

COUNCIL, 26 JUNE 2014 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CHAIR OF CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE (COUNCILLOR SUE LENT)

W1	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN</u></p> <p>Can you advise Members of the Council's agreed method of submitting petitions and objections, including that of iPetitions?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council Procedure Rules contained within the Council's Constitution allow for petitions to be delivered to the Council by an Elected Member at a meeting of Full Council on any subject within the remit of the Council or its statutory functions. The classes of petitions and how they are considered are set out in Rule 20 of the Council Procedure Rules.</p> <p>Petitions in relation to planning matters are submitted in accordance with the Planning Committee Procedure Rules for consideration by the Planning Committee and at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>There are also occasions where Petitioners wish to present Petitions directly to the Cabinet Member/s.</p> <p>Currently, the Council does not have provision for the submission of e-Petitions. However, I can confirm that this facility is being considered as part of the roll out of technology updates to the Council's Committee Management System.</p>
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CHAIR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE
(COUNCILLOR JAYNE COWAN)

W2

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

There is a paucity of information for Local Members about issues which affect Local Authorities, and which are being discussed within Welsh Government. Is there any mechanism for the Council to enable councillors to be linked in to these in an effective way, and for us to be able to access the Welsh Government library?

Reply

Thank you for your question.

I am pleased to advise that this issue is currently being addressed. The County Clerk and Monitoring Officer will present her Delivery Plan for 2014/15 to the Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee on the 1st July. The Delivery Plan, I am advised, will include a commitment to provide an online library service for members.

With the new technology which is currently being rolled out to members, I think more and more members will be continuing to access information online. The Members Library historically has relatively low usage, so officers are now focussing on providing a wide range of information electronically which they hope members will find informative and helpful. If you have any suggestions on information which could be provided, please let me know and I will raise your comments when the issue comes before the Democratic Services Committee.

When the research has been completed in this regard, all members will be consulted on what they would like to see from an online library, playing close regard to the limited resources available.

The exact levels of information that could be publicly available through the National Assembly for Wales' Library Service is just one of the areas being investigated and will form a part of the report which will be written by the Scrutiny Research Team.

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

W3

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

Please could you list in actual cash terms and in descending order, the level of subsidy provided to each of our leisure centres across the City including those run in partnerships with the council such as the international pool?

Reply

Leisure Centre	2013-14		
	Net Subsidy (£)	Attendance	Subsidy per head (£)
Cardiff International Pool	939,389.45	642140	1.46
Pentwyn Leisure Centre	700,560.64	287354	2.44
Fairwater Leisure Centre	497,195.98	274656	1.81
Western Leisure Centre	493,768.59	270475	1.82
Eastern Leisure Centre	493,764.86	251281	1.96
Channel View Leisure Centre	477,587.05	80878	5.90
Cardiff International Sports Stadium	341,607.34	186865	1.83
Llanishen Leisure Centre	329,087.25	482261	0.68
Star Centre	302,884.77	89142	3.40
Maindy Swimming Pool	280,481.50	274452	1.02
Splott Swimming Pool	136,010.00*	73644	4.33

**plus additional contribution of £183,116 from Corporate Initiatives fund.*

The above figures represent the 2013-14 outturn position, which was reported to Cabinet on 12 June 2014 as part of the overall position for the Sport, Leisure & Culture Directorate. The figures do not include central support or internal departmental support costs.

CORPORATE SERVICES AND PERFORMANCE
(COUNCILLOR GRAHAM HINCHEY)

W4	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McEVOY</u></p> <p>What are the ownership patterns of land in Cardiff, broken down by ward?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council can only provide you with information about the land which it owns or has an interest in. If you require information about other land ownerships in the city, then I would refer you to the Land Registry for England & Wales, which holds information on registered land and property ownership and may be able to assist you further on request.</p>
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EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
(COUNCILLOR DAN DE'ATH)

W5	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER</u></p> <p>Can the cabinet member please outline the steps being taken by the council in terms of the commissioning review in order to secure Grangetown Play Centre?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As requested by the Cabinet, officers from the Sport, Leisure & Culture, Children's Services and Education & Lifelong Learning directorates have been meeting to plan a way forward in accordance with the budget line regarding Children's Play that was agreed by Council in February 2014.</p> <p>An issues paper is being prepared for consideration by the Cabinet, which will include a sum of money to commission play services. However, due to the level of financial savings that the Council is facing, I am unable to provide any guarantee that Grangetown Play Centre's future can be secured. It will obviously be our aim, but it is too early in the current budget process to make any firm commitments at this stage.</p>
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EDUCATION AND SKILLS
(COUNCILLOR JULIA MAGILL)

W6	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER</u></p> <p>What is the percentage of teachers currently under a performance management review?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>All teachers have a statutory annual performance management review. There are currently three of 3,230 teachers (0.09%) in school or corporate posts across the city where capability concerns have been identified. This process is being managed within the framework of the Schools – Capability Policy and Procedure.</p>
W7	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER</u></p> <p>In the last 2 years, how many teachers have been removed from post due to poor performance?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>No teachers have been removed from post due to poor performance.</p>

ENVIRONMENT
(COUNCILLOR BOB DERBYSHIRE)

W8	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN</u></p> <p>Could you tell me in which Decision Register, and on what date, was the Decision made to dedicate the remainder of Heath Park, the Cathays High School Playing Fields and adjacent woodland through the charitable trust to King George V and which resulted in a deed being executed between the Council and Fields in Trust dated 8th October 2010?</p> <p>Could I please be provided with a copy of that Decision in the Decision Register?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The former Chief Executive approved the dedication under his general delegated power to take appropriate action to ensure effective delivery of services. The land in question was used for school pitch purposes at the time and a Town & Village Green application was proposed. Counsel's Advice was that such an application could have succeeded. That would have caused potential operational difficulties in terms of residents from the neighbourhood having an unrestricted free right to use the pitch for sports and pastimes. The application was averted by the land being dedicated to the Trust which made it inappropriate for the Town and Village Green application to be accepted. The land was dedicated with the express stipulation that school use was to be permitted.</p>
W9	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARK</u></p> <p>Please could you provide the figures for the numerator, denominator and % result for each quarter in 2013/14 for Performance Indicator: "WMT/009 (b): The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way"?</p> <p>Please could you also provide the overall annual % result for 2013/14?</p>

Reply

WMT/009 (b)	2013/14			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Numerator (the tonnage of local authority municipal waste prepared for re-use, recycled and/or collected as source segregated biowastes and composted or treated biologically in another way by the local authority)	22712.66	24063.47	19823.63	<i>currently being validated</i>
Denominator (the tonnage of municipal waste collected by the local authority)	44838.85	43999.16	39939.82	<i>currently being validated</i>
The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	50.65%	54.69%	49.63%	<i>currently being validated</i>

Quarter 4 performance information is awaiting confirmation as the data is currently with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for further validation. As a result, the overall annual result is not yet available.

W10

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARK

What enforcement action has been taken and on how many occasions to tackle wheelie bins being left out at inappropriate times between 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 in Cathays?

Reply

Throughout 2013-14, a total of 802 formal Waste Education and Enforcement actions were recorded in Cathays. Of these, 29 were related to this issue of wheelie bins being left on the highway. In this circumstance a notice served under section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act is served on householders that formally specifies the times at which waste can be presented for collection on the highway.

The Waste Education and Enforcement team continued to work alongside the student liaison officer, to maintain positive relations between all three universities in the city. Various outreach sessions were undertaken, during which information relating to recycling and waste collections was distributed. Examples of these sessions

include:

- attendance at 10+ Environmental Champion walkabouts, door knocking residents reminding them of their responsibilities;
- facilitating a waste management training session to the student volunteers, to ensure correct recycling and waste information was being portrayed at walkabouts/outreach sessions;
- Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) tours; and
- Attendance at all Fresher Fayres, along with a stand at Cardiff Metropolitan University's Green Day.

The team also developed relationships with local letting agents and landlords via the Get It Out For Cardiff campaign. During this time, the team was able to compile contact details for key stakeholders, in order to be able to send targeted information about waste in frontages, and promotion of the bulky waste collection scheme, to landlords with a view to this being distributed to tenants.

In addition, the team are in the process of designing and considering the merits of producing a wheeled bin sticker, to be ready for the new academic year, as a visual reminder to pull bins back into frontages.

W11

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARK

What enforcement action has been taken and on how many occasions to tackle inappropriate levels/environmental impact of waste left in the frontages of houses in Cathays between 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014?

Reply

Throughout 2013-14, a total of 802 formal Waste Education and Enforcement actions were recorded in Cathays. Of these, 84 were related to the impact of waste left in the frontages of houses.

84 Intention to Serve Notice letters were issued to residents/landowners giving them 7 days in which to resolve the issue or make contact with the team to advise how and when the issue will be resolved.

Following the first stage, officers were then only required to issue one Section 215 Notice and one Litter Clearing Notice.

W12

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOVIER

Please could you provide me with the number of enforcement actions taken against the below offences in the ward of Grangetown since May 2012?

- Dog Fouling
- Litter offences
- Incorrect Waste Presentation

Reply

Whilst the Council does not formally log all the patrols, engagement and awareness raising activities that are undertaken, I can confirm that the following formal action has been taken in Grangetown:

- Dog Fouling = 38 investigations and 11 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued.
- Litter offences = 45 investigations; 4 warnings and 41 FPNs issued.
- Incorrect Waste Presentation = 1462 investigations and 51 FPNs issued.

It is worth noting that the team deals with over 200 reactive calls every week in addition to its proactive education and awareness raising activities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS
(COUNCILLOR PHIL BALE, LEADER)

W13

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOWDEN

You have spoken about your desire to break down what you see as the 'silo' mentality within Council operating methods. Could you please advise what steps you have taken, and what more you intend to do?

Reply

I believe that breaking down silo-working within the Council - and across the wider-public sector - will be vital in tackling many of the complex, cross-service area issues that we are facing.

Cabinet Portfolios are designed to be cross-directorate in nature, with the intention of encouraging more cross-portfolio working amongst Cabinet members.

Furthermore, the Organisational Development Programme put forward by the Chief Executive and adopted by Cabinet in May of this year had at its heart a programme of integration across Council departments and an unprecedented commitment to working as one organisation, as demonstrated by our 'One Council' approach which is already being progressed.

This will mean, for example:

- Bringing together previously separate processes - such as housing assessments, social care assessments and health assessments – so that they are accessible through a single “gateway”, thereby improving the customer experience and deliver savings.
- Integrated service delivery, as is being developed through joint work, both between Council departments and with the Health Service, on integrating health and social care services;
- Implementing a corporate approach to cross council issues such as property management; and
- Communications & employee roadshows.

TRANSPORT, PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY
(COUNCILLOR RAMESH PATEL)

W14	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES</u></p> <p>Is it correct that the current proposals for the Eastern Bay Link Road suggest that Cardiff Council are planning to downgrade the road from a dual carriageway (as was previously proposed) to a single carriageway?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I can confirm that the Welsh Government is planning to construct the Eastern Bay Link, not Cardiff Council. On 10 July 2013, the Welsh Government Minister for Economy, Science & Transport announced that <i>“Eastern Bay Link is an important element in improving access to the Central Cardiff Enterprise Zone and enhancing connectivity within the city region”</i> and that she intends to progress the Eastern Bay Link.</p> <p>The Welsh Government website currently includes information on the Eastern Bay Link, which was last updated on 23 May 2014: http://wales.gov.uk/topics/transport/roads/schemes/ewsouth/eastern-bay-link/?lang=en</p> <p>As of 26 June 2014, it states the following:</p> <p><i>“We will be building a dual carriageway between Queensgate and Ocean Way called the Eastern Bay Link.</i></p> <p><i>This new road will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>improve access to Cardiff Bay</i>• <i>improve access to the Cardiff Central Enterprise Zone</i>• <i>enhance connections within the Cardiff City Region”</i>
W15	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BRIDGES</u></p> <p>What would it take to get you to agree to review the council's resident-only parking policy in view of the fact that 90% of residents surveyed in Gabalfa do not believe it is fit for purpose?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>You will recall that, in 2011, a comprehensive review of the policy was carried out, including much public consultation and, on the basis</p>

of the replies received from the public; some fundamental changes were made to the policy. Some of those involved changes to legal Orders which were completed in 2012. Hence, I would not expect to review the policy again before 2017.

It should be noted that the resident parking scheme is designed to protect residents from external parking pressure, usually from commuters and shoppers. In that regard, it is an effective scheme and is used widely across the city.

Residents include long established family groups, as well as transient students and medical students for whom their “digs” are their primary residences while they are studying in our city.

I believe that the 90% rate of discontent you refer to applies to Clodien Avenue and the group of streets to the south. I believe the parking pressure there comes not from commuters and shoppers, but from residents themselves. In these cases, where residents have more cars than can fit into a street, the scheme cannot resolve parking issues, and indeed, is not intended to address that issue.