

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 November 2019 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 22 November 2019.

Present: County Councillor De'Ath (Lord Mayor)

County Councillors Ahmed, Asghar Ali, Dilwar Ali, Berman, Bowden, Bowen-Thomson, Boyle, Bradbury, Bridgeman, Burke-Davies, Carter, Cowan, Cunnah, De'Ath, Derbyshire, Driscoll, Ebrahim, Elsmore, Ford, Gibson, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Henshaw, Gavin Hill-John, Philippa Hill-John, Hinchey, Hopkins, Howells, Hudson, Jacobsen, Jenkins, Jones-Pritchard, Jones, Owen Jones, Joyce, Kelloway, Lancaster, Lay, Lent, Lister, Mackie, McGarry, McKerlich, Melbourne, Merry, Michael, Molik, Morgan, Naughton, Owen, Parkhill, Jackie Parry, Keith Parry, Patel, Phillips, Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sandrey, Sattar, Simmons, Singh, Stubbs, Huw Thomas, Lynda Thorne, Walker, Weaver, Wild, Williams, Wong and Wood

1 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McEvoy, Taylor and Gareth Thomas.

2 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received in accordance with the Member's Code of Conduct:

COUNCILLOR	ITEM	INTEREST
Councillor Huw Thomas	16	Personal Interest – Director, Millennium Stadium

3 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2019 were approved subject to Councillor Mia Rees being added to the attendance and Councillor Oliver Owen's status on the recorded votes.

4 : LLANISHEN BY-ELECTION

A warm welcome was extended to Councillor Sian-Ellin Melbourne to her first meeting of the Council as the newly elected Member for Llanishen Ward following the by-election on 21 November 2019. Councillor Melbourne was invited to speak.

Councillor Melbourne thanked everyone that had helped with the smooth running of the campaign to appoint a new Councillor for Llanishen and Thornhill. The hard

working Council staff and volunteers managed to turn the short By-Election around professionally and smoothly.

Councillor Melbourne assured that she would work hard with her ward colleagues to support the community and the City of Cardiff.

5 : PETITIONS

The following petitions were received

COUNCILLOR	NO OF SIGNATURES	REQUEST
Councillor Wood	84 & 876	To stop the sale of woodland between Flaxland Avenue, Longspears Avenue and the A48 which is being sold for development and to protect the woodland in perpetuity.
Councillor Cowan	8	To address the safety issues caused by the amount and speed of traffic using Heol Tyn Y Coed, Rhiwbina
Councillor Cowan	3	To install speed bumps or cameras on the north side of Rhiwbina Hill to reduce excessive speed.

6 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor Neil McEvoy and his wife Ceri on the birth of their son Ellis Llewellyn.

The Lord Mayor spoke of the sadness that former Labour Councillor Dai Richards passed away last week, he was a Councillor for Saltmead Ward which was North Grangetown. He was responsible for getting a number of landmarks in places around the City, including the Magic Roundabout and Graffiti Wall in Sevenoaks park.

The Lord Mayor drew attention to The Lord Mayor's Rave. From 7pm – 1am on November 30 the Old Library would host an eclectic range of DJ's tickets cost £10 in advance with all proceeds donated to the Lord Mayor's two chosen charities.

7 : TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID - YEAR REPORT 2019-20

It was noted that Annexes B & C to Appendix 1 contained exempt information. They were not referred to during discussion of this item and therefore there was no requirement to exclude members of the public from the meeting. .

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance proposed the report, which informed Members of the Council's treasury management activities

since April 2019 and the position as at 30 September 2019. The Council's treasury management activities were governed by legislation and a Code of Practice developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) updated in 2017.

The report was seconded by Councillor Huw Thomas, Leader of the Council.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the item during which the following comments and observations were made.

Reference was made a number of figures in the report, including the funding amount being included in the Statement and the CIPFA Code.

Councillor Weaver, Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance responded to the report.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to note the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2019-20.

8 : CARDIFF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FULL REVIEW

Three Amendments had been received as outlined below:

AMENDMENT 1

Proposed by: Councillor Adrian Robson

Seconded by: Councillor Joel Williams

Add additional recommendation:

Council agrees as part of the full review of the Local Development plan, Cardiff Council will introduce Green Belt (s) in areas of Cardiff.

AMENDMENT 2

Proposed by: Councillor Sean Driscoll

Seconded by: Councillor Thomas Parkhill

Add additional recommendation:

Council agrees that as part of the full review of the Local Development Plan, Cardiff Council will ensure that there is proper public transport easily accessible for residents of all new developments and in place at an early stage.

AMENDMENT 3

Proposed by: Councillor Shaun Jenkins

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Jones-Pritchard

Add additional recommendation:

Council agrees that as part of the full review of the Local Development Plan, Cardiff Council will ensure that the design of new developments will be relevant to the local area and of the highest quality achievable.

Council was advised the report related to the process for the review of the Plan. The review had to follow due process and was by definition policy neutral. The subject matter of any amendments which may be carried, would have to be considered as part of the subsequent replacement LDP preparation review process. Any decision made on the amendments expresses an intention for that subject to be considered, it was not a policy decision on behalf of the Council.

The Council was in pre-election debate and political debate was not allowed.

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, Councillor Wild, proposed the report, which drew attention to the full review of the Local Development Plan, a statutory requirement to undertake a full review within 4 years of plan adoption. The review was necessary to ensure the plan remained up-to-date and continued to provide a policy framework to make provision for jobs, homes, infrastructure and manages future development proposals.

The report was seconded by Councillor Keith Jones.

Councillor Wild drew attention to the 3 Amendments and asked if the proposers and seconders of the 3 Amendments were minded to remit them as a result of the report setting out the process and not setting policy objectives.

Councillors Robson, Williams, Driscoll, Parkhill, Jenkins and Jones-Pritchard confirmed they would not remit the three Amendments.

Councillor Wild moved under Council Procedural Rule 25 a, that the matters contained in the three Amendments be referred back to Cabinet for further consideration in order to get appropriate legal advice.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Thompson.

The Council meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes in order for Councillors to seek legal guidance on the matter.

The Council meeting reconvened and the Lord Mayor moved to vote on the Motion proposed by Councillor Wild and Seconded by Councillor Thompson, to refer the three Amendments back to Cabinet.

The Motion to refer the three Amendments back to Cabinet was CARRIED.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the item and invited Councillor Wild to respond to the items raised during the debate.

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The Lord Mayor moved to vote on the recommendation as outlined in the report.

The Report was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: That Council APPROVED the draft Review Report and draft Delivery Agreement for the purposes of consultation and a further report be taken to Council in Spring 2020 with the findings of the consultation processes and recommendation(s) on the proposed way forward.

9 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question – Councillor Hudson

What is the direct benefit to Cardiff for the proposed CF3 incinerator?

Reply – Councillor Michael

Any planning application for the proposed Energy from Waste plant in the Trowbridge ward would be processed and determined by the Planning Inspectorate and the Welsh Ministers as the proposals, due to their power output, would constitute a 'Development of National Significance'.

Cardiff Council would be a consultee in any application.

There is currently no formal planning application for the proposed development, although the developer has 'notified' the Planning Inspectorate of their intentions. They now have until September 2020 to submit their application to the Planning Inspectorate.

It would therefore be inappropriate at this stage for the Council to comment on the merits or otherwise of this proposal.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Hudson

As we have an incinerator already, I'm just wondering, and I know this is hypothetical, why do we need another one and at what cost please?

Reply – Councillor Michael

I don't feel it will be appropriate for me to comment especially on a hypothetical question.

Question – Councillor Boyle

The IQE tumbling share price and the company's latest profit warning are a cause for concern. They raise question marks about the due diligence carried out before IQE

received £38m of City Deal money. What conversations have taken place within the Cardiff Capital Region cabinet to improve scrutiny of and accountability for the decisions it takes?

Reply – Councillor Huw Thomas

This is a matter for the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet, which has received a report earlier this year from the Wales Audit Office following a review of the arrangements that supported the City Deal's investment into the Compound Semi-Conductor Cluster.

The report was presented to the Joint Committee on 18 February 2019, who noted the contents and lessons identified in the report and we will reflect on those going forward.

Notwithstanding that I think when you look at the overall health of the company, when you look at the actual share price and compare it with where it was before, the City decided to make that investment and I think there are good grounds for cautious optimism with regards to IQE.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Boyle

It has been 12 months actually that I asked and I was accused when I asked the question of being a doom-monger. Since then the share price has gone down another 50% and it's been at the lowest it's been really since it was a viable concern. In fact the Welsh Audit Office agreed with me a few months after I had asked my question, when they said the IQE deal was compromised and that partners had not been able to robustly scrutinise and challenge the proposal. They questioned in fact the transparency of the decision making process - that was in the report. We perhaps need a few more doom-mongers to ensure we get transparency.

I'd be interested to know:

1. What lessons were noted because that was what the minutes from the February meeting lessons were noted?
2. And I wonder whether you could give us your analysis of the compromised decision making process?

Reply – Councillor Huw Thomas

I think you should just check those share prices - I was doing so this afternoon and what I looked at was different to clearly what you looked at. Certainly in terms of the share price it is broadly comparable as I said with where it was prior to the investment decision in 2017.

In terms of the recommendations and the lessons learnt I think it's probably more appropriate if I write to you Councillor Boyle. But I'm also happy to share with you an assessment that we received from the Director of the City Deal just last week, that confirmed her analysis based on conversations with IQE that the company was well

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positioned and indeed there was cautious optimism for a straight and future, and I had to share that with you as well.

Question – Councillor Keith Parry

The contractors at the roadworks on the A4119 Llantrisant Road at the corner with Heol Isaf are still not providing two lanes of traffic at rush hours. Considerable disruption, delays and pollution are being caused. Bus services especially are being disrupted. What is the Cabinet member doing to ensure two lanes of are kept open?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I would refer you to the answer provided to your written question which I know you have been sent.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Parry

I put a written question in a couple of weeks ago about this issue but the problem is that there is still massive disruption going on in the North West of the City. Because of these roadworks between the corner of Heol Isaf and the Star Garage, I believe it's called, where only one lane of traffic is open, and it's causing traffic jams back miles, up towards Morganstown and great disruption to people who can't get their kids to school, it's totally destroyed the local bus services and there is no reason why the contractors there cannot maintain two lanes of traffic on Llantrisant road.

There are roadworks going on there but there is sufficient tarmac there for two lanes of traffic to be maintained but they insist they have to have traffic lights in single lanes of traffic with miles and miles of queues and traffic diverting itself all through Fairwater and St. Fagans. Something must be done to bring this into order and stop this traffic lights in the rush hour in this bit of road.

Reply – Councillor Wild

There are some serious highway issues to do with safety and it's easy to say that there is room there on the tarmac. This is professionals are trying to do serious complex works and what they are trying to do is put in place an infrastructure that we know is needed in that part of the City.

That said, I think we were aware of problems in terms of what they did and I know that the contractors have changed, got some people out there to control the lights to make sure the flows work better. If it's got worse again which I had a report that it had, then I could certainly ask people to look at that again and see what improvements can be made.

Question – Councillor Lister

Following recent rainfall, Grangetown has experienced a number of issues with flooding and surface water pooling on roads and pavements. Many of the areas have

historic problems which repeat every time we have rainfall. What actions can the Council take to improve the drainage in Grangetown?

Reply – Councillor Michael

There will be specific reasons for each individual ponding problem, including blocked gullies, ground settlement, inadequate statutory service reinstatement etc.

A survey can be undertaken during or soon after a significant a rainfall event to ascertain the most significant areas of ponding, to clarify the most viable solution and to list in priority the required works. Although some problems may be swiftly resolved through maintenance, others may require small construction works.

It would be more affordable to do these works either in conjunction with other planned works being undertaken in the vicinity by the Authority, or as a small contract on multiple sites. However, it must be noted that any works will need to be prioritised so that they are aligned with available budgets.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Lister

I was just wondering if you would be happy for your officers to meet my colleagues and I in Grangetown to actually talk through some of the specific issues we got because there are areas of concern that have been concerns for a long time. I will declare an interest because one is outside my property.

Reply – Councillor Michael

I'm happy to do that - I've seen the pictures of the ponding near where you live and other areas, and this particular one does seem to be ponding every time we have rainfall which is happening a lot more now with climate change. I'm happy to arrange a meeting with you onsite.

Question – Councillor McKerlich

Members are advised about any decision to place temporary traffic lights on main roads in or near to their ward but there is no obligation to consult them before reaching the decision to approve such installations. Will you change the procedure to include consultation at a minuted meeting, as local Councillors have to deal with the fall-out from induced avoidable congestion?

Reply – Councillor Wild

The Management Highway Network is a statutory duty and the council deals with hundreds of changes and tweaks on a daily basis.

As you say in your question, we do inform councillors when there are temporary traffic lights and we also have a roadworks webpage that's kept live and up-to-date. But I'm not sure that your suggestion of having a formal meeting to discuss every temporary change for traffic lights such as this would be practical and could in effect

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put at risk the official's ability to manage that network in a reactive manner if they had to have a formal meeting with every Councillor every time something had to be done.

Supplementary Question - Councillor McKerlich

I'm not suggesting that every time some minor road that is closed for six or seven hours it requires a full meeting. This is a main arterial road which has been closed for 3 weeks and another 10 days still to go. And it is the 4th time it's been stopped in a very short time.

Now there would had been things which could had been put in place had I been there to express local concerns. For instance, there is no work being done over the weekends when traffic is light, they could had been working longer hours than they're working. Not only that you could had put in place procedures to stop the roundabout being choked by queueing traffic.

When I finally got informally an agreement this it would happen. everything worked for a day, then the contractor withdrew it without telling me or without consulting me and the result was an absolute shambles.

I was getting literally a hundred complaints on the subject and many more expressions of dissatisfaction. It is entirely unreasonable that these big hold ups can take place when the contractor is consulted, the developer is consulted - but there is no one consulting the people who have to wait an extra hour and a half to get to work. Now I'm going to make a note of your points Councillor Wild and with your permission or even without your permission, I'm going to circulate it to people in Creigiau, Pentyrch, Radyr, Morganstown, Fairwater and Llandaff who have been interrupted.

Reply – Councillor Wild

I can only respond to the question you gave me which wasn't to do with a specific road you said. Decisions placing temporary traffic lights on main roads 'plural' so I assume you are asking about a policy decision on that. This has no reference to that, and quite right you did.

To come on to the second response it is my understanding that you have got a very good relationship with some good respect both way with officers in here that I believed have been working with you closely on this. You've offered some very good insight that's helped them make improvements. If that relationship is broken down, I will make sure that it is picked back up, and my understanding is that you have done the right thing as a local member and have a good relationship with officials that are trying to fix problems in those areas so I'd encourage you to continue do so.

Question – Councillor Carter

As part of the purchasing of former council homes from the private sector, is the council buying properties currently in the private rented sector?

Reply – Councillor Thorne

The Council is currently purchasing former council owned properties to increase its stock for social rented homes for applicants in housing need.

Properties are purchased through local estate agents and some are brought directly to our attention by owners wishing to sell their property.

There are a range of reasons for owners wishing to sell, as is the case across the whole of the housing market.

Some of these properties will have been privately rented prior to being put on the market, others are owner occupiers wishing to move to another property or due to a change in family circumstances.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Carter

The reason I raised this question is that we had concerns in my ward of Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn about tenants who have been renting in the private sector who actually are being evicted by their landlords as a result of the process to sell to the Council.

And often the blame is put on the Councillor's door although our understanding and belief is more on the seller rather than the Council as the buyer.

Could you commit to investigate the issues of buying properties of buying of private landlords and actually look into the issue about whether the Council should be considering buying the properties when there is a tenant in the property? Our concern is that we are unwittingly making some people homeless in order to house other people.

Reply – Councillor Thorne

I'm not aware that is the case and will make some investigations and get back to you.

Question – Councillor Ford

Why are potholes in Cardiff not being sealed when in other Council areas they are?

Reply – Councillor Wild

We do seal some potholes, a lot of it depends on the type of road surface that's there. We've got different road surfaces in Cardiff depending on where you are and the history of when they were built.

In the main, potholes are emergency repairs, 'emergency temporary repairs', that are meant to just make the roads safe as quickly as possible when we all ask for them to be fixed or when members of the public raise concerns we get them fixed as soon possible. We then look to follow-up with patching or resurfacing work which is then

done much more thoroughly and properly sealed. They are not always sealed immediately when it's first done because that's just a quick temporary repair often.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Ford

With regards to the answer you've just given me, in other Councils I have mentioned they've had a small pothole that size and that's been filled. So that's what I want to know that if you'll be doing that in the future? For the very small potholes that are very deep – are you going to seal them? Because they are sealed in other areas – the small ones?

Reply – Councillor Wild

It sounds a very sensible suggestion so I'll make sure officers look into how they do that.

Question – Councillor Lister

What can Members and the public do to support the Dogs Home this Christmas?

Reply – Councillor Michael

Cardiff Dogs Home is very lucky that it receives lots of donations at Christmas, but I know that they specifically need things like slip leads, Pedigree puppy food and Burns Dry Dog Food at the moment.

A Christmas Fayre is being held at the Dogs Home on Sunday 15th December and people are welcome to donate a raffle prize or a cake for the event.

Volunteers and staff from the Dogs Home will be at Pets at Home at Cardiff Bay Retail Park on 1st, 8th, 21st & 22nd December as Pets at Home have nominated the Dogs Home as their chosen local cause this year.

In addition, events to support the Dogs Home are being held at the Lansdowne pub in Canton on Saturday 30th and at Bub's bar in the City Centre on Thursday 5th December.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Lister

I was just wondering if this year if there would be a calendar on sale and if you can confirm if you have any friends to buy calendars this year?

Reply – Councillor Michael

Well things have changed since last year, I admitted I had no friends, I think I have one now!

Just to show you this, as someone once said on Blue Peter this is something I made earlier on. This is the new version of the calendar and one thing I did spot in here – there are no dogs in here called Russell, there are no dogs called Ashley, there are no dogs called Michael but there's a dog called Peter.

I shall be making complaints forthwith about favouritism! This calendar is at the simple cheap price of £6, and you can pre-order these by going to see Mandy and Kate in Member's Services.

But can I just say that last year's sold really well. It's a fantastic cause to help. The Dog's Home constantly wins awards. We've got a brilliant set of staff there that do a wonderful job. And I think if we all help we can do an even better job – so purchase the calendar and make lots of friends!

Question – Councillor Walker

Unregistered 'schools' are usually established surreptitiously and operate under the LEA's radar and, importantly, the Estyn inspection umbrella. They are known to offer an inferior learning experience to children. What system does the Council operate to identify such units?

How many have been identified and examined since this administration came to office and what steps were taken?

Are there any such so called 'schools' still operating in the city?

Reply – Councillor Merry

At the end of 2013, the Council became aware of the establishment of a number of religious centres that were set up to support elective home educators in Cardiff.

We had concerns that these were, in effect, unregistered schools and, in early 2014, these concerns were taken to the Welsh Government by the Contest Board.

The Welsh Government subsequently worked with partners including Estyn, Care Inspectorate Wales and officers from the Education and Regulatory Services etc. to address these concerns and to work with the centres.

Three of the four centres are now registered Independent Schools that are subject to regulation and inspection. The fourth centre appears to have closed.

A further centre was identified in 2018 and referred to Welsh Government. Enquiries revealed that the centre was offering post-16 provision. Various council services are alert to this issue and would know to refer any further concerns relating to the centre.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Walker

The reason I raised this is that I think it's an ongoing challenge for the Local Authority, to be certain. So if I was to ask you the question, 'Are there any

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unregistered schools in Cardiff?' You'd have great difficulty in saying certainly not because it's difficult to spot some of them.

If you add some of those children together with those who receive home tutoring, not all of whom get good home tutoring, then there's potentially a large number of poorly educated children in the City.

And I just wanted to ask the question so we look again to ensure we have a robust system for making sure that checks are made and rumours that there are such establishments are followed up - somebody's doing something about it and saying everything is fine, which you're not saying.

Reply – Councillor Merry

I certainly couldn't give a categorical assurance in the number of centres like that in Cardiff. What I would obviously do is ask people to raise any concerns if they hear any rumours about such establishments so they could be investigated.

In terms of the whole issue around home education and children who are not in fulltime school I know I've had discussions with some of your members and other members in the Council, and I appreciate your concerns and I'm sure you are all aware of the complicated legislation in this area. But certainly from examples we've seen in other parts of Wales, one of which was extremely tragic, there can be very sad consequences.

Question – Councillor Sandrey

The Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn litter pickers do a huge amount of work keeping our community clean, with little recognition from the council. They were shocked to find out that time credits they receive would no longer be accepted at leisure centres in Cardiff. Why has this change happened and what other ways is the council prepared to recognise the great work done by these volunteers?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

GLL are reviewing the use of time credits with the operator of the scheme, but have postponed their use from 1st December until an effective system is in place. Regular time credit customers have been notified and information posters have been put up for a 3-week period.

However, I recognise the importance of volunteering and of time credits within communities, and the valuable contribution that volunteers make to the city and the community. I will therefore be taking this matter up directly with GLL.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Sandrey

If they can't be put back in place would the Council consider doing some sort of award or certificate of recognition to replace the time credits?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

I think that would be a useful suggestion and I am hopeful that will be put in place. That is what I am lobbying GLL to do. But if not, that seems a sensible suggestion, and while I'm on my feet in these partisan times, I wish each member and everybody else in this chamber a post December Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Question – Councillor Robson

What consideration has been given to using the latest techniques to measure potholes in Cardiff?

Reply – Councillor Wild

The highway safety inspectors physically measure the dimensions of a highway defect such as potholes and road surfacing.

The defects are identified as part of the cyclic inspection regime that not only assists in providing a safe highway for all users, but also forms the legal basis of our defence against third party insurance claims of we currently have a successful repudiation rate of 85%.

Other methods of defect identification are evolving within the industry including camera surveys and computer generated surveys. However, at present, they generate very large quantities of data that still require validation to ascertain whether they should be considered an actionable defect. So in essence we are doing the job twice at the moment and that currently outweighs the benefits of having a fully automated process.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Robson

I saw that the University of South Wales has installed in vehicles in Flintshire, technology which measures the state of the roads as these vehicles drive around; taxis, and particularly buses, refuse lorries and things which use the same route from week to week. I was just wondering how far that would progress in Cardiff? Because to my mind it seems quite a straight forward situation where you have something that is flagging up a particular problem with particular jobs which triggers the technology there is no reason why that can't send out an inspector to check it and that saves a look at other roads which there might be concerns. This is actual data coming in.

Reply – Councillor Wild

I met the company that I think you are referring to that were linked to Cardiff University and they are doing exactly the kind of testing that you've suggested.

I think Cardiff is the first place in Wales doing some of that testing, but at the moment it doesn't allow for fully automated system and maybe it does help. It still requires a little bit of evolving for it to be fuller part of what we do.

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I'm happy to report back when we have a fuller picture of how it's worked for us.

Similarly at the same time it's great to have local Cardiff University Start-ups involved in improving the City.

Question – Councillor Berman

Will you rule out the possibility of reducing the frequency of green bag collections in some or all parts of the city for the remainder of the current council term?

Reply – Councillor Michael

There are no plans to reduce the collection frequency for green recycling bags at the current time.

The Council is currently working with the Welsh Government to develop a strategy that will enable us meet the statutory recycling target of 70% by 2025.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Berman

I've notice you say that there are no plans at the current time but are you prepared to rule out the possibility of using any recycling collection frequencies in Cardiff for the duration of this Council term.

Reply – Councillor Michael

If we have to meet our targets we have to do more of it not less. The answer is of course.

Question Councillor Williams

In reference to properties across Cardiff, including in Llandaff North, can you brief us on the plans to upgrade those residences which are owned by Cardiff Council that are non-compliant regarding cladding?

Reply – Councillor Thorne

We have made a commitment to replace the cladding on 5 of our high-rise blocks. These are three blocks in Llandaff North (Lydstep Flats) and two blocks in Butetown (Loudoun and Nelson Houses).

The safety of our tenants is of the greatest importance to us and we need to ensure that we make the right decisions in replacing the cladding.

Engineering consultants, Atkins, have been commissioned to carry out an Options Appraisal and this report is due in December. It is anticipated that consultation with residents and with ward members will commence early in the New Year and we are expecting to start on site in the autumn of next year.

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I understand that, without the cladding, the flats are colder and so tenants at Lydstep Flats and Nelson House will receive £200 as a goodwill gesture to help with their heating bills over the winter period.

In some cases, internal cladding is also being used to improve the insulation in the flats. This is a short term measure until the external cladding can be replaced.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Williams

It's really good that residents across the City and particularly in Llandaff North are receiving the support from the Council that they require.

I've asked a number of questions on this and I know a number of residents are very concerned about this. So what they are after is comprehensive communication from the Council so they are kept updated. In addition you mentioned the goodwill suggestion of £200. £200 is not a lot of money if they are going to be without cladding when the gas bills are going to be higher.

Will you commit to reviewing the £200 good will gesture and increasing it for residents in Llandaff North?

Reply – Councillor Thorne

I can tell you that residents are being kept up to date both by the Council and by the Ward Councillors, who are being kept up to date by me.

And I'm being regularly contacted by the Ward Councillors and if the Ward Councillors raise these issues and suggest that the residents are not coping with the extra amounts, we certainly will review it.

Question – Councillor Sandrey

Given that Coca Cola has for the second time in a row been given the title of largest plastic polluter, and given the motion passed on single use plastics by this council, is it therefore appropriate that the truck was once again welcomed back to the city centre to promote its products?

Reply – Councillor Michael

This year's visit to Cardiff by the Coca Cola truck was booked by St David's Centre and located on The Hayes as part of the shopping centre's Christmas activities.

St David's are fully coherent with all recycling policies and ensured that these were carried out during the promotional period.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Sandrey

While I appreciate that, given that as a Council we have a stated commitment to tackling the climate crisis do you not think that we should have some sort of sustainability criteria that we expect big corporations that want to use our city centre for promotional activities to meet?

Reply – Councillor Michael

I don't disagree about what we should be doing but the Council does and will continue to do an awful lot. But there's some stuff we can't do.

We can't just ban the Coca-Cola truck from coming here, as much as I'd love I was caught in the back of a queue a few years ago – wasted 2 hours of my life, waiting for this big truck with lights. I've been a fan of Pepsi ever since.

We had a good meeting yesterday with a Minister and we were talking about producing responsibility and changing some of the deposit schemes. So ways are being looked at tackling some of the waste especially from larger companies and the Council will work with WAG to do that rather than take unilateral decisions that we really can't back in law.

Question – Councillor McKerlich

About fifty percent of wards will have a two-month gap in collection of garden waste due to suspended collections over the Christmas period. Quite aside from the inconvenience to residents, how will this assist us to achieve the challenging recycling target set by the Labour administration in the Senedd?

Reply – Councillor Michael

As you may recall, garden waste collections were suspended for 2 weeks last year as waste collection resources were reassigned to deal with other household waste recycling over the busy Christmas period.

When comparing the volume of green waste collected at the kerbside in December 2017 to December 2018, there was a reduction of 51%. This equates to 0.02% of the total amount of waste collected based on 2018/19 data, which means that the impact on our recycling performance is negligible.

During a study of winter waste collections, only 2% of properties presented their bins every month, suggesting that residents have adequate capacity to store their garden waste until the next available collection or will take it to our Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Therefore, it is highly unlikely that there will be a negative impact on recycling performance.

Supplementary Question - Councillor McKerlich

I must say I'm surprised that only 2% involved are not having a problem with this, they all live in Radyr and they all speak to me. I'm just unlucky.

In the past Christmas trees are put out alongside the green bins and they were recycled. What is going to happen this Christmas, do we hang onto them until the beginning of February?

Reply – Councillor Michael

This is a particularly large problem for yourself as I believe you have a 10 foot Christmas tree. Am I right? I'll just mention the fact that I've never been invited to one of the grand soirées to raise money for the Conservative Party for this Christmas tree.

The Christmas trees are being recycled - if you leave them where they are, cut them up and put them in your bin or you can take the household waste to recycling centres we already have, or you can do even better this year and take them to the Pendragon pub which is in Thornhill I believe in the car park, on the Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th January between 10am and 4pm. We'll have a team there which will take care of your Christmas trees.

Question – Councillor Mia Rees

Please can the Cabinet member outline the support the Council is providing to those rough sleeping in the city as we enter the coldest time of the year and what measures are being taken to make sure that those sleeping rough are aware of the help and support available?

Reply – Councillor Thorne

Our Homeless Outreach Team are on the streets 7 days a week to encourage those sleeping rough to come into accommodation.

Cold weather accommodation is now open and 45 additional spaces have been made available so far at a range of venues to meet all needs, including provision in an abstinence project. Additional accommodation will be brought on line as is needed.

As Members will be aware, rough sleeping is not just a housing issue, many of the individuals concerned have complex needs including a combination of substance misuse and mental health issues.

Working with our partners, we now have in place a multi-disciplinary team, including health and therapeutic workers, counsellors and peer mentors, to try to address the underlying causes of rough sleeping. This scheme has been nominated for an award. We hope we win, we will be notified tomorrow.

We are also expanding our Homeless Outreach Team to ensure that those on the street and those in emergency accommodation can get the person centred approach that they need.

Supplementary Question - Councillor Mia Rees

That's excellent news about the nomination for the awards and I wish them the very best of luck and I can completely appreciate the need for multi-disciplinary teams in this complex and challenging area. Cold weather provisions are a life line to those sleeping rough in the City in the winter months, however, last year the worrying this is that the Outreach teams were recording on average 30 people sleeping rough a night in the City during the coldest months despite the provision being available.

Two reasons for this have been suggested to me:

1. Knowledge - do the people sleeping rough know whether cold weather provisions are available? They moved around a bit in the city last year and that caused some issues.
2. And of course the unsuitability of floor space and as you have mentioned some people have complex needs and floor space is an inappropriate place for some of those people that can make them incredibly vulnerable. With lack of privacy and dignity, some felt it was no better than sleeping rough in the city.

I was pleased to hear that the Council's funded some better quality provision this year, such as that available at the YMCA. And I expect the take up of this provision to be higher than that of the standard floor space.

Will the council be looking at the quality of rough sleeping provision in relationship to take-up this year as a review to ensure people are taking it up and they aren't rooflessness over this period?

And also has the Council considered introducing Housing First model within the City?

Reply – Councillor Thorne

I can advise you actually that we had undertaken an independent review of all the homeless services and all of the hostels. We've had that feedback, we've fed that back. We had a conference with all our partner organisations.

We've setup a Homeless and Vulnerable Persons Board with a number of work streams beneath that. We've had first meeting and we'll be reviewing the whole service.

We visited Helsinki in the summer and we visited Glasgow to look at, they are held up as best practice. What I did recognise actually was that Cardiff has some amazing provision but there are some gaps and we did learn some good practice from both Helsinki and from Glasgow.

So part of the work that the board will be undertaking is to actually look at how we can get some quick fixes, some quick wins, and some long term plans as well because that is needed. Though it is recognised that we do need that person centred approach. There's a recognition that there are people who are perhaps, and that's the intention of opening up the free abstinence – free centres where people can go if they don't have drug or alcohol.

In terms of Housing First we've actually got 3 housing first schemes now and the 3 of them are working extremely well. And I'd be more than happy to email all members of the Council with an update on the provision and the number of rough sleepers.

In terms of those people who won't come in out of the cold over the Christmas and the winter period, even when we had the snow, we had Outreach workers desperately trying to get those people to come in. They decided they didn't want to come. We cannot force them. We ended up providing them with foil blankets. It is much better for people to come in.

But I'm happy to provide you with all the information including own numbers so that you know exactly what's happened.

10 : URGENT BUSINESS

None

11 : APPOINTMENT OF STANDARDS & ETHICS INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

The report sought Council's approval for the appointment of 3 Independent Members of the Standards and Ethics Committee to fill vacancies which have arisen.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to approve the appointment of (1) Jason Bartlett, (2) Chrissie Nicholls and (3) Arthur Hallett, as Independent Members of the Standards and Ethics Committee for a term of 4 years, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

12 : LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST

The report asked the Council to consider a recommendation from the Audit Committee for one of the Committee's Independent Members to be granted a leave of absence.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

1. Approve the recommendation of the Audit Committee to grant the Chairperson's request for a leave of absence of up to one year; and
2. Noted that, subject to approval of recommendation 1, a new Chairperson, for the duration of the leave of absence, is to be elected by the Audit Committee at its next meeting.

13 : REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE

The Council was advised that following the formation of the Cardiff West Independent Group on 23 October 2019 and the resignation of Councillor bale as a Councillor in the Llanishen Ward on 9th October 2019 resulting in a by-election on 21 November 2019, a review of the political balance and allocation of seats on Committee had been undertaken in accordance with the Political Balance Rules contained in the Local Government and Housing 1989 and the Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended.

Council was requested to approve the outcomes of the political balance review and to agree any changes necessary to re-establish the political balance of the membership of the Council's Committees.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

1. Approve the allocation of seats on Committees for the remainder of the 2019/20 municipal year as set out in Appendix A
2. Receive nominations from Party Groups in respect of changes made to the allocation of seats to each Group
3. Make changes and appoint Members to each Committee in accordance with the wishes expressed by relevant Party Groups as detailed on the amendment sheet.
4. Request the Monitoring Officer to make changes and appointments in respect of any remaining vacancies in accordance with the wishes expressed by the relevant political group following this meeting, and to report to the next Council meeting the details of all changes and appointments to committees for information.

14 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

For the Council to receive nominations and make appointments to current committee vacancies as set out in the report and in accordance with the approved allocation of seats and political group wishes.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to appoint to the vacancies on Committee's in accordance with the approved allocation of seats and Party Group wishes, as set out on the Amendment Sheet.

15 : APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

For the Council to receive nominations and make appointments of Council representatives to statutory and non-statutory outside-bodies.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to nominate and appoint Georgina Phillips to the Willie Seager Memorial Homes Trust.

16 : APPOINTMENT TO MILLENNIUM STADIUM PLC

For Council to appoint one independent representative to serve as a Non-Executive Director of Millennium Stadium plc.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to approve the appointment of Sameer Rahman as the nominated independent representative as a Non-Executive Director to Millennium Stadium place for a term of 3 years, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

17 : LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

For Council to approve appointments as Local Authority School Governors.

RESOLVED: The Council considered the recommendations of the Local Authority Governor Panel of the 26 November 2019 and approved the appointments of Local Authority Governors to the school governing bodies as set out in Appendix 1.

18 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17 (f) [Written Questions](#) received for consideration and the responses have been published.