birth of Nancy earlier in January; and to Cllr Bridges and his partner Sarah on the birth of their second child, Tom born on 23 December 2015.

Charity Updates

Members are advised that Councillor Ben Thomas is raising money for the 'Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund as his sister-in-law along with 4 other female police officers and 5 injured Royal Marines will climb Kilimanjaro in early February. For those wishing to donate an envelope is been passed around the chamber today. Councillor Thomas has indicated that he will match fund the amount raised.

Lord Mayor's Charity Fund Raising

Cardiff High School pupils and staff raised £1,500 with a non-uniform day, a Staff Christmas raffle and donations received at the annual Christmas Carol Concert;

I-Can Challenge - I am delighted to report that students from schools across the city have helped raise more than £10,000 , £7,000 will go to the Lord Mayor's charity appeal.

The pupils who took part in the i-Can challenge were given a budget of £10 budget and 3 weeks to try make the most money possible and also make a donation to the Lord Mayor's charity, Velindre.

A total of 23 schools signed up to the festive-themed challenge. These were: St Bernadette's, Whitchurch, Pen Y Bryn, Thornhill, Ysgol Y Wern, Millbank, Rumney, All Saints, Rhydypenau, St Paul's, St Joseph's, Glyncoed, Pencae, Christ the King, Bryn Deri, Creigiau, Gladstone, Grangetown, Howells, Trowbridge and Llanedeyrn.

At the end of their project, the children made a presentation in front of three judges from the business world and there were lots of very creative ideas and very innovative ways of presenting them.

I will be hosting a reception at the Mansion House on the 12th February, where all those who participated will be presented with certificates.

A huge well done and congratulations to all of those involved.

Barclays Bank Donation

The Lord Mayor advised that Barclays Bank had agreed to match fund the money raised by the Lord Mayor's Charity with a donation of £60, 000. The Lord Mayor thanked Barclays Bank for their very generous donation. This donation brought the total amount raised so far this year for the appeal to £110,000.

St David's Day Special Event Dinner

This is the first of what will hopefully become an annual event for the City of Cardiff to celebrate the national day of Wales. This year we will be joined by an array of sporting stars. Details of the event will be circulated to all Members shortly.

Once again I wish to thank the Deputy Lord Mayor for arranging a Charity Dinner and fellow Councillors for all their support in arranging events and giving generously to my Charity Appeal

The Council received the Local Development Plan for 2016 – 2026; the Inspector's Report, Adoption Statement, Final Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulation Assessment together with a proposed programme of Supplementary Planning Guidance for adoption.

The Director Governance and Legal Services gave advice at the beginning of this item on the scope of recommendation 3 of the Cabinet proposal which repeats the text of the Planning Inspectors report and gives limited authorisation to the Officers to make any final editorial changes and presentation matters only, such as 'typographical errors'. It will not allow for any changes to policy interpretation; land use allocations or other matters of material significance.

The Cabinet Member, Transport, Planning and Sustainability, Councillor Patel formally proposed the report and this was seconded by the Chair of Planning Committee, Councillor Michael.

In proposing the report the Cabinet Member set out the importance of a robust Local Development Plan (LDP) and the consequences to Cardiff of not having an approved LDP since 1996 and an identified land allocation to provide a 5 year supply of housing; and the loss at Planning Appeal of applications on greenfield sites. The plan before Council was one that would cater for growth up to 2026 and not 2021 which had resulted in an increase in housing need from 27,442 to 41,415 - approximately 14,000 extra homes to meet the requirements of a growing city resulting in the need for the release of greenfield sites not previously identified for development.

This LDP would bring forward a plan for new homes; transport infrastructure and social community infrastructure; and over 40,000 jobs; as well as support for those on the housing list with the provision of affordable / social housing of up to 6,600 dwellings during the lifetime of the plan, which supports the administration ambition to support the most vulnerable in the city.

The Cabinet Member supported a green belt however the Independent Planning Inspector's report imposed a green wedge in the LDP. In policy terms the green belt and wedge are essential the same other than the green belt would have provided protection beyond the length of the LDP. The current administration would continue to support a green belt as part of any regional planning plan. The Cabinet Member announced that the Council would bring forward Supplementary Planning Guidance on the green wedge.

The LDP provided a secure plan for the future development of the city for its citizens. The Cabinet Member thanked Planning Policy officers unit and former Cabinet Members who had worked on the LDP over a number of years. .

The Lord Mayor advised that one amendment had been received to the report proposed by Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor Dianne Rees.

Councillor Cowan in proposing the amendment asked the Council to reflect on the merits of accepting the report at this meeting when it could be brought to the next meeting. Councillor Cowan raised concerns with the validity of recommendation 3

and the ability for officials to make factual changes without the consent of Council which this recommendation implied. In addition she raised concerns around the LDP proposals on the number of houses; the lack of infrastructure; the disregard of citizens views; and the inability of the Council and the administration to persuade the Inspectorate and Welsh Government of the will of Council following the approval of a Notice of Motion in October 2015.

Councillor Ralph Cook proposed a Motion without notice in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 25 (iv) to refer the LDP back. This was seconded by Councillor Woodman. The reference back was on the grounds that the Welsh Government has the power to intervene in LDP matters and Councillor Cook questioned whether this had been done. In addition, it appeared that the Planning Inspectorate required a very different level of justification for a green belt in Cardiff's LDP compared to its determination of Newport City Council's LDP. Councillor Cook suggested that an impartial view be sought from a legal expert in planning on advice on the LDP and the Council's legal position.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the report prior to taking a vote on the reference back and the proposed amendment. During the debate Members referred to previous the LDP and Unitary Development Plans; the Inspectors hearing; the role of Welsh Government officials; and the test of soundness of LDP's. Members commented on the differences between greenbelt and green wedge; the length of protection of green belt beyond 10 years; manifesto commitments not to build on open spaces. Members raised concerns around current and previous rates of housing development; rate of growth of the city; development by appeal; concerns on the lack of transport and highway infrastructure and networking with transport interchanges. Members commented on the importance of the city region policy context; the importance of strategic planning, housing, affordable housing and transport policies; the need for Regional Development Plan; and the future local government re-organisation.

The Cabinet Member was invited to respond to matters raised in the debate prior to the votes being taken. In closing the debate the Cabinet Member commended the LDP to Council.

A vote was taken on the reference back as proposed by Councillor Ralph Cook.

The vote was as follows:

For (27)

Councillors Aubrey, Bowden, Boyle, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Ralph Cook, Cowan, Davies-Warner, Ford, Graham, Hill-John, Holden, Howells, Hyde, Margaret Jones, Kelloway, Lloyd, McEvoy, McKerlich, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Graham Thomas and Woodman

Against (40)

Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Dilwar Ali, Bale, Bradbury, Richard Cook, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Magill, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Ben Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh, Weaver, White and Darren Williams

The vote on the Reference back was LOST.

The Lord Mayor called for the vote on the Amendment to the report as proposed by Councillor Cowan.

For (23)

Councillors Aubrey, Bowden, Boyle, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Cowan, Davies-Warner, Graham, Hill-John, Howells, Hyde, Margaret Jones, Kelloway, Lloyd, McKerlich, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Graham Thomas and Woodman

Against (40)

Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Dilwar Ali, Bale, Bradbury, Richard Cook, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Magill, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Ben Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh, Weaver, White and Darren Williams

Abstain (4)

Councillors Ralph Cook, Ford, Holden and McEvoy

The vote on the Amendment was LOST.

A vote was taken on the recommendations as set out in the report.

For (40)

Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Dilwar Ali, Bale, Bradbury, Richard Cook, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Magill, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Ben Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh, Weaver, White and Darren Williams

Against (27)

Councillors Aubrey, Bowden, Boyle, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Ralph Cook, Cowan, Davies-Warner, Ford, Graham, Hill-John, Holden, Howells, Hyde, Margaret Jones, Kelloway, Lloyd, McEvoy, McKerlich, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Graham Thomas and Woodman

The vote on the recommendations was CARRIED.

RESOLVED – That the Council

1. adopt the Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006 to 2026 and endorse the Inspectors Report, Adoption Statement, Final Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulation Assessment;
2. endorse the preparation of the programme of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) as set out in Appendix 8 and authorise the Director of City Operations to issue SPG for public consultation prior to it being considered by Cabinet and Council for final approval;
3. agree that the Director of City Operations be authorised to correct any typographical and factual errors together with any other necessary presentational matters and consequential changes prior to the final publication of the Cardiff Local Development Plan.

134 : THE ROLE OF ELECTED MEMBERS IN SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND ADULTS

The Council is requested to adopt the Member Protocol in relation to Children and Vulnerable Adults. Councillor Lent proposed and Councillor Elsmore seconded the report.

The meeting was advised that an Independent Review was commissioned by the Chief Executive to look into processes relating to Child Protection casework and the role of Elected Members in dealing with parents' complaints and acting as advocate in child protection proceedings. The Review made a number of recommendations which included requesting the Standards and Ethics Committee to consider the role of Elected Members in relation to social services casework and their role as advocates for service users.

The Lord Mayor invited the Chair of Standards and Ethics Committee, Richard Tebboth to make a statement on the Committees role and recommendations in relation to the independent review process and the draft Protocol which was submitted for Council approval.

The Chair of Standards and Ethics detailed the process undertaken by the Committee in September and December 2015 and that the importance of the role of Elected Members as Corporate Parents be an integral part of the Cardiff Undertaking and that the Constitution Committee be requested to consider and incorporate this amendment as soon as practicable.

The Cabinet Member, Early Years, Children & Families welcomed the report and the protocol which supported Elected Members their role of safeguarding children in Cardiff; clearly providing guidance and clarity on the separation of on roles and responsibilities; providing assurances and guidance to officers in Social Services and provision of key contacts.

The Lord Mayor invited debate and a number of concerns were raised about the advocacy and support role of Elected Members; general information on the number of cases that occur; the terminology use; the introduction of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act statutory responsibilities of the Council; Members and Officers; concerns about Child Protection matters; Members representational roles; concerns about failure and reassurance that these are not systemic; the role of Councillors in signposting to advocacy support; the need for support and protection of vulnerable adults. It was noted that the report and protocol before the Council was an outcome from the one of the recommendations of the independent review and based on best practice advice. Members welcomed training and awareness of their roles.

During the debate Councillor Holden proposed a Motion without notice in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 25(iv) to refer the report back. The reference back was seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

The Chair of Standards and Ethics was invited to respond to matters raised in the debate prior to the votes being taken. The adoption of the protocol was for Council to approve and the Standards and Ethics Committee had a duty to provide advice to avoid Members getting in to difficulties. The protocol provides clarity and guidance for Elected Member and had been formulated following the independent consultants review and good practice guidance.

A vote was taken on the reference back as proposed by Councillor Holden.

The vote was as follows:

For (10)

Councillors Bowden, Cowan, Ford, Hill-John, Holden, McEvoy, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders and Graham Thomas

Against (52)

Councillors Manzoor Ahmed, Dilwar Ali, Aubrey, Bale, Boyle, Bradbury, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Richard Cook, Davies-Warner, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Howells, Hunt, Hyde, Keith Jones, Margaret Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lloyd, Lomax, Magill, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, David Rees, Simmons, Stubbs, Ben Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh, Weaver, White, Darren Williams and Woodman

Abstain (3)

Councillors Graham, Kelloway and McKerlich

The Reference back was LOST.

The recommendation was CARRIED by a show of hands.

RESOLVED – That Council adopt the Member Protocol in relation to Children and Vulnerable Adults as set out at Annex A of the report.

LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER STATEMENTS

135 : LEADER'S STATEMENT

Cardiff-Stuttgart Twinning Conference

The Leader was delighted to attend the first day of the three-day Cardiff-Stuttgart Twinning Conference that was held at City Hall on 14th-16th January 2016. The conference, which was funded through an EU project, brought together citizens and organisations from Cardiff and from our twin city of Stuttgart to promote the shared history of our two cities and to examine how we can build on our historic relationship to further develop transnational cooperation and civic engagement. It also provided an opportunity to explore different attitudes to European integration and the institutions of the European Union, which was particularly timely in the light of the forthcoming EU referendum. The conference was supported by a programme of cultural events to celebrate our twinning relationship and I'd like to extend my thanks to all those involved in helping to present the very best of Cardiff to our international guests.

Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs

On 18th January 2016, Welsh Water announced that they had secured a 999-year lease on Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs. This was welcome news and I am grateful to both Celsa and Welsh Water for their commitment to reaching an outcome that benefits the local community. Celsa will continue to use water from Lisvane Reservoir for its operations in Cardiff Bay and Welsh Water will be able to increase its drinking water resources in Cardiff, while contributing to the economic and cultural development of the city. Moving forward, it is important that the Council works closely with Welsh Water to facilitate public access to the reservoirs for recreational activities.

To celebrate this positive outcome and to recognise the hard work of the Reservoir Action Group, a reception will be hosted at City Hall from 2-4pm on Friday 5th February 2016. Invitations have been extended to representatives and members of the Reservoir Action Group; representatives of Celsa and Welsh Water; Councillors; MPs and AMs, and the Welsh Government Minister for Natural Resources.

Welsh Cultural Centre – Yr Hen Llyfrgell

The Leader was pleased to confirm that the official opening of Cardiff's new Welsh Cultural Centre – Yr Hen Llyfrgell is due to take place on the morning of Thursday 25th February 2016 and will be attended by the First Minister. That evening, there will also be a launch party, which will lead into a long weekend of celebrations ahead of St. David's Day on 1st March 2016.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the Leader's Statement and the Leader responded accordingly.

136 : HEALTH, HOUSING AND WELLBEING STATEMENT

Housing Partnership Project

The Cabinet Member was pleased to attend recently the official signing of the partnership agreement between the Council and Wates Living Space, developer appointed to the Housing Partnership Project. The Cabinet Member was impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment that Wates, a family firm, showed towards the project. This is a first for Wales in both the size and ambition of the project which will not only deliver 1,500 new homes, 600 of which will be council homes, but will also help regenerate brown field sites across the city. The overall value of the scheme is £205 million.

The quality of the new housing has been set high and all the homes will be sustainable and energy efficient, including some to passivhaus standard. As part of its presence in the city, Wates Living Space has made a pledge to create extensive opportunities for local training and employment and will engage local suppliers and sub-contractors in the project. The scheme will generate almost £14 million of social value including almost 10,000 training weeks, employing hundreds of skilled and non-skilled workers during the construction and marketing of the homes. And will create a lasting economic benefit for the city.

Supporting Independent Living

Over the past year we have significantly improved our services to help people remain independent in their own homes. We have introduced a single point of contact for older person's services, providing a wide range of advice and information with multi-skilled visiting officers available to assist people in their own homes.

The Cabinet Member had recently had the opportunity to visit the Independent Living Centre (Smart House) which has been set up to demonstrate a wide range of rehabilitation and re-ablement equipment and to promote everyday living aids that promote independent living. Built to resemble a two storey home, the Smart House is very impressive and allows people to experience how adaptations such as stair lifts and hoists, look and feel in a domestic setting. The Smart House is open to residents and partner organisations to book as either a training or demonstration facility.

Welfare Reform Changes

The Chancellor's autumn statement brought news of further welfare reform changes which will impact on benefit claimants. The proposal was announced that housing benefit for tenants in social housing would be capped at the Local Housing Allowance levels; the level paid for tenants in the private rented sector. While most social housing rents are below LHA levels this change is likely to impact on tenants under the age of 35, who may only qualify for the rent of shared accommodation, and people in supported accommodation where rents can be high. The change is due to come into effect in April 2018, but will be backdated to any social housing tenant who has taken up a new tenancy, transferred or exchanged from April 2016.

Only limited information is available about this change at present. Officers are working with our housing association partners to fully understand the possible implications of the change, to develop publicity and a plan to mitigate the impact. A full briefing will be given on this change when more information is available. In the meantime please remember that help is available in all Hubs and in particular in Central Library Hub, where there is a full range of advice available for those affected by Welfare Reform.

Sheltered Housing Tenants' Christmas Party at Butetown Centre

As Members will be aware many older people are alone at Christmas, we were therefore very keen to help bring our older tenants together over the festive period. The Tenant Participation team organised a party for tenants of all 10 of the Council's Sheltered Housing Schemes, guests were able to get to know each other over Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, and were kept entertained with music, dancing and a raffle. Members of the Telecare team were also there to provide information about the services they offer, and explain how they can help more vulnerable residents. The party, which was held at Butetown Centre, proved to be a big success with around 60 residents attending. Tenants from different schemes got talking to each other and friendships were forged. The Tenant Participation team are planning to repeat the event next Christmas.

Support for Asylum Seekers in Cardiff

Members will have seen the publicity recently about the services for Asylum Seekers and in particular the requirement for service users to wear wristbands. This is clearly not acceptable and the Leader and I have raised our concerns in a letter to the Minister responsible Immigration.

Services for Asylum seekers are commissioned and managed directly by the Home Office and the council has no direct control over the services provided by the private company employed to provide these services.

However officers from the council do aim to influence these services where they can working partnership with the Wales Strategic Migration Partnership based in the Welsh Local Government Association.

Launch of the Older Person's Commissioner's Ageing Well in Wales Programme

The Cabinet Member attended the launch of the Older Person's Commissioner's Ageing Well in Wales Programme, hosted by Julie James AM. It was pleasing to see the work being undertaken across Wales to support the Commissioner's Ageing Well agenda, and I am particularly pleased that Cardiff has developed a clear and effective Ageing Well Delivery Plan for 2016/17.

Following discussion between Council Directorates and with partner organisations, a broad ranging draft Delivery Plan went to scrutiny in September, where we received helpful feedback from Members, from the Commissioner herself and from third sector partners.

We are incorporating this additional input into our final Delivery Plan, which Cabinet will adopt in March, alongside the Council's Strategic Equality Plan for 2016/20. The Cabinet Member was confident the Plan will enable everyone to continue to enjoy all that Cardiff has to offer, throughout their lives.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the statement and the Cabinet Member undertook to find out whether the Smart House was open to the public. The Cabinet Member assured Council that meetings would be taking place with the Home Office in relation to standard of accommodation for Asylum Seekers and other matters.

137 : CORPORATE SERVICES AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

Review of Voluntary Redundancy Scheme

The annual review of the Council's Voluntary Redundancy Scheme has been completed. Cabinet agreed on 21 January 2016 that this would remain unchanged for 2016/17. This decision was based on the fact that the scheme continues to be broadly comparable to that which operates elsewhere across Wales. Cabinet also took into account that in light of ongoing budgetary challenges faced by the Council, it will be important that the scheme continues to attract volunteers. All the Trade Unions stated their clear position that the Scheme should remain unchanged, pointing out the implications of any change should fewer and fewer staff volunteer to leave.

Schools moving to on-line HR Systems

The Council's HR System - DigiGov is now being used successfully in all schools for recording sickness absence and applying the relevant stages of the Attendance and Wellbeing Policy. Schools have welcomed having increased control of absence management as well as the direct access to real time data.

We are now rolling out a training programme for school staff who will then be able to use on-line HR Systems for undertaking contractual changes, exits, requests to extend temporary contracts and also processing overtime requests.

Review of Disciplinary Policy and associated procedures

Following an extensive and inclusive review involving consultation with Directorate representatives, Trade Unions, Equality Networks and Senior Management Team plus input from PRAP, from April 2016 the Council will have:

- a revised and streamlined Disciplinary Policy incorporating clarity of responsibilities for all those who have a role in this process, standardised processes to enable robust and transparent decision making and, a new formal Fast Track disciplinary procedure available for misconduct issues. The policy will be supplemented with provision of robust monitoring data to enable compliance to be monitored at Directorate and Senior Management level.
- 6 new comprehensive guidance documents for those involved in various aspects of the process (i.e. Hearing Chairs, Investigating Officers, Presenting Officers,

Managers, Employees and Witnesses) have been produced to supplement the policy to ensure a more consistent approach, and better support for those involved with investigations.

- A new “Resolution Policy” to replace the existing Grievance and Bullying & Harassment policies, with an increased emphasis on early resolution of matters, with managers and Trade Unions involved collaboratively in order to resolve issues at an earlier stage, through a range of resolution methods such as additional training, support, coaching, advice, counselling and mediation. The new Internal Mediation service (within HR People Services) has been expanded, and provisions of the service are detailed in the new Resolution policy

The new arrangements will be subject to on-going monitoring, with an interim review at 6 months and a full review after 12 months operational experience. The revised arrangements represent a major cultural shift in how disciplinary / conduct issues will be addressed within the Council in the future.

Capability Procedure for Teachers and Headteachers

The Central South Consortium Capability Procedure for Teachers and Headteachers (December 2015) has been developed by HR officers across the five local authorities in full consultation with the trade unions and in line with guidance from the Welsh Government. A separate policy for support staff is being developed.

It is recognised that the capability and commitment of employees is fundamental to providing a high standard of education to pupils, and that Governing Bodies are committed to ensuring that all employees have the opportunity to develop the appropriate skills, knowledge, competence and aptitude to undertake their roles effectively. In the vast majority of cases, employees meet and exceed the performance requirements of their roles.

However, in some circumstances, individual employees may experience difficulties in demonstrating the levels of competence required to perform their role effectively. In such situations it is important to have adopted a policy which clearly outlines the procedure to be followed and the roles and responsibilities of those involved.

The Capability Procedure sets out a constructive approach to achieving improved work performance through effective supervision, mentoring, training, performance review and development. It ensures that competency issues are dealt with efficiently in a supportive and sensitive manner within agreed time periods and with clear outcomes at all stages.

The policy is recommended for adoption by all Governing Bodies.

Income Management Project

On 11 January 2016 we went live with the first phase of a significant income management project. Over the duration of the project we are updating our methods of dealing with all forms of payments including rationalising use of Chip & Pin devices, refreshing our internet e-payments portal and ensuring that the e-payments options will render correctly no matter what type of device payments are being made on. This supports our analysis which shows a significant shift in the numbers of

citizens transacting with us via smartphones and tablet devices like iPads compared to the traditional PC users.

Mobile working for carers

We are about to go live with a short pilot, followed by a full roll-out, of mobile and scheduling technology for the Adults Services Re-ablement team. This will use the same technologies previously deployed to Community Maintenance Services to enable homecare visits to be automatically scheduled in the most efficient manner possible according to carer location, and for carers to use mobile devices to receive and record their work, removing the requirement for paper schedules and frequent office visits.

ICT Apprentices

As part of our workforce strategy and commitment to developing skills in Digital technologies ICT have this year taken on three apprentices under the corporate apprenticeship scheme. One of these started out as a work placement from the looked after children (LAC) team.

Cardiff.gov.uk/Caerdydd.gov.uk

The Council Tax portal was introduced in December to allow customers the opportunity to check their Council Tax balance, see their instalment dates and also set up or amend their direct debits. Having this facility in place in preparation for the Council's annual billing period is a great step towards customers managing their account at times that suit them without having to call and speak to an advisor.

Parking permits online has also proved to be a success with customer use increasing so that the number of applications made online has outweighed those made by post. In December 1619 applications were made online in comparison to 943 made by post.

A new splash page was introduced using photos taken by the public which have been received via Social Media. The image will be replaced every 6 weeks.

Web Key Stats for December:

During Dec 2015, visits via a mobile device exceeded desktop for the first time, this is most likely due to residents viewing the changes to services over Christmas and New Year.

- The web received 670k Page views in total from 155k users.
- Recycling and Waste page views up 49% from 84k to 137k.
- 8,890 page views received for the Budget section up 790.78% over November's 998.
- City of Cardiff Councils Twitter has gained an average of 52 followers a day in the last 90 days and now has 52,306 followers.

C2C

In December, for the 2nd month in a row C2C hit the answer rate target every day and achieved a final answer rate of 96.06%. This was from a total of 52,122 calls.

Customer satisfaction remains high with 99% stating they were satisfied with the service from C2C out of 163 surveys and 96% satisfied with the service from the Repairs Reporting Line out of 50 surveys.

Strategic Estates

On target to deliver circa £4m in capital receipts by year end for the capitalisation programme.

Lots of activity with the office rationalisation programme with various moves on going including all of the Global Link staff into County Hall. These moves are all set to deliver revenue savings.

Investment board created following approval from Cabinet, new governance and strategy being implemented to improve the performance of the portfolio. Various Community Asset Transfers progressing with a range of community groups, recently completed and imminent CATs include Maes y Coed community centre, Highfields and Oaks garden nursery, Insole Court and Grange Gardens Bowls Pavilion.

Progressing various partnership opportunities with other public sector bodies to realise savings and efficiencies, ongoing projects include Global Link assignment of lease to the Local Health Board and Llanishen Police Station project with South Wales Police.

CTS

CTS now have several operatives trained to the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health standard recognised by the HSE for the measurement of equipment subject to Hand and Arm Vibration Syndrome. The service is available to all service areas which includes all the necessary information to effectively manage vibration exposure to operatives in line with the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the statement and a number of matters were raised including the additional administrative responsibilities for administration staff at schools with the roll-out of Digigov. The Cabinet Member advised that the feedback from the 52 staff who had gone through the training programme had been good; and that another 72 staff were programmed to go through the training between January and March.

The Cabinet Member in response to a question on the revised Welsh Government Local Government budget settlement advised that the recalculation process and analysis of the public consultation was being completed.

Matters were raised around increasing on-line self-service provision in addition to C2C; and the logging of calls with C2C rather than being transferred directly to a service area.

138 : EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STATEMENT

The new Children's Services Fostering Campaign has received positive feedback since its launch in late September and the number of enquiries received by the team has seen an impressive increase of 310% compared with the same period last year.

It is important to remember however, that we still have staggering number of around 600 children needing foster homes in Cardiff and a target of 300 new carers needs to be fulfilled in order to provide the care, support and homes that are necessary. The current situation means that some children have to be placed outside of the city meaning they have to uproot and move away from their school, friends and communities and sometimes siblings have to be separated.

By providing foster carers in house as opposed placing Cardiff Looked After children with Independent Fostering Agencies, the Council will also make savings on average of approximately £450 per foster placement, per week.

The Foster Team continue to recruit and it is essential that we as a Council support them by promoting and raising awareness of the service in our local wards and communities. The City of Cardiff Council offer competitive financial packages and exceptional support and training opportunities to foster carers.

Whether you or somebody you know could foster a child, or by helping to spread the word about fostering for the City of Cardiff Council, you could help make the difference to a Cardiff child or young person. Please visit www.fostercarecardiff.co.uk to find out more and help support this vital service.

There were no questions on the statement.

139 : COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CO-OPERATIVE & SOCIAL ENTERPRISE STATEMENT

IAAF/Cardiff University World Half Marathon Championship

The Cabinet Member welcomed the news that Mo Farah would, subject to confirmation of his selection for the British Team on March 7th, be joining the prestigious competition line up for the IAAF/Cardiff University World Half Marathon Championship to be hosted in Cardiff on Saturday 26 March 2016.

The Olympic champion over 5000m and 10,000m will target the race in front of a home crowd to boost his preparations ahead of the Rio Olympic Games in August. Five-time world champion Farah will make his debut appearance at these Championships.

The Welsh public will get a rare chance to witness one of athletics' global stars competing around their capital city. And even better – together with the elite races Cardiff 2016 also provides a mass race for all level of runners to compete alongside

Mo Farah by 'Running in the Footsteps of Champions'. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I would urge everyone to sign-up before the February 29th deadline if they have not already done so.

Grangetown's Hub

Grangetown Community Hub opened its doors for the first time on Monday 11th January, bringing a broader and improved range of services to the area. The former Grangetown Library building on Havelock Place has been extended and refurbished in order to develop the Hub, so that Council and partner agencies can deliver services from a single location. This will allow customers to engage with the Council more easily, and to access key information and amenities more quickly and conveniently than ever before.

Trained staff are on hand at the new Grangetown Hub to help visitors utilise a full library service, housing and benefits advice, Into Work services, a coffee shop run by BRG Communities First, and a community room. The facility also boasts an IT suite, free PCs, internet and Wi-Fi access, and free phones to contact the Council and other services. Citizens' Advice and Communities First are also available, and there will be visits from further partner organisations to provide specialist help and advice.

The Hub is open six days a week, Monday to Saturday, including a late evening on Wednesdays (10am - 7pm). To find out more about the Hub's services and events visit www.facebook.com/grangetownhub

Rumney Partnership Hub

The new Rumney Partnership Hub opened its doors on Monday 23 November. The new hub, which operates in partnership with Communities First, will provide a range of council and partner agency services including library services, advice and benefit services, public access computers and free telephones, a children's area, multi-use community room and interview room in the former Rumney Youth Centre building on Llanstephan Road.

Story and rhyme time events every Tuesday morning at 11am, as well as job club every Monday throughout the day. To find out more about the Hub's services and events visit www.facebook.com/Rumneyhub

Roath Library

Expressions of interest in the Community Asset Transfer of Roath Library and five bids have been received. Following assessment of the bids from a financial, legal and quality point of view, two bidders have been selected to progress to Stage 2 of the process and have been invited to submit a full business case.

There are clarification meetings arranged with the two selected bidders the week commencing 1st February. At these meetings discussions will take place on the requirements from the council in terms of the communal and library space. Additionally, the evidence the council will need to see in their business plan on financing and deliverability of their proposal. To allow time for the organisations to

fully investigate, carry their due diligence and submit a fully designed and costed business plan a deadline of 1st April will be given.

At this stage, it is looking positive that a third party organisation will be identified through the CAT process to take on the running of the building and to undertake necessary repair and conversion works. However, either organisation has yet to fully cost this work.

In the meantime, a temporary lease is being agreed our Health Partners to deliver a temporary library from Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Work will now commence in the next couple of weeks to establish a service from this building. It is also hoped that some open access PC provision will also be included in the building and this is currently being investigated.

Further provision has also been put in place at Plasnewydd Community Centre. The YMCA has recently taken over the building through the council's Community Asset Transfer process and through working in partnership some library provision is now being provided. There is a selection of books available and also the council runs Story and Rhyme Time classes every Friday at 10:30am.

Cathays Heritage Library

Consultation has commenced on the relocation of the Local Studies service into Cathays Library and establish a 'Heritage Library' while retaining Branch Library provision. I believe that Cathays Library would be a better solution for our customers for the following reasons:

- Well-known and much loved historical community building- Local Studies viewed as a complementary use
- Prominent and accessible location
- Large, inviting space for customers – refurbished in 2010
- Integral meeting room available for use by local groups
- Bank of public access PCs available for use
- Wi-Fi connectivity
- Standard branch library access times – open on Saturdays
- Sustainable solution for Local Studies and Cathays Library

The changes will obviously impact on the services provided in Cathays Library. There is potential to create a centre that will provide effective library and specialist information service to all age groups across Cardiff. Heritage Development is an exciting opportunity to deliver learning activities for citizens making innovative use of available technologies. The Library service is hoping that the creation of a Heritage Centre will allow for collaboration with schools in the development and delivery of a heritage based curriculum support programme. Key elements of Branch Library provision will be retained.

Full details of the proposal as well as a link to the survey can be found at www.cardiff.gov.uk/LocalStudies Consultation close date: Monday 15th February 2016.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the statement and a number of matters were raised including the Cathays Heritage Library and the current levels and range of library stock. The Member was reassured that the move of local history services to Cathays would add services and not reduce them; the involvement of Local Members in the process to relocate the Roath Library, and the provision open-access PC provision. The Cabinet Member advised that Local Members would have an opportunity to see the space at Cardiff Royal Infirmary, and to see the information regarding Roath Library. Additional PC space had been installed in the Community Centre in Plasnewydd as a way of mitigating the current loss of provision.

The Cabinet Member took on board the suggestion that relevant sports organisation be asked to provide on their websites information for amateur runners, such as links to running clubs, training plans, etc.,.

140 : EDUCATION STATEMENT

Performance of Cardiff's Schools in 2014/15

The Cabinet Member stated that the Council continues to build on last year's improvement. In certain areas standards are improving at a faster rate than Wales as a whole e.g. Foundation phase and key stage 2. Outcomes for pupils eligible for Free School Meals are improving at a faster rate than their peers in the primary phase and key stage 3. 4.5% increase in eFSM in level 2 inclusive thresholds is greater than 3.5% improvement across Wales as a whole.

At key stage 4 a significant improvement (4.9%) in the level 2 inclusive threshold to 60%. Halving the number of secondary schools where less than 40% of pupils achieve five GCSE's grades A-C, including English, Maths and Welsh from 6 to 3.

Minority Ethnic pupils as a whole at key stage 4 perform at least in line with white UK pupils.

An increase in the number of schools in the highest benchmarking quarter and a reduction in the number in the lowest Benchmarking quarter

But we are not complacent as a Local education Authority and we have a number of areas we are concerned about including:

- Variation in standards by schools with comparable pupil populations in both primary and secondary sectors;
- The low performance in three secondary schools which has also had a negative impact on the city's overall attainment, attendance and exclusion figures;
- Impact of poverty on standards of attainment: despite improvement in performance of pupils eligible for free school meals the gap remains too wide;
- Underachievement of certain groups of learners including some minority ethnic groups, white UK pupils in schools in deprived areas of the city and Looked after Children;

- Proportion of young people who are not in employment, education and training.

Good progress had been made in reducing fixed term exclusions (Cardiff rate of 1.1 per thousand pupils was below the Welsh average of 1.6 per thousand pupils) but the figure for shorter term exclusions was well above the national average 34.3 per 1000 pupils compared to 26.7 per thousand with 8 secondary schools having exclusions considerably above Wales and Cardiff averages. Since September 2015, 2 of the secondary schools are now in line with other secondary schools with low exclusions and a further four have been successful in reducing exclusions this term

The report also throws up some other issues for example the performance of girls in Cardiff – girls' outcomes are higher than boys in most indicators but the performance of girls does not compare as well with national figures.

Youth Engagement and Progression Strategy – The Cardiff Commitment

This paper gives a clear corporate strategic direction for Cardiff Council and was agreed by the Cabinet to secure a positive destination for every young person in Cardiff after statutory schooling into employment, education or training working with partners. Alongside the development of the strategy (building on past policy) the council would work proactively to deliver “quick wins” where possible for example with a pilot of a “Junior Apprenticeship Scheme” for 14-16 year olds. We would also review our own Corporate Framework for work experience, work placements, traineeships and apprenticeships.

Schools' Organisational Programme

The provision of additional school places and the improvement of our school buildings is a priority for Cardiff Council and a number of new schemes have had developments over the last two months including:

- Eastern High School – planning permission for the new school has been agreed
- Outcome of consultation on the additional provision of English medium and Welsh medium places in Splott & Adamsdown - Ysgol Glan Morfa will increase from 1FE to 2FE with up to 80 part time nursery places with the provision of a new standardised 2FE primary school at the Maltings from September 2017. Moorland Primary School will increase from 2FE to 3FE with 96 part time nursery places utilising the vacated Ysgol Glan Morfa buildings from September 2017
- Outcome of consultation on the additional provision of English Medium and Welsh Medium places in the 4 wards – Ninian Park Primary will increase from 2FE to 3 FE on its current site from September 2017. A new 2FE Welsh Medium school will be built on the Hamadryad site from September 2017 but a starter school will be established at Ninian Park in the interim. Subject to the approval of the Governing Body St Mary the Virgin Primary School will expand from 1FE to 2FE
- Outcome of consultation on a new secondary school in the West of the city: a statutory notice will be published to close Glyn Derw High School and

Michaelston Community College and establish a new community High School from 1st September 2017 and to transfer the new school to new build premises on the current Glyn Derw High School site from September 2018

- Consultation on Specialist Provision for Primary aged pupils with Speech and Language difficulties: The Cabinet has agreed to consult on re-shaping specialist education and how we can best meet the needs of children. The report also recommended consulting on whether Meadowbank School should be closed from September 2017 and the building used for alternative Additional Learning Needs provision
- Outcome of consultation Gabalfa Primary School and Ysgol Glan Ceubal: It was agreed that two one FE schools for each should be built back to back on the current site.

Overall over the last two months Cardiff Council has progressed schemes totalling 90 million for the building of new schools in our city through the 21st Century Schools Programme and joint funding with the Welsh Government. A real investment in our children's education.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the statement and a number of matters were raised including schools performance; reporting of the Welsh Government's numeracy and literacy results; welcomed the progress on the Eastern High School development however a matters was raised around the cost of the DVD on presented to Planning Committee for the Eastern High School development; issues around the banding of schools like Adamsdown and Ninian Park in view of the issues around mobility of pupils and turnover rates; improvements in foundation stage and key stage two education attainment; reduction of the exclusion rates; projection of Education budgets; safer routes to schools and the current School Organisational programme for primary and secondary education school provision.

141 : ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

The Cabinet Member in addition to a written statement made the following oral statement to Council on an incident at Thornhill Crematorium Chapel on 27th January 2016.

A quiet shocking incident occurred yesterday at Thornhill crematorium during a funeral service. This involved an inappropriate footage being played during the service on one of the 4 screens in the chapel.

The incident occurred on just one of the monitors which was installed to replace a faulty screen and until this week we have had no reports of anything like this happening previously.

An urgent investigation has been launched and an independent specialist Audio Visual company has been appointed to analyse the systems in a bid to establish how this unfortunate incident occurred. Once this has been completed a report will be produced detailing their findings.

We sincerely apologise to the family and mourners present who witnessed this incident and will continue to offer them our help and support and provide an

explanation to the family as to how this incident occurred in due course. The Authority has waived all of our costs and fees associated with the funeral service and burial.

The following written statement was received: -

Rent Smart Wales

The launch of Rent Smart Wales – Rent Smart Wales launched on 23 November 2015 and is a landmark landlord licensing scheme hailed as UK first being hosted by Cardiff Council. The new registration and licensing scheme will prevent rogue landlords and agents from letting and managing properties in Wales. It will also raise awareness with landlords, agents and tenants of their respective rights and responsibilities.

New staff were in place on the launch date having completed 3-4 weeks of induction training, documentation to support the processes had been developed and the infrastructure and database required for launch was in place. The marketing campaign, led by Welsh Government, was implemented and publicity included Lesley Griffiths AM and the Cabinet Member visiting Willcox House with press. Further development to the website / database is required post launch to ensure system is fit for next steps in the processing of registrations and licensing applications. A review of the fees set for Agents is also under consideration.

Flat Holm Island

The Cabinet Member was pleased to report that officers are making the final arrangements for the submission of an application to Keep Wales Tidy, for Green Flag status for Flat Holm Island. Flat Holm is both a unique and precious resource and I am sure that the prospects of success in securing Green Flag status which recognises the best parks and green spaces in the country will be enhanced through the work that the Council has been undertaking with partners involved in the management and development of the Island.

Victoria Park Splash Pad

The public engagement exercise carried out by the Council for the Victoria Park Splash Pad closed last week and I am delighted that in excess of 1,000 individuals responded, through the exercise two design options were presented and there was a clear front runner that polled 74.7% of the votes. Design staff in parks are working with our project partner to finalise the installation programme and an end of May opening has been targeted.

Apprenticeships

The Cabinet Member advised that last year a number of updates in respect of on the introduction of new Apprenticeships within the Environment portfolio, and, and of his committed to the introduction and development of further schemes that seek to strengthen and secure the skills base, enhance workforce planning and provide high quality employment opportunities for young people. As the largest employer in Wales

we have an obligation to be leading the way. The Cabinet Member was pleased to report that in recent weeks we have made appointments to, two new schemes within the Parks, Sport & Harbour Authority area, one a Marine Engineering Apprenticeship and one a Business Administration Apprenticeship.

Parc Cefn Onn

Next month will see the submission of the of the Stage 2 Heritage Lottery bid for Parc Cefn Onn and through the Parks for People Funding stream, the bid has been constructed in partnership with a wide range of stakeholder organisations including the Friends of Parc Cefn Onn. The total value of the project is anticipated to be circa 650k and will see a range improvements to the site focused on improving access to the site and its heritage for a wide and diverse range of users. A decision from HLF is anticipated in July.

Leaf Fall

The Cleansing teams have had another successful autumn, working hard to tackle leaf-fall across the city. The teams targeted each ward once a fortnight, visiting those streets with the highest footfall and leaf-fall. In addition, officers and teams responded quickly to priority requests for clearance (i.e. where leaf-fall was making pathways slippery). It was good to see that no complaints were received in October, only 1 in November and 4 in December from the public.

Waste Restricting Programme

The new waste restricting programme has also achieved its first mile stone. At the end of last month over 100,000 black bins had been exchanged across the City. The next phase is removing any remaining larger bins is also underway and overall we are on track with the project delivery. The recycling tonnages are beginning to increase, with over an extra 1200 tonnes being collected in the last quarter, so I would like to thank the public for supporting the changes and increasing their recycling habits.

Neighbourhood Services City Wide Roll Out

As you may already be aware, the Neighbourhood Services Project has been successfully piloted in the South West, West and City and South Neighbourhood Partnership areas since July last year. Due to the success of the project, we are now expanding it city wide to include the East, North and South East Neighbourhood Partnership areas. The project is being expanded city wide with immediate effect. In order for us to properly measure the performance of the service, we would be grateful if you would direct all of your enquiries regarding cleansing, environmental enforcement or parks cleansing/litter issues to C2C@cardiff.gov.uk from now onwards. This is designed to enable true measurement of the successes and for us to fully capture all of the trends and issues, and, most importantly enabling a quicker operational response to you and our resident's needs.

The Lord Mayor invited questions on the statement and a number of matters were raised including future of Flat Holm Island and increase access by visitors; the

success of the leaf-fall operation in Pontcanna supported by the Cleansing team and local residents and children; drainage issues with leaf-fall and flooding clarification on the criteria for the a dispensation for a larger bin for families of six or more.

NOTICE OF MOTION

142 : NOTICE OF MOTION 2

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Carter and seconded by Councillor Kelloway had been submitted and was included on the Summons for the meeting.

The Notice of Motion was as follows:

The Council notes that:

- There are 3,726 people in Cardiff living with dementia. The total number of people with dementia in the UK as a whole is forecast to increase to over 1 million by 2025 and over 2 million by 2051 if age-specific prevalence remains stable, and increases are only driven by demographic ageing.
- In September 2014, Council unanimously agreed to work towards making Cardiff a dementia supportive community.
- Cardiff Council is a strategic partner in Cardiff & Vale University Health Board's Dementia Three-Year Plan.
- Under the Cabinet's draft budget proposals, it is proposed to withdraw council funding for the Alzheimer's Society Day Support Service at Oldwell Court in Penylan.
- Oldwell Court supports 65 people across the city with moderate to severe symptoms of dementia; care needs include support with continence and feeding. It also provides respite for carers giving much needed emotional, practical support for those with complex needs.

The Council calls on the cabinet to act in accordance with its stated aim of supporting those living with dementia and their families, by pledging to safeguard funding for services at Oldwell Court for the 2016/17 financial year.

The Lord Mayor advised that one amendment had been received

Amendment 1 was proposed by Councillor Elsmore and seconded by Councillor Hunt as follows:

Bullet point 1: the addition of the word '*approximately*' prior to 3,726.

Bullet point 1: deletion of the second sentence.

Bullet point 3: correction to factual detail with the deletion of all words following the word partner and replace with '*in the Cardiff and Vale Dementia 3 Year Plan.*'

Bullet point 4: delete all words and replace with:

In relation to the Alzheimer's Society service at Oldwell Court, it is proposed that:

- *The Council will continue to fund places for those people who currently receive a service funded by the council at Oldwell Court*
- *The Council will continue funding for these individuals until such time as the arrangements are no longer required*
- *The Council will support the Alzheimer's Society to help them secure their current accommodation into the future.*

Addition of the following resolution:

'Accordingly, the Council resolves to work collaboratively with partners to ensure that we fully meet our commitments to older people including our commitment to making Cardiff a dementia supportive city.'

The Amended Motion would then read:

The Council notes:

- There are approximately 3,726 people in Cardiff living with dementia.
- In September 2014, Council unanimously agreed to work towards making Cardiff a dementia supportive community.
- Cardiff Council is a strategic partner in the Cardiff and Vale Dementia 3 Year Plan.
- In relation to the Alzheimer's Society service at Oldwell Court, it is proposed that:
 - The Council will continue to fund places for those people who currently receive a service funded by the council at Oldwell Court
 - The Council will continue funding for these individuals until such time as the arrangements are no longer required
 - The Council will support the Alzheimer's Society to help them secure their current accommodation into the future.

Accordingly, the Council resolves to work collaboratively with partners to ensure that we fully meet our commitments to older people including our commitment to making Cardiff a dementia supportive city.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion.

Following the debate a vote on the Amendment proposed by Councillor Elsmore was taken.

The vote was CARRIED

The Lord Mayor called on Councillor Elsmore as the proposer of the amended motion to give the right of reply before going to the vote on the amended motion.

A vote was taken on the Substantive Motion.

The Motion was CARRIED.

143 : NOTICE OF MOTION 1

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Holden had been submitted and was included on the Summons for the meeting.

The Notice of Motion was as follows:

This Council notes the challenges faced by Cardiff in terms of recycling.

The Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet to:

1. Re-open Waungron Road and Wedal Road recycling centres; and
2. Take forward a future decentralised approach to recycling.

The Lord Mayor advised that two amendments had been received

Amendment 1 was proposed by Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor Dianne Rees as follows:

Point 1: First line after *and* insert '*keep open*'

Point 1: First line after Centres insert '*, based on the overwhelming views of the public*'.

Point 2: Deletion of all the words up to decentralised and replace with '*undertake discussions with all Councillors and the public on their views on a decentralised approach to recycling*'.

The Amended Motion would then read:

This Council notes the challenges faced by Cardiff in terms of recycling.

The Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet to:

1. Re-open Waungron Road and keep open Wedal Road Recycling Centres, based on the overwhelming views of the public.
2. Undertake discussions with all Councillors and the public on their views on a decentralised approach to recycling

Amendment 2 was proposed by Councillor Derbyshire and seconded by: Councillor Michael as follows: -

After The Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet to:

Deletion of Points 1 and 2 and replace with

- (i) Take all necessary steps to ensure the Welsh Government recycling targets are met, currently 58%, but increasing to 70% by 2025.
- (ii) Ensure the council provides 2 quality HWRCs and facilitates alternative recycling provision with the third sector such as reuse centre(s), pop up shops or mobile units, for residents in other parts of the city.
- (iii) Continue to provide recycling education, enforcement and help to residents.
- (iv) Increase future recycling by working with neighbouring authorities to explore ways of finding outlets for materials currently not recycled.
- (v) Look to develop further partnerships with Councils and companies to support high recycling, such as the one with the Vale of Glamorgan and Kelda Organic Energy Limited which will provide 98% recycling and energy from food waste in 2017 from our respective Counties.

The Amended Motion would then read:

The Council note the challenges faced by Cardiff in terms of recycling.

The Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet to:

- (i) Take all necessary steps to ensure the Welsh Government recycling targets are met, currently 58%, but increasing to 70% by 2025.
- (ii) Ensure the council provides 2 quality HWRCs and facilitates alternative recycling provision with the third sector such as reuse centre(s), pop up shops or mobile units, for residents in other parts of the city.
- (iii) Continue to provide recycling education, enforcement and help to residents.
- (iv) Increase future recycling by working with neighbouring authorities to explore ways of finding outlets for materials currently not recycled.
- (v) Look to develop further partnerships with Councils and companies to support high recycling, such as the one with the Vale of Glamorgan and Kelda Organic Energy Limited which will provide 98% recycling and energy from food waste in 2017 from our respective Counties.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion and amendments.

Councillor McEvoy confirmed that he accepted the first amendment as proposed by Councillor Cowan.

At the end of the debate a vote was taken on the first amendment as proposed by Councillor Cowan.

The vote on the first amendment by Councillor Cowan was LOST.

The Lord Mayor called for a vote on the second amendment as proposed by Councillor Derbyshire.

The vote on the second amendment was CARRIED

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Derbyshire as the proposer of the Carried amendment the right of reply following which a vote was taken on the amended Motion as agreed.

The vote on the Substantive Motion was CARRIED.

144 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question: *County Councillor Howells*

Arts and culture make a valuable contribution to the life of the city not just in terms of the economic benefits that they bring but also in contributing to community cohesion, health and wellbeing outcomes and educational attainment. What assessment has been made on the likely impact to these benefits that the proposed budget cuts will have?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

I would refer you to the answer I gave earlier on in response to the public question, when I gave a detailed reply about our historic support – which you had a part in – and our continued support for the arts in Cardiff.

To inform the budget process for 2016/17, a series of six equality impact assessments were completed. Meetings were also held with those organisations directly involved. In addition, representatives of the arts and culture community were invited to attend scrutiny – where you were at – to present their case for continued support in the arts.

The Council has received an overwhelming response from the arts community and these responses are being carefully considered and will help to inform the very difficult and final decision-making process over the next few weeks.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Howells*

I'm not sure if you're a follower of Cardiff Without Culture on Facebook. It's an organisation of over 50 arts organisations. In fact, one of the public questions was from a representative earlier today. But they make a very valid point, and that is that culture makes life worth living and Cardiff a city worth living in – or a "liveable city".

This year we are seeing more than £700,000 worth of cuts to the arts in Cardiff. And that's on top of savage cuts which they've had last year and the year before. And, to my mind, no assessment has been made of the wider impact of these cuts. You say equality impact assessments have been undertaken but I don't think that any assessment has been made of the wider benefit to the economy. For example, Artes Mundi – the £40,000 we put into that delivers about £2.5m to the local economy.

And, similarly, the small grants we give to little organisations do so much to promote community cohesion.

So, in light this and in light of the better-than-anticipated budget settlement we've had, can I seriously ask that you reconsider these proposals?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

I can't comment on your last point because the process is still ongoing. However, it's important to note that the £700,000 figure that's been bandied around -- £495,000 of that, including Arts Active, is tied up in the procurement exercise for St David's Hall and New Theatre. If that goes through, whoever the partnership organisation who takes over the St David's Hall will be expected to continue on that Arts Active programme.

Now, Artes Mundi themselves have accepted that it wouldn't stop if we reduce the funding, but I take on board the points you've made there.

And no one knows more about the economic benefit of the arts. That's why I was the leading Cabinet Member to give a 125-year lease to Chapter, something that took years to finalise and I was the cabinet member who did.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

Is it true that you've already found the money to avoid the worst of these cuts but you're just stringing this out to detract attention from other cuts which will come in the budget?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

No, that isn't true.

Question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

As the Capital City of Wales, our Local Studies Collection in Cardiff is visited by researchers from all over the world. Cardiff needs its collection to be accessible to the general public, encompassing all aspects of Cardiff's history and one of which its citizens can be proud. In view of the small area of Cathays Library designated to receive the "collection", what is not being moved to Cathays Library and why?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

Subject of course to the results of the current consultation exercise, the new heritage centre at Cathays Library will host the entirety of the Local Studies Collection that was formerly based within the Central Library. Shelving capacity will be maximised to ensure that no reduction in this collection will be necessary. The intention is to add to and enhance the existing library offer at Cathays.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

I'm very relieved to say that, subject to consultation, the collections will be preserved in their entirety.

There is a considerable body of local opinion who are very concerned that none of this collection is dissipated. And there are other cities such as Bristol and Newtown, Powys that have local study facilities which give good access to original local records.

So, can you guarantee that not only will you not be breaking up the collections but that they will all be available in an appropriate and adequate space, matching facilities elsewhere? As a capital city, this is essential.

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

Well, the Local History Studies section that was formerly based within central library will be going to Cathays. As you know from the Cabinet meeting that we had the other week when we considered this item, we set up a stakeholder group with partners right across, including Glamorgan Archives, the University, etc. to talk about how we can best display the rest of the work.

The fact is it's doing nobody any good being locked away in Dominions Way, where it's completely inaccessible and is costing us a lot of money. This is about getting the collections to the best locations which are most accessible and saving some money at the same time.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Clark*

Could you clarify that, if the collection is going to be moved from Dominions Way, what would happen to the space in Dominions Way? Would that be leased, sold off – what would happen to that, please?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

We don't own Dominions Way, we rent it.

Question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

How many commercial leases have been sold by the Council since May 1st 2012?
How much has each one been sold for and for what period of time?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

The Council has granted 173 commercial leases since 1st May 2012 and I'm more than happy to get Officers to provide some information, subject to clarification on any issues of commercial confidentiality, in due course.

Question: *County Councillor Thorne*

Why has the Council contracted out the Contact Centre for Children's Services, which serves our most vulnerable children, to a private company based in Kent and moved away from in-house collaborative and charitable model of delivery?

Reply: *County Councillor Lent*

The decision to externally commission the supervised contact service formed part of the directorate savings in the 2015/16 budget, which was agreed by Council in February last year. The expected efficiency savings arising from this decision were based on the whole service being provided at scale by a single provider.

Due to the fact that the service was one that could be delivered by a range of providers (Including both Swanstaff voluntary sector organisations and private-sector providers), it was not permissible to undertake a single tender exercise and, therefore, a full tender was undertaken in order to procure the service.

A range of organisations submitted tenders and Swanstaff was awarded the contract as they scored the highest in the evaluation process.

I understand that the organisation has already contacted the Council's Economic Development service to seek assistance in making links with commercial landlords in order to identify local properties in the east and west of the city that would make suitable locations for the delivery of supervised contact.

Question: *County Councillor Clark*

What is the total revenue from each of the following Council income streams for the period April-December 2015 inclusive?

- Civil parking enforcement
- Moving traffic offences
- Resident parking permits
- Council car parking charges

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

The Council's financial records show that the actual income received from April to December 2015 was as follows:

- Civil parking enforcement : £1,344,377
- Moving traffic offences: £1,882,104
- Resident parking permit: £235,178
- Council car parking charges for on- and off-street parking: £3,685,682

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Clark*

Obviously there is a cost to running these services, but if there is any remaining revenue after these costs are met, can you commit to ensuring that the necessary

funding is invested to address the numerous potholes and often poor road surfaces on Cardiff's roads?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

With all of these things, there are many projects which are in the pipeline. The parking strategy, as many of you will be aware, we've just been consulting on and there are many things which many of your Members have asked for. So all of those are the kind of things we will be looking at, and some of those funding will come from the civil enforcement. So, obviously, what we're going to be doing is looking at the whole range and, certainly, that will cover a large number of things.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Richard Cook*

We have just passed the LDP at this meeting and you'll not be surprised for me to say that, in order for us to move to this 50/50 modal split, which we are moving very slowly at the moment, we have to increase cycling, we have to increase walking. I've asked you this before and you've been very reluctant to, but will you actually consider spending 50% of this £7m, by my rough mathematics, on walking and on cycling and then 50% on other modes (i.e. roads).

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

As you are aware, I have already made it very clear – this is not a decision that is made by myself, this is a decision that will be taken by Full Council with anything to do with the budget, and that has been very clearly emphasised to you on a number of occasions. There is no such thing – and you are well aware, you've been on this Council long enough to know – that you cannot just say 50%.

Question: *County Councillor Graham Thomas*

Cardiff Council has objected to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's planning application to redevelop the Ely Brickworks due to the impact of heavy traffic and the impact on the environment. This was done following consultation with residents and local Councillors.

How will Cardiff Council ensure it remains consistent given the LDP proposals are on a much larger scale, affect our residents even more directly, and will have a much greater impact for similar reasons?

Reply: *County Councillor Michael*

I should just clarify that the planning application in question has been received by the Vale of Glamorgan Council as a Local Planning Authority but has not been admitted by the Council itself, which is what your question actually implies.

From a Cardiff perspective, all planning applications within the Council's administrative boundaries will continue to be assessed on their merits having regard to policy considerations and other relevant material factors.

Responses from local Members and residents will also continue to help to inform the consideration of submitted proposals.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Graham Thomas*

So the Vale of Glamorgan have received this application to redevelop the derelict mineral site to take waste and supply of building materials. But on Ely Brickworks, Cardiff Council have objected to this application, I understand, believing that residents in the area would be subject to adverse impacts of heavy vehicle movements and there are sufficient grounds for the Vale to refuse the application given the likely impact of noise, vibration, dust, and general inconvenience from heavy vehicle movements.

Now the Ely Brickworks will require up to four HGVs an hour. However, the extension to Creigau Quarry will involve 146 HGV movements per day. Much more than Ely Brickworks, and the arguments are much the same: HGV movement, noise, dust, vibration. The similarities in the two cases are very similar.

So, please can you make sure that the residents of Creigau get the same respect shown to them when the application is considered?

Reply: *County Councillor Michael*

I think you should understand that I can't comment on an application on another authority.

As I said in the reply, every application will be judged on its individual merits. And that's exactly what we're going to do, wherever the application comes.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

What is your view on the buffer-zone policy, and specifically its impact on the application from the Vale for the landfill site next to Caerau? And will your department be objecting on the grounds of the buffer-zone policy.

Reply: *County Councillor Michael*

The Vale of Glamorgan has refused [possibly "received"] this application. The Vale of Glamorgan quite rightly asked our Officers for their observations. This was duly done.

The Council officials acted exactly as they should, and our views have been told to the Vale.

The decision to do with it is not a matter for me, not a matter for you – it's a matter for the Vale. You are free to actually go to the Vale planning meeting – and if you don't know the date, I'm happy to give you the date, I'll even give you the bus fare if you want – you can do anything you like there. They make the decision, not us.

Question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

What guarantees does the Council offer that existing properties in Cardiff West won't be subject to higher flooding risks due to greenfield site development and what extra flood defences have been put in?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

The greenfield development in the LDP has been carefully considered against all relevant factors by the independent inspectors, who have concluded that the plan meets the LDP tests of soundness.

All future planning applications will be considered on their merits having regard to policy considerations and other material factors, including flood risk. The Council, therefore, has the ability to refuse planning permission for any future development proposals which are considered unacceptable in terms of flood risk.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

You haven't actually answered the question, which is not surprising. I draw your attention to the second part of it: what extra flood defences have been put in?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

As you should be aware, with any planning application, when a planning application goes in, what they will do the Committee and, of course, the Officers, will look at all the planning guidance and all the protection will be put in there. In fact, with the new LDP and the new SPGs, we'll have far more protection. Unfortunately, you don't want those protections because you've just refused the LDP.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

When the conditions are put in place to deal with flooding issues and also with building matters, will there be adequate numbers of Officers available to check that those conditions are being properly implemented? And I refer at the moment to planning applications which have been granted in my part of the ward where runoff of soil has been blocking up drains locally. So will there be sufficient Officers available to check, particularly on the scale of these developments which are proposed, that those conditions are being enforced?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Yes, there will be.

Question: *County Councillor Magill*

Until now, Cardiff has been without an LDP since 2006 because the then Lib Dem/Plaid-run Council irresponsibly failed to produce a sound plan. The failure to

produce an LDP made it much harder for the Council and residents to protect open spaces from unsuitable development.

For years, the Labour Council, Julie Morgan AM, and campaigners have argued for a green belt for the north of Cardiff. Despite objections from developers, the Independent Planning Inspector has approved Cardiff's first green wedge to protect this land north of the M4 for the life of the LDP.

Whilst his decision means this wonderful landscape will be better protected than previously, will the Council continue to lobby for this protection to remain after 2026?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Yes, we will continue to campaign for a green belt as we have done since 2012. I would also like to thank you and your ward colleagues for your campaign on the green belt and, of course, Julie Morgan as well.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Magill*

I am glad to hear that you will continue to press for green belt designation for 2026 onwards. In the meantime, could you confirm that the LDP now being in place means that the land north of the M4 is now protected from now until 2026?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I'm pleased to be able to say "absolutely". You know, clearly, the opposition didn't want that protection because they've turned the LDP down just now.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

I'm really surprised at Councillor Magill's question because she's asking whether the Cabinet Member can guarantee that the Council will continue to lobby for protection to remain after 2026. Well, that shows incredible confidence you'll be still there in those times. But I think it's highly unlikely that either Councillor Patel or Councillor Magill will be in control, and neither will the Labour Party after 2026.

Question: *County Councillor Carter*

Will the Cabinet Member extend the current free pupil transport to Llanishen High School beyond the current academic year?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

To extend free transport, we would not only need to consider cost but also consistency and equitable treatment of other children in Cardiff, and I'm sure that's a point you will appreciate. I have asked officers to provide me with legal advice to confirm the position and I am happy to meet to discuss that further.

I have total sympathy for the parents in Llanedeyrn who have found themselves in this situation due to the way that the catchment areas were drawn up originally. What

I would hope, going forward, is that the building of the new school in the east of the city will relieve some of the pressure on St Teilo's. And, obviously, while it's a longer term prospect, within the LDP plans we've just passed there is a strategic site plan for a new high school in western Pontprennau.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Carter*

Could you ask Officers to get some urgency as to get this judgement? I would appreciate an offer of a meeting. I think certainly if it was dealt with before Easter that would be very helpful. I'm conscious we have lots of anxious parents approaching us formally and informally about this with that clock ticking. So if you could give an assurance that you will at least try to get a decision from Officers by the spring that would be very helpful, I think, to mitigate some of the concerns.

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

I'm not sure whether that was a question or not, Joe, but yes, of course. In terms of the advice I've had from Transport Officers, without saying too much, I actually wanted to have that confirmed legally.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Weaver*

Could I just check – am I right in thinking that the previous Council did make it very clear that this was a time-limited transport offer? And was one of the justifications for it precisely because of the very short nature of the closure, which obviously could not possibly apply once the period of time has elapsed?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

It was time limited, which is why we're affected now, and some of the grounds given in that decision were about the short notice of the closure of Llanedeyrn and, obviously, those are grounds that are difficult to sustain now.

Question: *County Councillor Cowan*

Will the Cabinet Member make a statement on his view of the importance of Pedal Power to the residents of Cardiff?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Pedal Power's value to Cardiff residents is principally through the promotion of general health and wellbeing through cycling and physical exercise, thereby promoting the Council's strategic objectives.

T

he charity provides cycle-hire facilities at locations in Pontcanna and Cardiff Bay for use by the public, including families and visitors to the city. Pedal Power also engages with communities to promote access to cycling opportunities, including women-only cycling and adults with learning disabilities.

Supplementary question: County Councillor Cowan

What discussions or meetings have you had personally with Pedal Power since their representations?

Reply: County Councillor Patel

A number of Cabinet Members have been over to Pedal Power back last year, and we've had a considerable amount of dialogue with them. Regarding the budget issues, what I'm going to be able to say straight clear: there's no decision been made – we won't know until we come into the Council chambers.

Supplementary question: County Councillor Howells

I'm sure, Councillor Patel that the grant we give to Pedal Power covers much of its back-office costs, which is something that some of the other grants it has won't- it can't be used for. And the threat of there being the possible need to charge for assessments for people with disabilities or to charge for carers to use the services that Pedal Power provide is very worrying for a lot of people in Cardiff.

So can I ask that you lobby very hard your colleagues on the Cabinet to ensure that this £10,000 – which, in the scheme of things, considering the better-than-anticipated settlement you've got – is not a lot, that this is reversed? And then can I also add the question which Councillor asked: have you yourself visited Pedal Power?

Reply: County Councillor Patel

The answer was very clear, actually. I did say "many of us", which meant me as well. The answer is "yes" – as simple as that. And regarding like I said earlier on with my previous answer that no decisions have been yet made on the funding.

Question: County Councillor Holden

How many horses grazing public land has the council seized using the laws provided to it and how many of those horses have been destroyed due to lack of appropriate facilities to house them?

Reply: County Councillor Derbyshire

The Control of Horses (Wales) Act came into force on 28th January 2014 and since that time, Cardiff Council has seized 178 horses from public land. Of these:

- 91 were rehomed to charities,
- 61 were returned to their owners upon payment of fines, and
- 26 were destroyed humanely due to problems relating to their temperament and not because of any lack of appropriate facilities. Every attempt is made to rehome every horse safely but, for some horses, it is unfortunately the only outcome.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

On every journey from the east of the city to the bay along Rover Way, one sees tethered horses on a very short rein grazing in shocking conditions on grass highway verges. Why is this tolerated by the Council?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

It isn't generally tolerated by the Council. The difficulty we have is always what to do about the horses at the time and if they're not in a distressed condition, for instance, it's very difficult to deal with because it's also the Police get involved, as you know. It's been an ongoing problem in the city for as long as I've been a Councillor – since 1999 – and before then.

It's a real challenge for us. I came across a horse very recently in Pengham Green that was probably dead on the grass verge and the Council has to deal with that. It's a difficult situation. We haven't got – and I will have to talk about resources here – we haven't got the resources to go around and seize all those horses and do something about them just like that. We've got to be selective about how we do it.

Question: *County Councillor Weaver*

If the LDP has passed, how quickly will we start to see new Supplementary Planning be published or consulted on?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

One of the benefits of having a new LDP in place is the opportunity to prepare and approve a new suite of updated Supplementary Planning Guidance to provide the best possible guidance on development proposals consistent with the plan.

Some 28 SPGs are already programmed to be prepared in three tranches over the next 18 months. Officers have already started work on drafting SPGs, including guidance on HMOs.

I would also like to thank you and your ward colleagues for your involvement in the HMO SPGs.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Weaver*

I think it's really important the Council cracks on with all the planning guidance, which should be as up to date as possible now that we have the LDP. What I'm going to ask you is to urge that the HMO policy that will affect – potentially could affect the entire city – but is particularly important in Cathays and Roath is a priority. We want to see us use all the powers to have to ensure that the houses of multiple occupation in this city are of good quality for the tenants in them, and their neighbours, and that we ensure a balanced mix of housing in every ward in the city.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I would certainly agree with that. And, certainly now, we've got to be able to do new SPGs because of the LDP, whereas with an old LDP – or old “plan”, I should say – which is nearly 20 years old, our hands were tied, whereas now we've got a new SPG which will cover all of those things.

Question: *County Councillor Bowden*

Will the Cabinet Member give details on what the Council is doing to raise teaching standards in Cardiff schools?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

The Council delivers support, monitoring, challenge, and intervention to schools in Cardiff through joint working with the Central South Consortium and the Welsh Government Challenge Cymru programme.

The Council is working with the Central South Consortium to raise teaching standards in Cardiff to develop high-quality teaching and learning across all sectors, including specific strategies for literacy and numeracy; Commission appropriate and tailored services from the Consortium to challenge and support school improvement; and to improve pupil tracking and target setting.

Our recent strategy has been focussing on strengthening partnerships to raise standards and, where necessary, taking action where standards were not improving. We can see the impact through improved outcomes, better engagement, and a change in professional practices.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Bowden*

Are you supportive of the Teach First scheme, which is the independent charity which has placed participants right across secondary schools in Cardiff in areas where there is significant deprivation? There is strong evidence from more established work that they've done in England that Teach First is having a real impact on improving pupil outcomes and, on some of the more softer outcomes like inspiring more of our young people to aim for university or an apprenticeship.

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

I actually met with representatives from Teach First two weeks ago and I have to be honest – I was very, very impressed by what they said. What I particularly appreciated was their clear moral focus on actually raising the standards of education across the board, but particularly in some of our most deprived communities.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Boyle*

Staff from a number of local schools, including the two at which I am a governor, recently visited Cyril Jackson Primary School in Tower Hamlets, which has just received two excellent grades from Ofsted. That school, with a standard two-form entry has, we've been told, a head teacher and five members of a senior leadership

team, none of whom teach and all of whom are free to focus on delivering consistency of teaching.

What's the key lesson from that in terms of driving up teaching standards?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

I have to be honest, Joe – I have enough issues keeping track of what we're doing in Cardiff, let alone Tower Hamlets. I mean, clearly there are funding issues but we have, as a local authority, done very well protecting funding compared to other Welsh councils.

Question: *County Councillor Sanders*

Will the Cabinet Member commit to review the road repair schedules in light of the adverse weather making many roads across the city very dangerous?
I know of several examples of large potholes appearing causing car damage in Rhiwbina. I am very grateful to workmen who undertook emergency repairs in the pouring rain one evening. Perhaps another use for the pot of money generate from fines for driving in bus lanes!

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Yes, we are currently considering options for the implementation of an improvement programme to address localised carriageway deterioration in the city.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Sanders*

Can I just ask – you said you're considering options – could you give me a timescale of when those options will be decided on? And also could you confirm that any funding that might be needed will be found and whether the famous funding from the bus lanes might be a place to get it from?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Obviously, I can't give an exact time of when it will happen but certainly there is a programme that we are looking at, which is going to be city wide, which we are doing on a yearly basis – we look at all the roads. And, of course, some of the funding will be coming from those avenues which we already touched on – some reinforcement areas, etc. But, at this moment, there is a programme and I can assure you we will be looking at those roads.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Howells*

We all know, driving through the city that the number of potholes is increasing. And you only have to drive through Adamsdown to see evidence of that. Metal Street in particular – I've reported potholes there on three occasions. Each time, they've been filled in, repaired, but the pothole has reappeared. So we need something more substantial.

So could I urge you, in situations like that where there is an ongoing issue where potholes can't have a little patch-up repair – where they need proper road resurface – that you use some of the money that you've got now from the moving-traffic offenses and the civil parking enforcement to do a proper job on roads like Metal Street?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I do understand the concerns you've expressed. Obviously, not ideal if a pothole keeps having to be repaired. But you haven't, or I certainly haven't received any emails from yourself regarding those problems

Please let me know if you've got a repeated problem of that nature because if you have, what we would certainly need to look at is a catalogue of problems of , say, potholes reappearing constantly, we would have to look at doing a permanent repair, and I would have to talk to the Officers to say "why are we constantly going back to the same pothole when they could be done on a more permanent basis?"

Question: *County Councillor Woodman*

From the beginning of the rollout of smaller black wheelie bins across the city to date, how many bins have been reported stolen and how many people have paid the £25 charge to replace them, please, and during this time period, how many people have been charged a fee for the provision of bins of any description when starting a Council tenancy or taking up occupancy within a house of multi-occupancy (HMO), and the total monies received by the Council from this charging when a tenancy begins or occupancy of an HMO?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

There have been – you got your pen ready? – 239 reports of lost or stolen bins. In these cases, 219 payments were made of £25 for replacement bins. If a property does not have a bin due to it being missing, lost, or stolen, then the occupant is charged in accordance with the existing charging policy. The number of payments made in communal bin can be made available and I can provide you with the additional information following the meeting. We treat everyone the same whether they're living in a house or an HMO property. The policy now addresses the long-standing inconsistency in bin charges that existed previously between householders and HMO tenants.

The Council would not get involved in any negotiations as to whether the tenant, property management company, or landlord makes a payment. These issues are specific to the individual tenancy agreements.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Woodman*

The reason I've asked this question is I've been made aware – only I still have to check it out 100% – that somebody took over a Council tenancy and, because the food bin wasn't there or their waste bins, they were charged £25 to replace bins. Now, if someone takes over a Council tenancy, I'm sure you would agree that

property should be ready for them to move in and it isn't their fault if the bins are not there – they should be provided by the Council.

So can you confirm – I know it touches a bit on Councillor Elsmore's portfolio – that anyone taking over a Council tenancy should not have to pay to replace bins that are not there when they take over the tenancy?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

In terms of the food bin, there is no charge for replacing the food bin – neither the kitchen caddy or the one that goes out. In terms of the other bins, I'm seeking some clarification myself on that and there is currently – I understand it's to do with whether or not the housing side of Council pay for the bin or whatever. So there's something that we need to clarify on that, and I'm seeking clarification at the moment on that.

And I'll also, just to give you some comfort – as normally with these things – I will be reviewing this policy over the next few weeks, particularly in line with other councils, whether or not we're doing the same sorts of things that are being done elsewhere to make sure we're trying to be relatively consistent in our approach.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Cowan*

I don't agree with charging for stolen bins but I'd just like to say thank you, Councillor Derbyshire for clarifying the matter, because I was under the impression that the green and black bins were charged but also the brown food caddies outside.

Is there any charge at all for the small brown caddies and has it always been consistently no charge for people for the replacement of those?

Reply: *County Councillor Derbyshire*

I can't categorically say there's never been a charge for it because, obviously, I've only been in the post for two years. What I can say is that, since I've been in charge, there hasn't been a charge.

Question: *County Councillor Cowan*

Will the Cabinet Member confirm that no branch library will have funding withdrawn in the financial year 2016/17 which would cause it to close?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

As stated previously, there has been a firm commitment made by this administration to fund branch library services until the end of this Council term in 2017.

Library Officers are looking at opportunities for securing alternative funding streams, including possible commercial aspects, in order to make the service more sustainable in the longer term. However, there are no plans to close any branches or withdraw funding.

Question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

What assurance can the Cabinet Member give that Child Protection Conferences in Cardiff are properly chaired and that children's allegations of abuse are properly recorded and acted upon?

Reply: *County Councillor Lent*

As you have already been advised on numerous occasions, I am able to confirm that, following an external independent complaints investigation and a subsequent review by a second and highly regarded independent professional, the governance and monitoring arrangements in relation to child protection case conferences are robust, effective, and appropriately recorded and managed.

Further improvements to this process have included refresher training for all conference chairpersons and the planned introduction of contemporaneous audio recording at all conferences, supported by appropriate information governance measures.

In addition, all children entering the child protection conference arena are offered an independent advocate from the National Youth Advisory Service, subject to parental consent. More recently, this is now supported by a protocol designed to encourage parental consent.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor McEvoy*

I welcome the audio recording because at least now parents won't feel the need to record conferences because of a lack of trust.

If the system is robust, then how can a chair who discounted the allegation of abuse from a child, firstly; secondly, refused to discuss a paedophile disclosure, and thirdly, made up a load of allegations about an elected member and then withdrew them when it became apparent that a recording of the conference actually existed – so how can a person like that still chair child protection conferences in this city? How? Please explain.

Reply: *County Councillor Lent*

Councillor McEvoy, you're never going to get it, are you, that you've made allegations here which are unfounded, you've disclosed possibly confidential personal information. It's just your view – you've had the opportunity to come and discuss any concerns that you have and all you're doing in this chamber is sowing doubts that don't need to be there.

We've said time and time again, and this will be shown in all the inspections that go on, that our procedures are robust. And you are- you know, it's just ridiculous what you're doing.

Question: *County Councillor Hunt*

Local people, the Reservoir Action Group, and we as Llanishen Councillors are all delighted that after a 12-year battle, the community has achieved its aims with Welsh Water acquiring a 999-year lease on Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs. Can we be assured that you will ensure that the Council gives whatever support it can to Welsh Water to achieve their aspirations to refill Llanishen Reservoir and to give public access to the site?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I agree that this is excellent news. And I would like to thank you and your ward colleagues, and of course Julie Morgan AM, for the considerable efforts put in by all of you and by many people and organisations over so many years.

I can assure you that the Council will provide all the support it can to help Welsh Water in fulfilling their aspirations to refill the reservoir and restore public access.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Hunt*

Would you agree with me that, on the basis of the Local Plan decision that we've now taken, that it's vital that consideration is given to the particular highway concerns that have been brought up as far as the reservoir development is concerned – over the last few years especially when the matter was considered at the public inquiry relating to the reservoir – and can you give an assurance that those particular aspects will be considered at any future development or consideration?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Absolutely without any doubt. This is something which many of you have worked on so long, and we've got to do everything possible to make sure that this is absolutely restored back to where it was hopefully.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Graham*

First of all, I'd like to welcome the administration's success on this matter. It's great to see.

I'd merely like to remind the Cabinet that Members of quite a lot of political parties across the political spectrum have been involved for many, many years in this campaign – the Liberal Democrats, and from my own party I can say that our previous Member of Parliament, Jonathan Evans, and the current Member of Parliament, Craig Williams, have been hugely involved in this campaign. So I'd just like to remind the Council of that. Also former Councillors, as well.

And I hope that, in the reception that you are holding for this success, I hope that you extend invitations to members of parties in Cardiff North who have been involved over many years on this matter.

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

In fact I did mention it in my sentence because I did say “many people and organisations”. And let’s be honest and truthful here – Julie Morgan AM has been involved in this for the last 10 years, so she’s been clearly campaigning for that. But, like I said very clearly – you should be listening closer – I did say “many people and organisations over many years have been involved.”

Question: *County Councillor Boyle*

In light of the growing pressures on school places, is it worth exploring whether the Howardian Centre could be spared from demolition and brought back into permanent use as a school?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

Councillor Boyle, people are usually asking me to build them a new school. Arrangements have been made to accommodate the children in the new Howardian Primary School Howardian Centre building for a temporary period as there are sufficient suitable facilities for the transition period.

However, in the longer term, the Howardian Centre is neither suitable for the delivery of the modern curriculum for a full two-form-entry primary school, nor for the purpose of providing secondary education.

Officers are looking at the different options to provide appropriately for the demand in this area, along with the other catchments that are experiencing significant growth across the city.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Boyle*

Thank you, that’s very useful because there have been rumours circulating that the Howardian Centre was going to be retained in some form and brought back once the new primary school had been moved into its new build. It’s useful to have the clarification that there is no long-term future for the Howardian Centre as it stands now. And I’m right in understanding that?

Reply: *County Councillor Merry*

Just one quick point on that is, obviously, we have given a very clear direction about the community use of schools and I know there is a loss to the local area but that is something we can discuss.

Question: *County Councillor Graham Thomas*

Earlier this month there was a serious three-vehicle accident on Llantrisant Road near its junction with Croft y Genau Road. Two cars left the road completely, one landing on its roof.

I have been campaigning for years to get this area made into a 40mph zone, as accidents happen all too frequently on this busy stretch of road. This has been evaluated and approved for investment but I am still waiting for an implementation date. When will it happen?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

I am pleased to confirm that the necessary Traffic Order has been obtained to make the speed limit 40mph through the junction. Officers are now in the detailed design process and we intend to implement the scheme before the end of the current financial year.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Graham Thomas*

I was dismayed to learn this morning of two more accidents on that exact same stretch of road amongst residents' supports of lack of gritting, although I don't know how factual that bit is. This is possibly one of Cardiff's worst black spots at the moment for accidents and something has to happen quickly.

The local and the wider community urgently needs a review of this stretch of road. We need an update on drainage – is there water freezing on the road? Is there sufficient gritting? More speed signs – a speed review.

Would you please keep this high on your agenda before we have any more of these stray incidents?

Reply: *County Councillor Patel*

Certainly. Anyone who has an accident anywhere, that investigation will have to take place in a proper manner. And, obviously, the experts will have a look at what caused that and the feedback will come back and, obviously, if it is ice or if it's something else, we will have to look at if there is any measures we can put in to try and mitigate those. Obviously, sometimes it is not always down to the condition of the road – it could be many other reasons as well. But what I can say is the question you've asked, that is certainly going to be implemented.

Question: *County Councillor Magill*

It is fantastic to see that our four-year campaign as candidates and Councillors for Llanishen and Thornhill to save Llanishen Police Station as a community hub is coming to fruition and that the recent public consultation has resulted in such positive feedback. Please could you confirm the timetable for the new hub being operational?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

The positive feedback from the public consultation on the Llanishen Hub proposals is encouraging and will be reported to Cabinet in March, seeking authority to proceed with the project.

Subject to the decision of Cabinet, the current programme for converting part of the Llanishen Police Station into a community hub is for work to start late autumn, with the hub opening in spring next year.

There is a preliminary programme and is dependent on:

- planning and other necessary consents being obtained,
- completion of detailed design and specifications,
- the outcome of tender processes and contractor appointment, and
- finalisation of lease arrangements with the Police.

Ward Members will be kept informed of the progress.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Magill*

It's obviously a very welcome development in Llanishen Village and people will be very pleased that we're making this progress. It's very encouraging to see how many people took part in the consultation and who were supportive of what was being proposed.

As you know, Llanishen has a library in outdated accommodation that's planned to move into the hub. Some people appear to think this impacts on Rhiwbina Library. Please could you confirm that this is not the case?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

I can confirm that is not the case.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Cowan*

I find it a little bit worrying that the Lord Mayor has got a copy of the supplementary when you're not supposed to know what Councillor Bradbury's actually going to speak from his mouth. That's deeply worrying but that that's for another day.

Councillor Bradbury, in your opinion, do you think hubs will be replacing libraries in the future?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

I think the hub model is certainly working and it's been noted by Mold, it's been noted by Welsh Government, and it's certainly a better model than the model we have in England where, under the UK government in England, over 400 libraries, because of cuts to local governments in England, have closed.

I would rather merge services and look at ways to keep the library service going than close libraries, which has been the case in England due to the massive amount of local government cuts that the party that you're now a member of has presided over.

Question: *County Councillor Howells*

Did Cardiff Council submit an application for the 2016 Stonewall Workplace Equality Index?

Reply: County Councillor Bale

You will be aware, Councillor Howells, that back in 2011 under the previous administration, the applications to take part in this survey were stopped as a result of resource constraints and capacity issues. However, I have asked Officers to look again at that decision.

I can also confirm that I have asked Officers to develop a submission, along with the Cabinet Member for Education, to the Stonewall Education Index by the end of March this year. This measures how well we perform homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic bullying in our schools.

Supplementary question: County Councillor Howells

Thank you for that. That's the most encouraging response I've had on this question for a number of years. And you know I've been asking it every year because the Workplace Equality Index is more than just how we are assessed in terms of our LGBT equality – it's also how we compare with our peers. So, to see a list announced last week which had the National Assembly for Wales, the Welsh Government, RCT Council, Carmarthen Council – and congratulations to them, by the way, for their achievements – but to not have us there was, quite frankly, an embarrassment. If they can do it, I see no reason why we should continue to snub it so I'm glad that you're reconsidering the decision.

As you said, we have a proud record on LGBT rights on Cardiff Council. I don't see any reason why we should be keeping that in the closet.

Reply: County Councillor Bale

Clearly, I wasn't a Councillor at the time of the decision in 2011 to actually cease participation in this. But what I will say is that I know Councillor De'Ath is doing considerable work with Officers on our equality plan making sure that not just in areas such as homophobic bullying, but more broadly, we are looking at the equality agenda and doing what we can in the city to promote that.

Question: County Councillor White

What pressure can this Council bring to bear on the Government to ensure that asylum seekers are not subjected to the inhumane red wristband treatment that was meted out in our city?

Reply: County Councillor Elsmore

As I referred to earlier and many Members will be aware, services for asylum seekers in Cardiff are managed by Clearsprings/Ready Homes. This company operates under contract with the Home Office and we have no direct control over the operation of their services.

The practice you refer to is absolutely unacceptable.

On Monday this week, the Leader and I wrote jointly to James Brokenshire MP, the UK Government Immigration Minister, to express our concerns. We also requested an urgent update on action taken to rectify the current situation and to prevent any similar issues arising in the future.

I am assured that the practice has been withdrawn.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor White*

What's this Council doing, together with partners, to make asylum seekers feel really welcome in this city?

Reply: *County Councillor Elsmore*

It's very, very important, as you said, to emphasise the work that we're doing across the public sector with partners.

We're working to ensure that our welcome is as warm as possible and that we can live up to our status as a city of sanctuary; we're working with health to ensure that the appropriate clinical services are in place; our housing partners, in terms of accommodation; the third sector, who provide so important support services, are available; our leadership group, which is going to meet next on the 10th of February; and we are planning a comprehensive system of services and support both for adults and children. I'm working, importantly, with cabinet colleagues in Children's Services and Education so that our services are joined up. We're also working, of course, importantly, with our civic organisations, Citizens Cymru, Muslim Council of Wales, Jewish representatives, and our City of Sanctuary representatives. I spoke with Jonathan Cox, who is our deputy director of Citizens UK and he updated me saying that Cardiff has a refugee welcome committee and all sorts of things are going on.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

While this was undoubtedly a deeply insensitive error of judgement, it is also completely insensitive to describe the wearing of red wristbands as inhumane and to compare it to the treatment meted out by Nazis, who murdered millions of innocent people in the Holocaust. And this was on Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Question: *County Councillor Dilwar Ali*

Cardiff Bay is a well-known, thriving tourist destination, recently highlighted in the news about how it could look with a Barcelona-style beach. Can you explore the financial cost?

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

Thank you very much for this question, Councillor Ali, and I did see the article about the possibility of a Barcelona-style beach in Cardiff Bay. We obviously have many excellent visitor attractions including the Cardiff beach which will run again from July to early September in Roald Dahl Plass as it is hugely popular. We are looking at a

master plan of Cardiff Bay and we obviously will be looking at opportunities including whether there is potential to increase the usage of recreational leisure activities in the Bay as part of that work.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Dianne Rees*

I'm interested in this question. I'm just wondering if the Leader could also explore the provision of sunshine – Barcelona-style sunshine – for Cardiff Bay Beach. And, also, perhaps Julie Morgan could help.

Reply: *County Councillor Bale*

I'll certainly ask her when I see her next.

Question: *County Councillor Dilwar Ali*

During the work to convert Llandaff North Library into a new community hub, will there be any alternative facilities, such as a mobile library, in the area?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

Officers are currently engaged in scoping the potential to deliver temporary library provision in the area to ensure that inconvenience to the citizens is limited as much as possible.

Alternative sites that have the potential to host book collections are also being identified and a schedule of these is being prepared.

The Neighbourhood Development Librarians will also visit the area to ensure that Library Reader Development Programmes, such as the Summer Reading Challenge, will continue to be delivered prior to the reopening of a much improved library and Hub facility in Llandaff North.

Supplementary question: *County Councillor Cowan*

I understand previously that there were issues with the mobile vehicles and whether or not they were in an appropriate state to take out to people, whether or not they were fit for purpose. Are they all fit for purpose and are they in operational use, now?

Reply: *County Councillor Bradbury*

Yes.

145 : URGENT BUSINESS

The Lord Mayor advised that he had received one item for urgent consideration by Council from Councillor McEvoy.

The Lord Mayor ruled the matter could not be considered at this meeting as it did not met the tests of Rule 22 (k) and Rule 35 of the Council Procedure Rule.

146 : APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS TO SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Council was advised that the Local Authority Governor Panel had met on 21 January 2016 to make recommendations for approval by Full Council.

RESOLVED - That the following appointments to Local Authority School Governors be approved: -

(a) Existing School Governor Vacancies

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Approved
Willows High School	Splott	26/11/2015	Rachel Jones
Woodlands High School	Caerau	10/12/2015	Ann Cocchiara
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf	Llandaff	09/01/2016	Rhodri ab Owen
Gladstone Primary School	Cathays	04/11/2015	Sarah Crosbie
Glan Yr Afon Primary School	Llanrumney	14/09/2015	Emma Haygarth
Kitchener Primary School	Riverside	05/07/2015	Ceri Veysey
The Court School	Llanishen	22/07/2015	Joshua Parmar
Trelai Primary School	Caerau	04/11/2015	Rachel Maycock
Tremorfa Nursery School	Splott	20/09/2014 02/12/2015	Charlotte Squire-Davies Natalie Stork
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof	Fairwater	11/02/2014 24/09/2015	Charmaine Smikle Ceri Landers
Ysgol Pencae	Llandaff	04/07/2015	Gwyn Roberts

(b) Future LA Governor Vacancies

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Approved
Fitzalan High School	Canton	27/01/2016	Shashikala Mansfield
Radyr Comprehensive School	Radyr	27/01/2016	Gary Johnson
Fairwater Primary School	Fairwater	24/02/2016	Cllr Paul Mitchell
Grangetown Nursery School	Grangetown	18/05/2016	Cllr Lynda Thorne
Radyr Primary School	Radyr	18/03/2016	Ceri Evans
Springwood Primary School	Pentwyn	24/02/2016	Della Perrins
St Monica's C/W Primary School	Cathays	27/01/2016	Daniel Caunt
The Hollies School (Pentwyn)	Pentwyn	23/03/2016	Brinley Groves
Ysgol Pwll Coch	Canton	27/01/2016	Helen Sharkey

147 : APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY, PARENT AND STAFF SCHOOL GOVERNORS TO NEW TEMPORARY GOVERNING BODIES

The Council was requested to appoint Local Authority Governors and Parent Governors to new Temporary Governing Bodies for both the proposed new secondary school in the West and the proposed new Welsh-Medium primary school

on the Hamadryad site. The Local Authority Governors Panel met on 21 January 2016 to consider the applications for the Local Authority Governor positions and their recommendations are contained in Appendix 1 to this report. The Panel also noted the applications for the Parent Governor positions.

RESOLVED - That the following appointments of Local Authority and Parent School Governors to the Temporary Governing Bodies be approved:

- (a) Appointments to the Temporary Governing Body for the proposed new secondary school in the West of Cardiff

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Approved
Local Authority (5 x LA Governor appointments required)	Ely/Caerau	01/02/2016	Keith Brooks Dewi Jones Janice Lane Cllr Jim Murphy Zenny Saunders
Parent (6 x Parent Governor appointments required)	Ely/Caerau	01/02/2016	Lorraine Clark Ruth Dophin Julie James Asha Singh

- (b) Appointments to the Temporary Governing Body for the proposed new Welsh-Medium primary school on the Hamadryad site

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Approved
Local Authority (2 x LA Governor appointments required)	Butetown	01/02/2016	Mair Parry Jones Cllr Ali Ahmed
Parent (3 x Parent Governor appointments required)	Butetown	01/02/2016	Dylan Foster Evans Iona Edwards

148 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED - That the following nominations to Committees and Outside Body be approved

Committee	Nominations
Planning Committee	Cllr Keith Jones
	Cllr Kirsty Davies-Warner
Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Julia Magill
	Councillor Ralph Cook
Economy Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Simmons
Environment Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Susan White

149 : URGENT DECISION TAKEN IN RESPECT OF TRELAI PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Council received for information the following urgent officer decisions taken in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13(a) in respect of Trelai Primary School.

RESOLVED – That Council note the urgent officer decisions taken in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13(a) in respect of Trelai Primary School to

(i) Intervene in Trelai Primary School pursuant to the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 ('the SSOW Act 2013'); and

(ii) Appoint an additional Governor and nominate her to be Chair of the governing body pursuant to Section 6 of the SSOW Act 2013.

(The meeting finished at 22.45pm)

150 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In accordance with the Council Procedure Rules, Rule 17(f) Written Questions received for consideration and response for the meeting are set out below.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CO-OPERATIVES AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
(COUNCILLOR PETER BRADBURY)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

The transfer of local services to the community has struggled over the last few years even with the Stepping Up tool. Is the Cabinet now reconsidering this approach as a way of sustaining council services?

Reply

Over the last 18 months, considerable progress has been made in transferring community assets to local organisations. Examples include the former Splott Library, Plasnewydd Community Centre, Pentreban Community Centre and the Cardiff International Sports Stadium.

In line with our previously agreed strategy, we have 3 transfers likely to be completed by the end of March 2016, a further 8 transfers scheduled for completion early in the next financial year and 11 transfers towards the end of 2016/17.

As such, the Council is not reconsidering its approach to the transfer of services, but will of course continue to review the lessons learned from each transfer, with a view to making any improvements to the process going forward.

EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (COUNCILLOR SUE LENT)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR THORNE

What is the cost of Taxi's in Children's Services in this financial year and how many trips does this cover?

Reply

The current expenditure in the 2015/16 financial year, which includes recharges received only up to November 2015, is £30,346.89. This figure relates to a total of 1234 journeys by taxi that were made mainly by clients of Children's Services, but also by council officers.

98% of this spend (£29,604.70) was incurred by clients and is based on a total of 1144 journeys.

EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

What arrangements are in place for the monitoring and Estyn inspection of children who are home-schooled in Cardiff?

Reply

In Cardiff, all known Elective Home Education (EHE) children are registered on the Council's database as soon as we are informed by the local authority school. The EHE Adviser is then informed.

When a child becomes EHE, they receive a letter requesting a meeting with the parent and child to discuss the education being provided and to look at examples of work and learning.

Local authorities have no automatic right of access to a parent's home. Parents may, if they wish to, permit access to their home, or request an alternative venue for a meeting. At the initial meeting, the nature and frequency of future contact will be agreed.

Alternatively, parents may wish to provide information that an appropriate education is being provided in another form, such as a written report.

Schools have a very important role in monitoring the well-being of their pupils and sharing concerns with, or making referrals to, Children's Services when a child is believed to be 'in need' or abuse or neglect is suspected. When schools are no longer able to fulfil this responsibility because a child is receiving their education at home, the Local Authority will inform Social Services that the child is to be home educated.

This information will be retained on the local authority database. However, no further action will be taken unless additional information is received indicating that Social Services involvement is required, and this decision

will then be reviewed.

Likewise, because certain health services are accessed by being on a school roll, the UHB is informed of each child being educated at home.

Estyn does not inspect parents who home educate, but they would include EHE in an inspection of the local authority.

There is no legal requirement for parents to inform local authorities of the fact that they intend to educate at home. This makes it particularly difficult for local authorities to keep track of certain groups of children, including for example:

- Those who have never attended a maintained school;
- Those who have never attended a maintained school in that local authority's area;
- Those who have finished primary education in one school but have not started secondary education in another; and
- Those where the school they have been attending has closed.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

Can you provide a breakdown of the numbers of school admissions applications that have been made in Cardiff (other than the cyclical applications for Yr R & Yr 7 and Nursery) and children placed, since September 2015 to date and broken down by month and Primary/Secondary sector?

Reply

Number of In-Year Pupils whose parent(s) have requested admission from 01/09/2015 to 19/01/2016

Date Application Received	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Total
Primary School sector	201	138	169	101	48	657
Secondary School sector	72	60	50	33	26	241
Total	273	198	219	134	74	898

Number of In-Year Pupils agreed admission whose application was received from 01/09/2015 to 19/01/2016

Date Application Received	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Total
Primary School sector	124	87	102	39	4	356
Secondary School sector	41	24	23	4	0	92
Total	165	111	125	43	4	448

It should be noted that the number of school preferences per pupil applications considered by the Council is significantly higher than indicative of above data (1626 preferences).

Of the 898 applications received during this period (September 2015 to date), 448 have been placed. The 450 children that have not formally been placed following their application will either be families with children already in school that have requested to change and that have chosen not to remove their children from waiting lists at their preferred schools, or children that are unplaced based on the preferences stated in their application (because their preferred schools are full) and who have not selected alternate options from the schools offered by the Council.

All current In-Year applications are being processed within the time-scales required by the Welsh Government as per School Admissions Code pt 3.17:

“Once received, such applications must be considered without delay and a formal decision either to offer or to refuse a place should be made and notified to the applicant within 15 school days or 28 calendar days whichever is the sooner.”

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

How many Primary and Secondary school children are on the Admissions list and currently awaiting a place at a school in Cardiff?

Reply

Over and above the annual admissions rounds for which processing has not been concluded, a total of 79 pupils (who applied through the In-Year application process) are currently awaiting outcomes of their application, of which 41 pupils are currently not in school.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

What impact will there be on the outcomes of pupils in Cardiff Schools following the decision by the Assembly Minister, Huw Lewis, to allow children to take holidays of up to 10 days in any academic year without any fear of a Fixed Penalty Notice?

Reply

Further to the Minister’s statement, subsequent media coverage suggested that guidelines about holidays in term time have changed. The Council’s guidance to schools on holidays in term time and the use of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) and nevertheless remains unchanged. The Council will continue to operate the FPN scheme in line with its existing Code of Conduct.

In 2012, the Council asked schools and head teachers not to authorise holidays in most circumstances, whilst acknowledging that the regulations make provision for holidays and that a pupil *may* be granted leave of absence from school to go on holiday. Head teachers ultimately retain

discretion in this and have been using that discretion sensibly.

Parents do not have an automatic right to withdraw their child from school for a holiday and, in law, have to apply for permission from the school in advance.

Therefore, the Council is requesting continued support for Cardiff's approach to holidays in term time and encourages head teachers to continue not to authorise requests for holidays in term time where, in the head teacher's view, there would be a negative impact on the pupil on the basis of a number of factors. As stated in the Minister's letter to schools, these include the time of year of the proposed trip; the length and purpose of the holiday; the duration of the holiday and its impact on continuity of learning; the circumstances of the family and wishes of the parents; and the overall attendance pattern of the child.

As a FPN is not a mandatory accompaniment to an unauthorised holiday request, if a head teacher feels that a family's circumstances do not warrant a FPN being issued, they have the discretion not to request a penalty notice.

However, if, in the opinion of the head teacher, there would be a negative impact on the pupil on the basis of the factors stated in the Minister's letter to schools, the Council continues to advise that the head teacher requests a FPN.

The approach to holidays in term time and FPNs was introduced in Cardiff to help raise attendance and, in turn, improve outcomes for our pupils. Both have helped to achieve this aim as part of a suite of interventions backed by strong and consistent messages.

In the academic year 2012-13, holidays in term time in Cardiff schools accounted for 46,264 days (92,529 sessions) of absence and a huge amount of lost learning and disruption to classes and teaching. In 2014-15, this number had reduced to 36,508 days or (73,016 sessions). This is still too many days of lost learning.

We have taken legal advice and are confident that both schools and the Council have acted lawfully using discretion appropriately. However, schools are advised to check that their attendance policies, websites and literature fully reflect the guidelines and ensure that there are no references to zero tolerance or a blanket ban etc. If there are any such references, these should be removed.

For schools wishing to continue to raise and maintain their attendance levels by tackling holidays in term time through the use of FPNs, support from both the Council and the Education Welfare Service will continue to be provided to issue FPNs in line with the existing Code of Conduct.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

How many letters has the council sent to parents concerning the withdrawal of funding for the free bus to Llanishen High School?

Reply

316 letters were issued to all parents of pupils living within the former Llanedeyrn High school catchment area, who are due to transfer to Llanishen High School in September 2016.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

How many people have contacted the council objecting to or expressing concern that they will now need to pay for their children's bus travel?

Reply

I am advised that the Council has only received one phone call in relation to this issue and, once the position was explained, the parent appreciated that they had received a free pass in the past for an older child attending the school.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR THORNE

What is the full cost of Taxi's employed to take children to school in this financial year and how many daily trips does this include please?

Reply

The Council does not record transport costs specifically for taxis as Specially Adapted (wheelchair) Vehicles (SAVs) can be licensed as either taxis or minibuses.

There are approximately 584 daily taxi trips (AM & PM journeys) costing £2.8million and approximately 110 daily SAV trips (AM & PM journeys) costing £850k.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOODMAN

Please advise which Cardiff schools have been involved with International School Linking visits during the period 5/4/15 to 31/12/15, with visits to another country.

Please advise how each trip was funded, and which Cardiff City councillors were involved in arranging such a visit.

Please advise if any Cardiff city councillors also took part in an overseas visit and how their trip was funded, and how each Cardiff city school was chosen to participate and how each councillor was chosen to participate in any way.

Reply

Schools are not chosen for projects as the International School Linking office sends out calls for expressions of interest. The interested schools are then added to project applications. The council officer involved is the coordinator for these international projects and is sometimes required to attend transnational project meetings.

The schools that took part in International School Linking projects are as follows:

Schools involved	Council Officers arranging & travelling	Councillors travelling	Date of visit	Country	Funding source
Peter Lea Primary The Hollies Cantonian	Coordinator	None	8-10 July 2015	Germany	EU - Comenius Regio
Mary Immaculate High School	Coordinator	None	1-3 June 2015	Poland	EU - Comenius Regio
Mary Immaculate High School	Coordinator	None	22-23 June 2015	Poland	EU - Comenius Regio
Greenway Primary	Coordinator	None	12-16 April 2015	Spain	EU - Comenius Regio
Ty Gwyn Special School	None	None	14-17 April 2016	Spain	EU - Comenius Regio
Greenway Primary Pencaerau Primary Lansdowne Primary Baden Powell Primary Roath Park Primary	Coordinator	None	12-17 April 2015	Spain	EU - Erasmus+
Greenway	None	None	21-26	Poland	EU -

Primary Pencaerau Primary Lansdowne Primary Baden Powell Primary			September 2015		Erasmus+
Lansdowne Primary Tredegarville Primary	None	None	8-14 November 2015	Denmark	EU - Erasmus+
Llandaff City CiW Primary	None	Cllr Ali Ahmed (no funding available)	1-7 November 2015	Bangladesh	Teachers ONLY funded by DfID / British Council Connecting Classrooms
Roath Park Primary St Fagans Primary Springwood Primary Willowbrook Primary	None	None	10-14 October 2015	France	Self funded flights only

ENVIRONMENT (COUNCILLOR BOB DERBYSHIRE)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McEVOY

How many cleansing hours have been put into Riverside, Canton, Radyr, Ely, Caerau, Llandaf, Pentyrch and Creigiau every weekend, from start of September to end of December? Please state where.

Reply

Whilst we have cleansing teams contracted to work weekends in the city centre, in the rest of the city, we have a limited number of staff operating

on weekends as the majority of work can be undertaken during the working week.

Due to demand in certain areas, we do have a small number of teams in for a few hours at weekends specifically to litter pick and empty litter bins in areas with shops and high footfall. Areas that are attended regularly include shop fronts in Canton, Ely, Fairwater, Llandaff and Riverside. It is not possible to state exactly how long teams spend in each ward as we do not record time spent in this way and demand can vary from week to week.

Occasional weekend (and weekday) work also takes place to support community initiatives, which can include the provision of litter pickers and bags for community groups who will clear litter/leaves in an agreed location. Cleansing operatives then attend at a given time in order to collect the full bags and sweep the area, as required, to complete the cleanse of the street.

Such activities have taken place in Roath and Pontcanna and we are currently liaising with community groups in other areas to put similar initiatives in place (e.g. in Riverside and Ely). Again, the hours that are required in terms of cleansing staff time can vary.

HEALTH, HOUSING AND WELLBEING (COUNCILLOR SUSAN ELSMORE)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

We urgently need to increase the council's access to housing stock in order to meet the need of some of the most vulnerable in our City. I was disappointed that we lost the opportunity for close to 1000 homes on the Dumballs Road site; what plans do we have to meet the current (not future) need in our City?

Reply

It is true that Cardiff has considerable need for new affordable houses: there are over 10,000 people currently on the housing waiting list; and the recently completed Local Housing Market Assessment indicates that we need to deliver over 2,000 new affordable homes per year for the next 5 years to meet current and future demand for housing in the city.

With regard to current need, a new housing allocations policy has been adopted over the past year, which ensures that those residents on the waiting list in most need and who are most vulnerable are prioritised for housing. Ensuring that the Council maximises opportunities to develop new affordable housing is of paramount importance to us.

With regard to Dumballs Road, you will be aware that the regeneration scheme that was proposed originally was not affordable for the Council, but dialogue has continued with the developer, which could still result in a

substantial number of affordable homes on the site.

However, this is not the only site under consideration and officers are developing a 5-year affordable housing delivery plan identifying all new build delivery opportunities and detailing how many new units are likely to be built over this period. This 5-year plan will form part of the updated Housing Strategy document.

Some of the main delivery routes are detailed below:

The council is undertaking its own build programme through the Housing Partnership Programme. This project will directly deliver around 600 new council houses over the programme period 2016-2025. More immediately, 196 new council houses will be delivered between 2016 and 2019.

Other opportunities to directly build new council houses outside of the HPP are also being explored using land that the council holds and we hope to deliver another 200 properties over the next 5 years in this way.

The Council's LDP has been approved by Welsh Government Planning Inspectors. This is an important milestone for us as a large amount of affordable housing units will be delivered through developer contributions (Section 106 requirements) to be negotiated on each of the identified sites. Whilst at this stage we are unsure of the exact numbers of units these sites will deliver year-on-year, it is estimated that they have the capacity to deliver around 4,500 new affordable units over the 15-year LDP period.

Registered Social Landlord (RSL) developments funded through the Social Housing Grant (SHG) programme have the potential to deliver around 900 new properties over the next 5 years, with another 100 properties planned on development sites they own outside of the SHG programme.

This is not an exhaustive list and officers are also investigating other routes to maximise the delivery of affordable housing. The way in which planning gain monies can be used to bring forward developments is important, along with ensuring that we always have 'RSL shelf' schemes available to take any Social Housing Grant slippage that becomes available from the Welsh Government at year end – in 2014/15, Cardiff was successfully awarded an additional £1,307,829 in SHG slippage this way. (Cardiff's current annual allocation of SHG is £4.2 million per year).

It must be noted that development is a long-term delivery method and just as important is our ability to re-let void properties quickly. We must also ensure we make the best use of our existing housing stock.

SKILLS, SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT (COUNCILLOR DAN DE'ATH)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

How will the scrutiny arrangements work for the regulatory services collaboration?

Reply

The two scrutiny committees whose terms of reference cover the Regulatory Services Collaboration are the Environmental Scrutiny Committee and the Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee. Between them, they have the scope to scrutinise large parts of the statutory functions of trading standards, environmental health and licensing.

The two committees considered the Regulatory Services Collaboration when developing their work programmes for 2015/16 and agreed to programme a joint meeting in March 2016. It was felt that this approach would optimise their collective efficiency and avoid wasted effort.

Points 5.4 and 5.5 of the Shared Regulatory Service Joint Working Agreement states that arrangements for scrutiny should reflect the following qualities:

5.4 – as and when required by an Overview and Scrutiny committee or an Audit Committee of participants, the Chair of the Joint Committee (or in his absence the Vice Chair), shall attend a meeting of such Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Audit Committee, together with the Head of Regulatory Services to account for the activities of the Joint Committee.

5.5 – Participants will liaise about requests from their Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Audit Committees, and shall consider joint scrutiny arrangements with a view to avoiding duplication of effort.

Conversations have been taking place between the scrutiny functions in Cardiff, Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils to explore how joined up scrutiny between these three authorities can be arranged. Adequacy of resources to undertake joint scrutiny has been identified as a challenge by all three authorities.

The Chairs of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee (Cllr Mitchell) and the Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee (Cllr McGarry) also met in November 2015 to reflect on this challenge and to plan how they can best arrange scrutiny in this area.

Cardiff's key task is to ensure that councillors provide appropriate and effective scrutiny of the Regulatory Services Collaboration, as far as it is required to optimise governance and service delivery for the citizens of Cardiff. If this can be achieved in partnership with the two other

authorities, this is to be welcomed, but if this does not prove possible then the two Cardiff scrutiny committees will continue to exercise their collective capacity to effectively scrutinise the services delivered to Cardiff as required.

We also want any scrutiny that is undertaken in Cardiff to be of benefit to our partner authorities and, similarly, would wish to benefit from any scrutiny of this project undertaken by both Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils.

The three authorities have agreed to pilot an approach, commencing with a joint Community and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee & Environmental Scrutiny Committee meeting in Cardiff, which is due to be held on Thursday 3rd March 2016.

The City of Cardiff Council will write to the other two authorities inviting their scrutiny committee members to submit any questions which they deem relevant to this meeting. Any submitted questions will be asked by the appointed Chair of the joint meeting and the response will be captured in a letter written to representatives of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee. A copy of this letter will be provided to the scrutiny committee members from Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils. A copy of the minutes of the joint scrutiny committee meeting held in Cardiff will also be circulated to the same group of councillors.

Prior to the end of the current 2015/16 municipal year, Cardiff will engage with Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan to discuss the merits of this pilot scrutiny exercise and assess future options for scrutiny of the Regulatory Services Collaboration. Key drivers will include consideration of resource allocation and avoidance of duplication of work. Through this process, we expect relationships and joint working opportunities to evolve over time and that effective partnership scrutiny arrangements will ensue.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

Will any KPI's be changing as a result of regulatory services collaboration; if so, which ones?

Reply

The KPIs for the Shared Regulatory Service will continue to be collected in their current format for the 2015/16 financial year and form part of the corporate performance reporting process for each Council.

The Shared Service has drafted a new business plan, which will be the subject of consultation next month with a range of stakeholders. Along with the established national indicators, the plan contains a number of new performance indicators. These indicators will reflect the impact that the Shared Service has in supporting local communities. Examples of these include:

The proportion of domestic rented properties improved as a result of regulatory intervention;

The percentage of businesses who feel that regulatory intervention (inspection, advice etc.) has improved their compliance.

The consultation on the business plan will be undertaken from the middle of February and until the end of March. The business plan is then expected to be considered and approved by the Joint Committee in mid May. The final list of indicators agreed following the consultation will be contained in the approved plan.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR THORNE

What are the full costs, including writing, printing and delivery, of all consultation brochures that the Council has undertaken in this current financial year?

Can you list the consultations and the costs separately please?

Reply

I have asked officers to undertake work to collate this information as cost figures for the production and distribution of consultation documents are held within directorate and specific project budgets. As a result, I will provide you with this information in writing in due course. In terms of the annual corporate consultation exercises that fall within my own portfolio, I can confirm that the cost of production of the annual Ask Cardiff Survey for 2015 was as follows:

Printing and delivery of Ask Cardiff general surveys to Libraries / Leisure Centres / Hubs / Stakeholders (5000 English / 1000 Welsh)	£2,025.19
Printing of Ask Cardiff general surveys to post out (4100 English / 100 Welsh)	£2,852.89
Ask Cardiff Survey posted (3990)	£1,790.20
Return by Freepost	£310.00
Total =	£6,978.28

In terms of the 2016/17 Budget Consultation survey, the cost of printing 5,000 English and 1,000 Welsh language copies of survey was £2,101.

TRANSPORT, PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY
(COUNCILLOR RAMESH PATEL)

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR RALPH COOK

Please provide in detail the dates, periods in hours, the names of the

Local Authorities and other people present and the subjects discussed at meetings with neighbouring authority politicians and/or officers about Cardiff's Local Development Plan that were attended in person by Cllr. Ramesh Patel since he took on responsibility for the LDP.

Reply

As you should be aware, by the time that I took on portfolio responsibility for the LDP, the Deposit Version of the Plan had already been approved. Therefore, the relevant substantive and strategic cross-boundary matters had already been addressed and captured in both the Preferred Strategy and Deposit Plan, so there was no necessity to undertake further dialogue at Cabinet Member level. The key work in this respect was the collaborative cross-boundary working exercise, which was completed during 2012 and forms part of the LDP evidence base.

My primary role has therefore been to secure the adoption of the LDP. I believe that I have capably fulfilled this role and thank all Members and Officers who have helped reach this major milestone for our city.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR RALPH COOK

Please also detail the dates and periods involved (in hours) of Cllr. Ramesh Patel's attendances at the Planning Inspectorate hearings into Cardiff's Local Development Plan?

Also please provide details of all the hearing dates and times during which the hearings took place?

Reply

Firstly, I want to thank you for the role that you played as the Cabinet Member responsible for progressing the LDP up to the Preferred Strategy stage. Had you continued your involvement in the process up to the examination stage, then you would have understood that it is normal practice for officers of local authorities to present evidence to the Hearing Sessions in support of the Plan, not Cabinet Members.

Whilst I continued to hold regular meetings with officers to discuss the numerous matters emerging, officers presented evidence during the Hearing Sessions as has been the case in the examination of plans for other local authorities. Therefore, there was no requirement for me to attend the Hearing Sessions which took place between 13th-16th January, 20th-23rd January, 3rd-6th February, 10th-13th February, 25th-27th February and 28th-29th September, all during 2015.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

Nottingham Council have recently launched a not for profit energy company called Robin Hood Energy. Are there any plans to progress Cyd

Cymru to the next stage of development with the setting up of our own energy company to meet the energy challenges for many residents in the City?

Reply

Nottingham's Robin Hood Energy Company is a recent addition to a small number of local authority owned Energy Services Companies (ESCOs), which have been created to supply and trade in energy on a not-for-profit basis. Bristol and Plymouth also have similar examples.

Although there are no approved plans to set up a similar arrangement in Cardiff, we are watching the progress of these companies to assess the risks and value of such a scheme. The clear benefits to citizens that these schemes offer need to be balanced against the resource and costs required to establish them, as well as other associated risks from competition from larger established energy supply companies etc. Our connection with the UK Core Cities group and the Great Western Cities initiative will give us access to information to assist in this evaluation.

In the meantime, the Cyd Cymru collective switching scheme has helped well over 1,000 customers across Wales to reduce their energy bills by switching to better tariffs that we negotiate on their behalf. In addition, some of the energy conservation and advisory services that the ESCOs provide are also currently being provided by the Council through various initiatives such as our ARBED/ECO energy efficiency schemes and our "Little by Little" energy advisory service.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McEVOY

How many road traffic accidents have there been in the Cwrt-yr-Ala Road area in the last 5 years and what were the details and reference numbers?

Reply

The police database only records injury collisions. These records have been checked for the last five years and only two were recorded in the Cwrt-yr-Ala Road area within Cardiff:

Record 1

Crash Ref. No: 0209102
Severity: Slight
Date: 09-05-2011
Location: Junction of Cwrt Yr Ala Road and Lauriston Park
Vehicle 1: Pedal cycle
Vehicle 2: Car

Record 2

Crash Ref. No: 1301237

Severity: Serious
Date: 19-07-2013
Location: Cwrt Yr Ala Road north of Heol-yr-Odyn
Vehicle 1: Motor cycle over 500cc
Vehicle 2: Car

There were no recorded injury collisions in Heol-yr-Odyn, Lôn yr Efail, Lauriston Park or Heritage Park in Caerau.

End