

COUNCIL: 30 NOVEMBER 2017

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT STATEMENT

AGENDA ITEM:

Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week was held from 20 to 26 November 2017 and I want to highlight the great work that the Road Safety & Training Team has been doing over the last six months:

- The Streetwise initiative, including the theatre presentations, where 3,385 year 7 pupils and teachers took part. A further 1,438 year 6 pupils were Streetwise trained in the class room and this will now be followed with practical training on our roads.
- Kerbcraft training over the first 6 months has been provided to 1,110 pupils and the team are on track to achieve the annual target.
- National standard cycle training over the first 6 months was provided to 1,129 pupils.
- Bus safety and evacuation training provided.
- Junior Road Safety Officers are successfully continuing to work outside Schools with Civil Enforcement and Road Safety Officers.
- Megadrive had a successful event on Tuesday 26 September 2017 where 75 secondary school students attended.
- Pass Plus Cymru has had 32 young drivers trained. You can take this course within 12 months of passing your driving test and it may help reduce car insurance costs.
- Provision of free adult national standard cycle training.
- Support for School crossing patrols continues with sponsorship of hi-visibility equipment by Admiral.

The team promoted Road Safety Week through a series of short articles and social media posts to promote the safety initiatives and training that is available.

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Service is now fully operational with officers on stand-by and providing this essential service across the city. Grit bins have are fully stocked and the weather forecasts are being closely monitored and analysed to ensure the network remains as safe as is possible. To date there have been a small number of salt treatments, this is expected to rise as the coldest months are upon us.

Electric Vehicle Charging

There is increasing interest in Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points. We have begun a feasibility study to provide the Council with a comprehensive resource on which it can base decisions for the way forward in providing EV charging facilities across the authority. There is a challenge for promoting this infrastructure in densely built residential streets in the city and the Council has begun work to investigate what the best solution would be for the city, including the need to find a way of facilitating the use of Electric Vehicles where no home charging is possible.

The study will encompass a complete review of the EV market including UK Best Practice, infrastructure technology, energy requirements, installation issues, maintenance and warranty, costs, funding options, commercial/operational models and procurement. The study will also provide an Options Appraisal and Recommendations and a Draft Action Plan. Consultants (Arcadis) were appointed in November 2017 to undertake this work and the timescale for delivery of the study is February 2018 and Members will be briefed in due course following the review of options, and outcomes of the feasibility study.

Alongside this work, officers are also currently investigating options for a small pilot of a charge point system early next calendar year. It is anticipated that technology which connects EV drivers to a charging point installed on a lamp post would be a possibility. This would be subject to technical feasibility, including access to appropriate power sources and safety assessment. The Council is encouraging residents and stakeholders to propose locations for the installation of charging facilities – both for the technology trial and for the long term.

Installation of home charging points is currently a matter for individual householders and is subject to the location and suitability of the property involved. The Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) provides grants for home charging points and further information can be found at the link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/564537/evhs-guidance-for-customers-v-2.1.pdf

Clean Air / Green Paper

The creation of the Green Paper related to transport, air quality and related health improvement has been progressing as follows:

- Meetings have been held with the Welsh Government, including a workshop with DEFRA, specifically on air quality and future improvement measures.
- Fortnightly cross-directorate working group meetings that include external representation from interested parties such as Public Health Wales are ongoing.
- A steering group including Councillors Elsmore, Michael and myself has been established and officers report on a bi-monthly basis on progress and to discuss the strategy going forwards.
- We are working with Cynnal Cymru who are helping us scope the Green Paper content and consultation process.

Councillor Caro Wild
Cabinet Member Strategic Planning & Transport
29 November 2017