

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 25 January 2018 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 19 January 2018.

Present: County Councillor Derbyshire (Lord Mayor).

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

104 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ali Ahmed, Lent, Merry and Murphy.

105 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillor	Item	Interest
Councillor Rod McKerlich	Item 1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor
Councillor Dianne Rees	Item1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor.
Councillor Graham Thomas	Item1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor.
Councillor Joel Williams	Item1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor.
Councillor Jones-Pritchard	Item1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor.
Councillor Linda Morgan	Item1. Motion 1	Personal interest as a Community Councillor.
Councillor Bowden	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a person affected by pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Elsmore	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a person affected by

Councillor	Item	Interest
		pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Goodway	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Gavin Hill-John	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Hinchey	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Mackie	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a person affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor McGarry	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a person affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Michael	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.

Councillor	Item	Interest
Councillor Naughton	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Simmons	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a person affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Patel	Item 14. Motion 4	A personal and prejudicial interest as a family member is directly affected by Pension changes for women. The Councillor left the meeting for this item.
Councillor Gavin Hill – John	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Lay	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Patel	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Robson	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Sandrey	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Simmons	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Stubbs	Item 15. Oral Questions – Question 2	As Non-Executive Director of Cardiff Bus appointed by Council
Councillor Hudson	Item 10 - Cabinet Member Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Statement	Personal Interest as relative in receipt of Social Care Services

106 : MINUTES

The minutes of the 30 November 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

107 : PETITIONS

The following petition were received for action as necessary:

Councillor Carter - 127 signatures calling on the Council to return the old Pentwyn Arms site back to the people of Pentwyn by turning it into a community building.

Councillor Wood - a further 43 signatures calling on the Council to stop the cuts to leisure centres (to be added to Cllr Naughtons petition submitted at November Council).

Councillor Gordon - 239 signatures petitioning the Council to explain why they granted planning permission to demolish this landmark heritage Victorian Building (The Rise, Penhill Road, Cardiff) as they feel that the historic building should be preserved as it is such an important local feature.

Councillor Congreve - 53 signatures requesting the Council to provide permit only parking between house numbers 12 – 48 Clearwater Way, Cardiff.

108 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Public Question 1 *from Mr John Jones*

You recently stated that you wanted to ensure that the Council get the basics right in how you care for the vulnerable and elderly in our City. Cllr. Chris Weaver also stated at the same time that he wanted to get people and communities involved in the decisions taken at Council. These are two positive objectives.

What direction has been given to Councillors and Council staff to ensure these objectives are met?

Reply *from Councillor Huw Thomas*

We take the care of the city's older people very seriously and are committed to helping them to remain independent at home for as long as possible. We also continue to make very good overall progress in strengthening our adult social services and related safeguarding functions, particularly in relation to older people.

The Council's Independent Living Service brings together a number of services for older people which can be accessed through our First Point of Contact telephone helpline and our Independent Living visiting service. The services offered are tailored to the needs of each individual; however, they can include money advice, access to equipment and disabled adaptations, meals on wheels and emergency alarm services. The Independent Living Service also has a Day Opportunities team that helps to combat social isolation by encouraging older people to access social events within their community.

In terms of involving communities in decisions, throughout November and December last year, the Council held a series of community engagement sessions which took place across the city.

The aim of these sessions was to talk to people about what is important to them and their community, and to capture their views about various proposals for change from both the Council and key partners such as Health. This is something that the administration is committed to and something that I want to see continue.

For example, the Council is currently developing an Older Persons Accommodation Strategy, which will set out the plans for future development and enhancement of sheltered and extra care accommodation. Consultation will be a key part of the approach to developing the strategy and a number of consultation sessions with older people and key stakeholders will take place shortly to help inform the strategy.

Supplementary Question from Mr John Jones

I have always tried to work with the Council, however in the case that I have outline the fundamental and basic processes have not been carried out to the standard the Council has set itself in the first line of your reply.

The Council proposes to develop the Highfields site on Allensbank Road where the density will be 2 to 3 times more than any other sites, and a 3 storey block of flats are to be built in front of the bungalows occupied by vulnerable, elderly and disabled people, which will be known as the Berlin Wall.

Although the Council have given every assistance to their partners and I do emphasis their partner's views, they have not given any assistance to these elderly resident, in fact in their own they feel forgotten, and even after they have sent their concerns in after we contacted them. They feel that they have been ignored, as have all the people who have sent in objections.

A substantial number of people have sent in objections even though they were given minimum time.

Can you tell me how you maintain that you even got the basics right and how Councillor Weaver's ambition to get the public involved in decisions in their areas, stands up to scrutiny and also Councillor Lynda Thorne stated early in the process that this site would be a flagship for the Council and therefore predetermined the outcome, would you agree it will be a flagship to show how not to treat people?

Reply from Councillor Huw Thomas

I would not agree. To be clear, having met with yourselves and having concerns from your residents association put to me, I, as you asked, investigated those claims in terms of process and I must say from the evidence that was presented to me by officers I was satisfied in terms of the process that was followed and in terms of consultation with residents on the scheme.

As for the merits of that scheme, I am not going to comment on that as it is a planning matter but I have full confidence in my Council colleagues led by the Chair

of the Planning Committee, Councillor Jones to follow due process with regards planning and some of the concerns that you raised are entirely matters that the Planning Committee will be reflecting on during their deliberations.

I am also satisfied that there are good and effective communications with the residents in the area that you mentioned, I know this from personal experience having seen the first hand contact that for example Councillor Hinchey has with those residents as a local Ward Councillor. So I am satisfied and reassured also that there are good strong lines of communication to those residents and as Council we will continue to ensure that those lines of communication are in place.

Public Question *from Mr Terence Jermyn*

I am aware that the Council has released land in Cardiff for housing development. What energy consumption criteria and energy efficient systems have they specified for these developments in order to minimise such energy consumption and also to obtain best value for money for the residents of Cardiff?

Reply from Councillor Thorne

The schemes included within the Council's Cardiff Living programme of new housing development, which is being delivered in partnership with Wates Residential, have specific criteria for the energy performance of every home built.

The tender documents stated that all dwellings built through the programme will achieve at least 17% uplift in energy performance compared to Part L of the Building Regulations for Wales 2014 without reliance on renewable energy.

The energy performance criteria cover both council homes and market sale properties and require the use of a 'fabric first' approach. This involves making the fabric of the building as energy efficient as possible, thereby reducing the demand for energy and heating, as well as helping to tackle fuel poverty.

It's also important to note that other land sales for housing development in the city that are outside of the Cardiff Living Programme do not have any energy efficiency criteria above current building regulations.

Supplementary Question *from Mr Terence Jermyn*

The Council in partnership with a private developer are proposing to build 42 units on the Highfields Site on the Passivhaus standard. The site orientation is almost exactly North - South which means that the windows face East and West, this means that solar energy gain would be minimal in winter when it is most required by this design and will cause major overheating problems in the summer when it is not needed. To solve these problems will require more extensive construction costs, all technical information stresses the importance of having some South facing windows with Passivhaus.

I have received supporting correspondence from various Passivhaus organisations, I also have an email from an expert on the continent, who says building on a North South axis is like buying a Porsche and then putting wooden wheels on it, he also

says that not all building areas are suitable for Passivhaus and that it is not economic if it is built on unsuitable land.

How does the Council justify going against all reputable technical knowledge and select Highfields for their first flagship Passivhaus development when its orientation is so obviously wrong and how is this value for money?

Reply from Councillor Thorne

I am certainly no expert on this issue but I can advise you that Passivhaus and this particular scheme, doesn't require solar panels. The Passivhaus scheme is about the fabric of the building and making the fabric of the building such that it actually doesn't need any further energy efficiency from solar panels or any other panels.

I can assure you that my officers are not new to energy efficient properties, we have building them since the year 2000, on the Gabalfa estate when we replaced the prefabricated bungalows, on Angelina Street and on all the other Council houses that were built between 2002 and 2008 which were part of the Cardiff Living Programme.

If you need further technical information we can clearly get that for you in writing from the officers.

109 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor's Statement of Activities November 2017 to January 2018 had been circulated for information.

In addition, the Lord Mayor was pleased to congratulate a number of citizens of Cardiff who have been honoured in the Queen's New Year Honours list.

Name	Award	Level	Citation
Professor Karen Margaret HOLFORD	Commander of the Order of the British Empire	CBE	Deputy Vice Chancellor, Cardiff University. For services to Engineering and the Advancement of Women in Science and Engineering.
Professor Philip Alexander ROUTLEDGE OBE	Commander of the Order of the British Empire	CBE	Consultant Physician, Llandough Hospital, Cardiff and Professor Emeritus of Clinical Pharmacology, Cardiff University. For services to Medicine.
Professor Antony CHAPMAN	Officer of the Order of the British Empire	OBE	Lately Vice Chancellor, Cardiff Metropolitan University. For services to Higher Education.
Mr Sam KENNEDY-WARBURTON	Officer of the Order of the British Empire	OBE	For services to Rugby Union.
Mr Michael BELL	Member of the Order of the British Empire	MBE	For services to the Cardiff Philharmonic Orchestra.

Name	Award	Level	Citation
Mr Royston Vincent COURT	Member of the Order of the British Empire	MBE	For services to Inclusive Judo.
Mr Alan DAVIS	Member of the Order of the British Empire	MBE	Coach, Maindy Flyers, Cardiff and Newport. For services to Youth Cycling and Diversity Inclusion in South Wales.
Dr Rosemary FOX	Member of the Order of the British Empire	MBE	National Director for Screening Programmes, Public Health Wales. For services to Healthcare in Wales.
Mrs Mary CLARKE	Medal of the Order of the British Empire	BEM	For services to Flood Defence and the community in Cardiff.
Mr Gareth EVANS	Medal of the Order of the British Empire	BEM	Deputy Local Policing Inspector, South Wales Police. For services to Community Cohesion and Engagement.
Mrs Julie MORRIS	Member of the Order of the British Empire	MBE	Head teacher at Severn Primary School for services to education

The National Holocaust Memorial Day Service 2018 was to be held on Monday 26 January at 11:00am here at the City Hall supported by representatives of faith and community groups would take part in the service.

Lord Mayor's Charity Fund raising - The Lord Mayor was pleased to announce that he had successfully completed his personal challenge – a 2 mile swim at Eastern Leisure Centre pool in aid of the two chosen charities – RSPB Cymru and Bug-life Cymru in 1 hour 20 minutes.

110 : CONSULTATION GREEN PAPER - BUILDING MORE & BETTER JOBS

The Cabinet Member for Investment and Development introduced the Green Paper on 'Building More and Better Jobs' and made a [statement](#)

Members were invited as part of the consultation process to make comments and observations at the meeting or to submit a response either as an individual or as a Group by 31 March 2018 in the interest of influencing the future shape of Cardiff.

The following observations were received and would be captured from the meeting as part of the consultation process.

- Members welcomed the Green Paper approach and the formulation of a strategy to create jobs;
- Members were interested in how the wider city zoning approach would work; the links between zones and additional infrastructure requirements. Member were keen to hear from local business about this approach.
- Members stressed the importance of ensuring all sectors have an a opportunity to feed into the consultation and have their say on economic regeneration and

that job opportunities are generated and that the local population has the skills to take advantage of these opportunities

- The importance to communities of local regeneration programmes
- Addressing the issues of poor transport infrastructure; planning for the new infrastructure and non-car based transport; and the programme for the Metro.
- The need to address the effect of Brexit.
- The importance of innovation and technology to move the Smart City agenda forward and improved connectivity and digitalisation.
- How greater investment can be generated for the city and possible taxes such as a tourist tax.
- The support initiatives such as the Capital Cardiff Fund give to new business ventures.

The Lord Mayor thanked Members for their contributions which would be captured in full and submitted as part of the consultation process.

111 : CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS ON COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

The recommendations of the Constitution Committee on changes to the Council Procedure Rules and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in relation to the Call-In procedure were submitted for Council approval.

The Chair of the Constitution Committee, Councillor Goodway introduced the report and proposed the recommendations and these were seconded by Councillor McKerlich.

The Constitution Committee over its last 3 meetings had in consultation with Party Group Leaders and Whips considered ways to improve the significance of meetings and making Full Council meetings more meaningful; give time to debates on policy matters in the form of Green Papers creating an improved platform for non-executive members to contribute to policy development, and increasing back-bench contributions in debates. As importantly making better use of time available/more manageable and best use of council resources.

The meeting was informed of the commitment to reviewing the revised Council Procedure Rules to ensure that the business of the Council was effective.

RESOLVED - That

1. the proposed changes to the Council Meeting Procedure Rules, as shown in Appendix B as recommended by the Constitution Committee to take effect from Annual Council in May 2018 were approved;
2. the recommendation of the Constitution Committee to change the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, as shown in Appendix C was approved;
3. the Monitoring Officer be requested to action the updates to the Constitution accordingly.

112 : APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Council was recommended to approve the appointment of an Independent Member of the Standards & Ethics Committee following the completion of the formal Standards & Ethics Appointment procedure.

RESOLVED – That the appointment of Mrs Thora Lewis as Independent Member of the Standards and Ethics Committee for a term of 4 years was approved.

113 : STATEMENTS

[Leader Statement](#)

The Leader responded to questions on his statement relating to City Deal, the investment from UK Government, Hinkley Point and Marine licence for disposal of dredged material and Staff Engagement initiatives.

[Cabinet Member for Children and Families Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Support4Families, and assistance provided by the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

[Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Well-being Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Dementia Friendly City, and was pleased to report on the Council achievement as a Dementia Friendly City Status.

[Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on London to Cardiff Electrification Works at Splott Road Bridge and contingency plans; University Hospital of Wales Transport Interchange, parking spaces; Park and Ride on Sunday's; and 'Next-bike', the new on street cycle hire.

[Cabinet Member for Investment and Development Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Building More & Better Jobs in Cardiff; and the Severn Growth Summit.

[Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Sport and Physical Activity; 21st Century Schools; and Arts Venues including St David's Hall.

[Cabinet Member for Education, Employment and Skills Statement](#)

In the absence of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member, the Leader responded to questions on 21st Century School's Band B Funding.

[Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance Statement.](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Council Website, Planning Portal; and the introduction of Council Tax exemption for Care Leavers.

[Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Welfare Reform – Universal Credit; Volunteering in Cardiff; and ongoing work around Rough Sleepers in Cardiff.

[Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions on Fly-Tipping and Enforcement.

114 : MOTION 3

The Lord Mayor used his discretion to alter the order of business to allow Motion 3 to be taken first.

The Lord Mayor advised that the notice of motion proposed by Councillor Bablin Molik and seconded by Councillor Joe Carter had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. Two amendments had been received to the motion.

The Notice of Motion was proposed as follows:

The Council notes that:

- The 'Trapped in a Bubble' report estimates that 18% of people feel lonely 'always' or 'often'. This would equate to 62,000 people in Cardiff;
- loneliness can be experienced by people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, abilities and sexual identities;
- whilst individual factors play a key role, community and societal factors can contribute to loneliness;
- research has found that lacking social connections and can be damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day;
- research commissioned by the Eden Project estimates the cost of social isolation and disconnected communities in Wales as £2.6 billion per annum;
- the third sector has a pivotal role in providing support services which help to address loneliness and isolation;
- investing in services to prevent loneliness will improve health and well-being and in the long term save money in health and social care budgets and society in general.

This Council calls on the Cabinet to:

Develop a strategy for tackling loneliness in Cardiff, with consideration given to:

- Close partnership with third sector organisations;

- a range of interventions currently being used elsewhere such as intergenerational living models, befriending services, social clubs and volunteering opportunities;
- using the council's corporate landlord role to allow greater use of local authority facilities by groups that combat loneliness;
- encouraging schools, colleges and universities to create a culture of volunteering among their students so as to address the generational gap and encourage engagement and participation.

Amendment 1: Proposed by Councillor Jayne Cowan

Seconded by Councillor David Walker

Addition of an additional opening sentence to read:

"The Prime Minister has recently appointed a Minister of Loneliness to tackle the social and health issues caused by social isolation, with a multi million pound fund"

Amendment of the Resolution with the addition of *"bring a report back to full Council in September 2018 to"* after This Council calls on the Cabinet to

Addition of two bullet points immediately after the amended resolution as follows:

- *"reinstating the funding for luncheon clubs, whilst working with local Councillors, community groups and organisations to help set up new groups or resurrect ones which have closed"*
- *Acknowledging the good work undertaken by Good Neighbour Groups across Cardiff which serves many of our residents well. Look to explore funding options to continue to grow the services they provide"*.

The Motion as amended would read as follows:

The Prime Minister has recently appointed a Minister of Loneliness to tackle the social and health issues caused by social isolation, with a multi million pound fund.

The Council notes that:

- The 'Trapped in a Bubbles' report estimates that 18% of people feel lonely 'always' or 'often'. This would equate to 62,000 people in Cardiff;
- loneliness can be experienced by people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, abilities and sexual identities;
- whilst individual factors play a key role, community and societal factors can contribute to loneliness;
- research has found that lacking social connections can be as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day;
- research commissioned by the Eden Project estimates the cost of social isolation and disconnected communities in Wales as £2.6 billion per annum;
- the third sector has a pivotal role in providing support services which help to address loneliness and isolation;

- investing in services to prevent loneliness will improve health and well-being and in the long term save money in health and social care budgets and society in general.

The Council calls on the Cabinet to bring back to full Council by September 2018:

Develop a strategy for tackling loneliness in Cardiff with consideration given to:

- reinstating the funding for luncheon clubs, whilst working with local Councillors, community groups and organisations to help set up new groups or resurrect ones which have closed;
- acknowledge the good work undertaken by Good Neighbour Groups across Cardiff which serves many of our residents well. Look to explore funding options to continue to grow the services they provide.
- close partnerships with third sector organisations;
- a range of interventions currently being used elsewhere such as inter-general living models, befriending services, social clubs and volunteering opportunities;
- using the Council's Corporate Landlord role to allow greater use of local authority facilities by groups that combat loneliness;
- encouraging schools, colleges and universities to create a culture of volunteering among their students so as to address the generational gap and encourage engagement and participation.

Amendment 2: Proposed by Councillor Susan Elsmore

Seconded by Councillor Lynda Thorne

Bullet Point 1 – second sentence after the words equate to add “about”

Bullet Point 2 – reword as follows:

- Loneliness can be experienced by anyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexuality or ability;

Delete Bullet Point 3

Bullet Point 4 – first line after research delete has and replace with “shows”

Bullet Point 4 at the end of the sentence insert source (Holt-Lunstad 2015);

Bullet Point 6 – replace with “All sectors, including the third sector have a pivotal role in promoting and providing services which help to address loneliness and isolation;”

Bullet Point 7 – delete all after well-being

Delete all after This Council calls on Cabinet to: to bullet point 4 and replace with

Continue to develop and co-ordinate those strategies for tackling loneliness in Cardiff, including:

- (i) Support to older people and community groups to develop and deliver local solutions that counteract loneliness, for example the Day Opportunities Strategy;
- (ii) Work with communities across the generations to foster informal structures that enable people to participate in society on their own terms, for example Preventative Services, in partnership with Cardiff City Foundation, have for the second year running facilitated an intergenerational literacy project in partnership with four local primary schools and older people.
- (iii) Adult Services through Healthy and Active Partnership (HAP) commissions targeted interventions at preventing unnecessary entry into statutory health, or social care services or to prevent or delay an increase in existing care package intervention. This is a volunteer based service which addresses the issue of social isolation and loneliness by encouraging and supporting individuals to access community facilities and activities of interest to them.
- (iv) Consider innovative ways to support community groups by encouraging the use of Council facilities, for example libraries and hubs for Well-being Wednesday;

The Motion as amended would read as follows:

This Council notes that:

- The Trapped in a Bubble report estimates that 18% of people feel lonely 'always' or 'often'. This would equate to about 62,000 people in Cardiff;
- Loneliness can be experienced by anyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexuality or ability;
- Research shows that lacking social connections is as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day (Holt-Lunstad, 2015);
- Research commissioned by the Eden Project estimates the cost of social isolation and disconnected communities in Wales as £2.6 billion per annum;
- All sectors, including the third sector, have a pivotal role in promoting and providing services which help to address loneliness and isolation;
- Investing in services to prevent loneliness will improve health and well-being.

The Council calls on the Cabinet to:

Continue to develop and co-ordinate those strategies for tackling loneliness in Cardiff, including:

- (i) Support to older people and community groups to develop and deliver local solutions that counteract loneliness, for example the Day Opportunities Strategy;
- (ii) Work with communities across the generations to foster informal structures that enable people to participate in society on their own

terms, for example Preventative Services, in partnership with Cardiff City Foundation, have for the second year running facilitated an intergenerational literacy project in partnership with four local primary schools and older people;

- (iii) Adult Services through Healthy and Active Partnership (HAP) commissions targeted interventions at preventing unnecessary entry into statutory health, or social care services or to prevent or delay an increase in existing care package intervention. This is a volunteer based service which addresses the issue of social isolation and loneliness by encouraging and supporting individuals to access community facilities and activities of interest to them;
- (iv) Consider innovative ways to support community groups by encouraging the use of Council facilities, for example libraries and hubs for Well-being Wednesdays;
- (v) Continue to encourage schools, colleges and universities to create a culture of volunteering among their students so as to address the generational gap and encourage engagement and participation.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion. At the conclusion of the debate the Lord Mayor invited Councillor Molik to sum up. In summing up Councillor Molik advised that she would not accept either of the amendments.

The Lord Mayor moved to the votes as follows:

The Vote on Amendment 1 proposed by Councillor Cowan was LOST.

The Vote on Amendment 2 proposed by Councillor Elsmore was CARRIED.

The Substantive Motion would read as follows:

This Council notes that:

- The Trapped in a Bubble report estimates that 18% of people feel lonely 'always' or 'often'. This would equate to about 62,000 people in Cardiff;
- Loneliness can be experienced by anyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexuality or ability;
- Research shows that lacking social connections is as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day (Holt-Lunstad, 2015);
- Research commissioned by the Eden Project estimates the cost of social isolation and disconnected communities in Wales as £2.6 billion per annum;
- All sectors, including the third sector, have a pivotal role in promoting and providing services which help to address loneliness and isolation;
- Investing in services to prevent loneliness will improve health and well-being.

The Council calls on the Cabinet to:

Continue to develop and co-ordinate those strategies for tackling loneliness in Cardiff, including:

- (i) Support to older people and community groups to develop and deliver local solutions that counteract loneliness, for example the Day Opportunities Strategy;
- (ii) Work with communities across the generations to foster informal structures that enable people to participate in society on their own terms, for example Preventative Services, in partnership with Cardiff City Foundation, have for the second year running facilitated an intergenerational literacy project in partnership with four local primary schools and older people;
- (iii) Adult Services through Healthy and Active Partnership (HAP) commissions targeted interventions at preventing unnecessary entry into statutory health, or social care services or to prevent or delay an increase in existing care package intervention. This is a volunteer based service which addresses the issue of social isolation and loneliness by encouraging and supporting individuals to access community facilities and activities of interest to them;
- (iv) Consider innovative ways to support community groups by encouraging the use of Council facilities, for example libraries and hubs for Well-being Wednesdays;
- (v) Continue to encourage schools, colleges and universities to create a culture of volunteering among their students so as to address the generational gap and encourage engagement and participation.

A vote was taken on the Substantive Motion. The Substantive Motion was CARRIED.

115 : MOTION 2

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Keith Parry had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. There were no amendments to the motion.

The Notice of Motion was as follows:

The Council notes the proposal to dump 300,000 of mud from outside of Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station in Cardiff's waters.

The Council calls upon the Cabinet to observe Precautionary Principle (PP) as detailed in Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The PP aims at ensuring a higher level of environmental protection through preventative decision-making in the case of risk. In other words, prevention is better than cure, also called the "preventative principle".

Given that there has been no calculation of the potential dosage of radiation from the Hinkley Point material beneath 5cm and also that there were only 5 samples taken at

a depth below 5cm, this Council concludes that in the interests of public safety, the Council will pay for independent a thorough analysis of the mud at depth, in consultation with CEFAS and the campaigners behind the petition to the National Assembly for Wales.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion. At the conclusion of the debate the Lord Mayor invited Councillor McEvoy to sum up.

The Lord Mayor called for a vote on the Motion as proposed by Councillor McEvoy. The motion was LOST.

116 : MOTION 1

The Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Williams had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. There was one amendment to this motion.

The Notice of Motion was as follows:

- 1) This Council notes that there are six Community Council's in Cardiff, namely:
 - Lisvane Community Council
 - Old St Mellons Community Council
 - Pentyrch Community Council
 - Radyr & Morganstown Community Council
 - St Fagans Community Council
 - Tongwynlais Community Council

- 2) This Council recognises the hard work carried out by the members and officials of these Community Council's and notes that many of the participants are volunteers. Without the efforts of Community Council's, a number of local amenities would close and events in these communities would not happen. However, vacancies can sometimes be difficult to fill and there can be a lack of candidates at Community Council elections, risking a democratic deficit.

- 3) This Council also notes that historically over many years, channels of communication between Community Council's and Cardiff Council have been weak or non-existent. This includes notifications to the Community Council's of works proposed on highway or Community Council involvement in planning applications and a say in best use of any Section 106 monies.

- 4) This Council calls on the Cabinet to, in conjunction with the Community Council's, consider how links could be improved and strengthened. The Cabinet may wish to consider:
 - (i) If there are areas where services could combine (eg: either the Community Council or Cardiff Council undertaking grass cutting in an area)
 - (ii) Introducing a single point of contact for Community Councils.

- (iii) How the Community Council Charter can be further embedded within Cardiff Council and how awareness of it can be increased
- (iv) Regular liaison between key officials and Community Councils, with those periodically attending Community Council meetings.
- (v) How the role of Community Councils in making representation on planning applications and section 106 agreements can be enhanced.

The Cabinet should bring forward a report within six months.

Amendment 1 – Proposed by Councillor Bradbury

Seconded by Councillor Stubbs

Point 2 – Deletion of all after the first sentence

Deletion of Point 3 and replace with

3) However this Council notes that in the 2017 Election all Community Council seats were uncontested and therefore no election held.

Point 4 (ii) deletion of the word 'Introducing' and replace with 'How to enhance and continue with'

Deletion of Point 4 (v)

The motion as amended would be as follows:

- 1) This Council notes that there are six community Councils in Cardiff, namely:
 - Lisvane Community Council,
 - Old St Mellons Community Council
 - Pentrych Community Council
 - Radyr & Morganstown Community Council
 - St Fagans Community Council
 - Tongwynlais Community Council
- 2) This Council recognises the hard work carried out by the members and officials of these Community Councils and notes that many of the participants are volunteers.
- 3) However this Council notes that in the 2017 Election all Community Council seats were uncontested and therefore no election held.
- 4) This Council calls on the Cabinet to, in conjunction with the Community Councils, consider how links could be improved and strengthened. The Cabinet may wish to consider:
 - i) If there are areas where services could combine (e.g. either the Community Council or Cardiff Council undertaking grass cutting in an area).

- ii) How to enhance and continue with a single point of contact for Community Councils
- iii) How the Community Council Charter can be further embedded within Cardiff Council and how awareness of it can be increased.
- iv) Regular liaison between key officials and Community Councils, with those periodically attending Community Council meetings.

The Cabinet should bring forward a report.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion. At the conclusion of the debate the Lord Mayor invited Councillor Thomas to sum up. In summing up Councillor Thomas advised that she did not accept either of the amendments.

The Lord Mayor moved to the votes

The Vote on the Amendment proposed by Councillor Bradbury was CARRIED.

The Substantive Motion was as follows:

- 1) This Council notes that there are six community Councils in Cardiff, namely:
 - Lisvane Community Council,
 - Old St Mellons Community Council
 - Pentrych Community Council
 - Radyr & Morganstown Community Council
 - St Fagans Community Council
 - Tongwynlais Community Council
- 2) This Council recognises the hard work carried out by the members and officials of these Community Councils and notes that many of the participants are volunteers.
- 3) However this Council notes that in the 2017 Election all Community Council seats were uncontested and therefore no election held.
- 4) This Council calls on the Cabinet to, in conjunction with the Community Councils, consider how links could be improved and strengthened. The Cabinet may wish to consider:
 - i) If there are areas where services could combine (e.g. either the Community Council or Cardiff Council undertaking grass cutting in an area).
 - ii) How to enhance and continue with a single point of contact for Community Councils
 - iii) How the Community Council Charter can be further embedded within Cardiff Council and how awareness of it can be increased.
 - iv) Regular liaison between key officials and Community Councils, with those periodically attending Community Council meetings.

The Cabinet should bring forward a report.

A vote was taken on the Substantive Motion. The Substantive Motion was CARRIED.

117 : MOTION 4

(Those Members who had declared a personal and prejudicial interest left the chamber during consideration of this item.

The Rt. Hon the Lord Mayor Councillor Derbyshire had declared an interest and vacated the Chair. The Deputy Lord Mayor took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting).

The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Bowen-Thomson and seconded by Councillor Ebrahim had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. One amendment had been received to this motion.

The Notice of Motion was as follows;

2.6 million women born in the 1950's have had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Act of 1995 and 2011. Hundreds of thousands of women are suffering severe financial hardship as a result of how these changes were implemented and communicated.

WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) have been campaigning for the government to make 'fair transitional state pension arrangements' for women born in the 1950's. They have emphasised the hardship endured by many women as a result of these changes, particularly as many had little or no personal notification of the changes.

The Department for Work and Pensions has confirmed that it did not write to women affected by the 1995 Conservative Government's Pension Act until 14 years later, in 2009. However, these letters were sent to women born up to April 1953 and subsequently halted in 2011 whilst further increases in state pension age were made by the Government. The DWP started writing to women born after 6th April 1953 in 2012, just 2 years before some were due their state pension.

These changes affect women in Cardiff. The number of women born in the 1950's affected by the Pensions Acts by constituency is estimated as follows;

Cardiff Central = 3,400 women

Cardiff North = 5,300 women

Cardiff West = 5,200 women

Cardiff South and Penarth = 5,800 women

(House of Commons Library Estimate, Jul 2017)

The change in the number of women aged 60+ years claiming Employment Support Allowance (ESA), universal credit or jobseekers allowance (UC or JSA) between Aug 2013 and Aug 2017 by constituency is as follows:

Cardiff Central = +440% (ESA) & +50% (UC/JSA)

Cardiff North = +440% (ESA) & +100% (UC/JSA)

Cardiff West = +430% (ESA) & +150% (UC/JSA)
Cardiff South and Penarth = +510% (ESA) & +100% (UC/JSA)

The percentage of women aged 60+ years needing to claim ESA or UC/JSA, between 2013 and 2017, has increased disproportionately compared to other age groups and compared to men. Pension age changes are a significant contributory factor to this increase.

The significant loss of income to women who were expecting their pension at 60 will have an adverse effect on our local area. According to WASPI, some women are at risk of losing up to £45,000 as a result of not receiving their pension until they are 66 years of age. Women and families affected by these changes will have less disposable income. For some women, they are having to sell their homes, claiming housing support and/or finding they need to claim other benefits to survive. Not all women are able to continue working due to ill health, caring responsibilities for parents and/or grandchildren, redundancy etc.

In response, this Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

This Council further calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

Cardiff Council also commits to supporting women affected by the sudden impact of these unfair transitional state pension arrangements by providing advice and information through the community Hubs and Libraries across Cardiff to help women access all benefits to which they are entitled.

Amendment 1 – Proposed by Councillor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Parkhill

Delete all except for the final paragraph

Amend final paragraph, removing the words struck through:

“Cardiff Council also commits to supporting women affected by the ~~sudden~~ impact of ~~these unfair~~ transitional state pension arrangements by providing advice and information through the community Hubs and Libraries across Cardiff to help women access all benefits to which they are entitled”

The Motion amended would be as follows:

Cardiff Council commits to supporting women affected by the impact of transitional state pension arrangement by providing advice and information through the community Hubs and Libraries across Cardiff to help women access all benefits to which we are entitled.

The Deputy Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion. At the conclusion of the debate the Deputy Lord Mayor invited Councillor Bowen-Thompson to sum up. In summing up Councillor Bowen –Thompson advised that she did not accept either of the amendments.

The Deputy Lord Mayor moved to the votes.

The Vote on Amendment 1 proposed by Councillor Robson was LOST.

The Vote on the original Motion as proposed by Councillor Bowen-Thompson was CARRIED.

118 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question - *Councillor Philippa Hill-John*

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm the purpose of the Llandaff conservation area appraisal review please?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Llandaff was last reviewed 12 years ago as part of a city-wide review programme of all 27 conservation areas in Cardiff.

The purpose of an appraisal review is to review the extent of the boundary and to provide a clear definition of the special interest of the conservation area and you will be pleased to hear as part of that there will be a public meeting.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Philippa Hill-John*

Why are the recommendations within the 2006 conservation area appraisal review so readily ignored by this Council.

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I'll pick that up with you outside. I don't necessarily agree that they are ignored and I am sure you will be pleased that Llandaff has been chosen as one of the areas that we are looking to really tighten up this within the new SPG's and the new guidance from CADW, it is such a beautiful and historic area I am sure you are pleased that we are taking this on to make we have got some safeguards in place in that area.

Question - *Councillor Berman*

Following the recent decision by Cardiff Bus to withdraw its number 56 service, residents in certain parts of Penylan have now lost access to a direct bus route to the city centre and this is having a major impact for some residents – such as those who are elderly, those with disabilities or mothers with young children – for whom alternative services may now be out of reach. At a recent meeting between ward councillors and Cardiff Bus, the company's representatives explained they were no longer able to continue this service without receiving a subsidy from the local authority.

Will you therefore commit to exploring with ward councillors what could be done to restore a direct bus service to the city centre to the affected parts of Penylan, including looking at the possibility of the council providing a subsidy for this socially-necessary service?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

As you know this is a commercial decision made by Cardiff Bus. I do sympathise with those passengers who find it more difficult to find a direct route to town. It is worth noting that there are other direct services relatively nearby and a short walk, the numbers 1 & 2, 51 & 53. It is not exactly an outer area for people to get into town, there is a bus service support grant but at the moment that is very much fully spent and if I am completely frank there are other areas where there are more demands on the services where we are having to prioritise that grant.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Berman*

In relation to what you said, the 1 and 2 don't go directly into town from that area, and they are further away from some of the houses than the 56 used to go to. Would you be prepared to meet with myself and Councillor Boyle and Councillor Asghar Ali just to explore if there is anything the Council might be able to do to assist?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Of course we do need to make sure that bus services in that area are providing good services for local people.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Lay*

Does the Cabinet Member believe that if more residents actually used the service it might not have been withdrawn in the first place and as Councillors we should be leading by example and using more public transport throughout the City?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I agree, bus services are struggling across the whole of the UK, we all need to lead by example in terms of doing that and when the Green Paper come forward as we know buses are going to be very much at the centre of that they are a priority for this administration. We do know there are problems, we are honest about those and we should be leading by example and taking public transport.

Question - *Councillor Lister*

Will the Cabinet Member work with myself and stakeholders including residents, community groups and retailers in Cardiff Bay Retail Park to develop a strategy to improve Grangemoor Park so we can achieve Green Flag Status?

Reply – *Councillor Bradbury*

Arrangements are being made to meet and, as I have indicated previously, I am more than happy to work with local ward members and local communities to improve and protect our parks and green spaces.

The Grangetown Ward is one where there is considerable community effort and the Parks Service works with a range of partners, including Keep Wales Tidy, Innovate Trust and the Cardiff Rivers Group. Through working with others, I am optimistic about what we can achieve at Grangemoor Park.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Molik*

Councillor Bradbury came and visited Roath Park Lake with us earlier in the week, and discussed our concerns that it maintains its Green Flag status.

Can I seek assurance that the correct investment will be put into our parks to maintain the Green Flag status?

Reply- *Councillor Bradbury*

The policy is to keep our parks that have Green flag status, to maintain that and also to look at extend the number of parks who are bidding and achieving Green Flags in Cardiff.

Question – *Councillor Wood*

Cardiff has seen a large number of planning applications for high density student accommodation in recent months. At the October Council meeting in reply to a written question, we were told the council would be bringing forward a draft Student Accommodation Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG). Can we have an update on progress and a date when this SPG will be ready?

Reply- *Councillor Wild*

The draft SPG is in the process of being completed. Once this work is finished and documents translated, public consultation is anticipated to take place in the spring.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Wood*

It is good to see that this is coming on. The SPG guidance is needed in this area given the number of applications. As you aware the SPG's cannot introduce new policy or change National Guidance, with that in mind, would you be willing to write to the Welsh Government to ask them to consider revising their policies to make it better for residents to oppose these often overbearing and unnecessary developments of this type of student accommodation?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

It is important that we do take on the views of local people. I am hoping that the SPG will have that in it, but I will check with officers to see that that is the case and if

necessary if we need to improve it, I will ask then to write it in, but I want to see what is on that SPG first. It will go to public consultation so there will be a chance for people to feed in on that and you could put forward your views at that stage as well.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Williams*

In relation to student accommodation, could you outline what plans the Council have to address the lack of parking provision that is brought and demanded as a result of the development of these student blocks. There is an obvious associated problem of on street parking that comes as a result of student accommodation, I would be interested in your views on how we are going to rectify that?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Parking is always a tough one to do either way, in terms of discouraging it but at the same time we don't want people to park on other roads. Our SPG's are pretty tight on that. I do intend to go back on our SPG's to try and make sure we strengthen those as much as possible.

We are trying to make less encouragement for people to own cars, and to park cars on the street, we need to do that.

Question - *Councillor Stubbs*

Can the Cabinet Member make a statement about improving drainage on rugby pitches on Tremorfa Park?

Reply – *Councillor Bradbury*

As the Cabinet Member with responsibility for sport, I am committed to improving playing surfaces and built facilities in the city.

Officers met recently with club representatives and we have committed to undertake a programme of verti-draining, once ground conditions permit.

I can also advise that officers are active in exploring external funding sources in partnership with governing bodies, local leagues and clubs, which would enable improvements to be made.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Stubbs*

Often we solve the initial problem and that is that St Albans is being dealt with but the broader problem develops because of the building of houses and increased amount of concrete in the area which makes it more difficult for the pitch to drain.

I am asking for you to investigate a longer term solution and maybe get officers to meet with the clubs to listen to some of their ideas, perhaps they can come along and watch a game with myself and Councillor Henshaw who is now also a regular at Tremorfa Park?

Reply – *Councillor Bradbury*

I would be happy to meet with any clubs to discuss how we can improve their facilities and that includes St Albans.

Question - *Councillor Driscoll*

Following the cross party support of our recent composite motion on Air Quality, when can we expect the live AQM monitors to be installed in Llandaff and across the city?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

Shared Regulatory Services have investigated the sourcing of indicative real time monitors and a number of these are due to be purchased shortly and will then be installed in areas across the city.

Officers are duly aware of the air quality issues in Llandaff due to the presence of an Air Quality Management Area, and the air quality monitoring network within that AQMA has recently been revised for 2018.

Officers will further assess the potential to implement real-time monitoring capabilities in the Llandaff AQMA, but this will be dependent on the availability of appropriate funding and there being suitable infrastructure to install these monitors in the area.

We will continue to improve our real-time monitoring and reporting capabilities as this will form a strategic measure within the new Clean Air Strategy for Cardiff.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Driscoll*

We know the biggest contributor to air quality is diesel cars and I continue to ask the questions about electric vehicle charging points.

We have 2 large car parks in Llandaff, Danescourt as well, in fact when built, the High Street car park received a civic award. I thank you for the work you and Councillor Bradbury have done around the car park.

Will you continue this work and bring the High Street car park back to its former glory by clearing up and cutting back the area but also maybe installing some vehicle recharging points which I have been asking for to be on the list, in what is recognised as an area that suffers from poor air quality by passing traffic and traffic parked on Cardiff Road?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

We are doing a lot of work at the moment on the alternative fuel strategy and electric charging, electric vehicles and taxis are one of the main parts of that. I won't go into too much detail on how far we have got, there is still quite a bit of work to do but I can assure you this City will not lack the willpower to take on pollution that we have experienced.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Sandrey*

Given that the Welsh Government has today conceded in Court that their inaction on air pollution was unlawful, would you agree it is imperative that local authorities take a lead on this issue?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

We are.

Question - *Councillor Naughton*

In light of the council's decision not to subsidise the Cardiff East Park and Ride on Sundays, is the Cabinet Member still committed to a shift from cars to public transport?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I do think it's a bit misleading to suggest this was a Council decision, we do subsidise the Cardiff East Park and Ride and are still continuing that subsidy. There are commercial realities and it's a simple fact that it is not in the interest of this organisation or Cardiff Bus for them to continue to subsidise a service that is not proving at all popular. That service on a Sunday was going as low as 50 or 60 people across the whole day, we are hoping things may change on that but in the meantime we are working closely with Cardiff Bus to try and make sure that other things are in place to improve their services.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Naughton*

Would the Cabinet Member agree with me that the decision to remove park and ride to the city centre on a Sunday is a backwards step in trying to have less journeys by car which is the Council's aim and would you look in the future to reinstate the service.

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I do agree, we would like every single person in Cardiff to have a bus service directly even if there are low numbers but as I have explained there are commercial realities, people working hard to make this work across both organisations and if things change, and we know there is likely to be a growth in terms of developments in that area, then we will look at that again and I am sure Cardiff Bus will as well.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Rees*

Can you tell me how much consultation did you and officers have with Cardiff Bus over the closure of the Cardiff East Park and Ride, and did you consult with the major leisure providers in the City Centre, the WRU and also the Heath Hospital about the closure of the park and ride on a Sunday?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

It was a decision by Cardiff Bus and I know that other people across this chamber on the board have been working hard to make sure we are doing as well as we can for that organisation. We are not party to those conversations, but we have regular dialogue with them. I don't know whether conversations took place with those providers and I agree with you, when there are big events on we need to make sure we are providing a service. I will check that for you and if they didn't take place, see what can be done, especially when there are big events and there is a real need for that park and ride on the weekend.

Question - *Councillor Owen Jones*

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the current situation regarding Network Rail and the Carillion run site on Splott Bridge?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

An update on the position in relation to Carillion was provided in the earlier statement.

In terms of the company's work for Network Rail on the upgrade to Splott Road Bridge, I can confirm that there are critical dates to this contract in terms of rail possessions in February and, if they are missed, this will create significant issues for both the electrification works and the re-opening of the bridge to two-way traffic.

The Council has received assurances that Network Rail is working with employees of Carillion and their supply chain to ensure that any ongoing concerns are addressed.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Owen Jones*

The residents and traders of Adamsdown and our neighbours in Splott have patiently put up with years of disruption, the works on Windsor, Beresford and now Splott Bridge have caused large diversions and drops in trade.

I am glad to hear that the current signs regarding Carillion are good but can you please guarantee that you and the Council will do everything in your power to work with Network rail to ensure that these works are completed as promised in the Summer so that residents and shopkeepers in the east of the city can finally see a return to some normality?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I agree, it's not been a great situation for residents of Splott, Adamsdown and other people that use that area. At this time Network rail's delivery team are committed to delivering a programme of works, its coverage and associated possessions next month is on the critical path for completion of larger elements of Cardiff's electrification project so we will stay tight with them on it and as I promised your ward colleague we will make sure we keep you fully abreast of these.

Question - *Councillor Driscoll*

Following the Additional Learner Needs Review and the proposed introduction of the new ALN (additional learner needs) statements to replace SEN (special educational needs) statements, will this see the re-introduction of the funded transport to college for disabled children that was phased out in 2016/2017 that discriminates against disabled children and their families?

Reply – *Councillor Thomas (In the absence of Councillor Merry)*

Initial legal advice is that the new Additional Learning Needs legislation in Wales does not include any further provision in relation to school transport.

However, I can confirm that officers are in the process of undertaking an Independent Review of the Passenger Transport requirements and part of the review will focus on:

1. The impact of the new Additional Learning Needs legislation;
2. The Band B School Organisation Programme proposals; and
3. The impact on the number of Additional Learning Needs pupils requiring transport due to population increases.

Any modification to our policy and practices will ultimately be underpinned by engagement and consultation as a requirement of the Equality Act 2010.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Driscoll*

I recognise you are working on the ALN to try and rectify this but in the meantime these families are finding it difficult. I know I've raised this at Council previously but these children and parents feel like their voices are not being heard and I make no apology for speaking up for them again.

These children are embarking on the most important stage in their lives to college where they will learn some practical skills, a pathway into a job and eventually independent living. If these children were to drop out of college because of no support from this Council they would become another NEET. Is it accepted that the phased withdrawal of funding for assisted travel has let these down, when can you tell these children and their parents the flawed transport policy will be changed and they will receive the much needed funding.

This Council wants to be a Child Friendly City, how can we be this City while we are still letting these children down?

Reply – *Councillor Thomas*

I appreciate this is a very passionate issue and if I was a parent of a child in this situation I would be passionate as well. We want Cardiff to be a Child Friendly City and I also personally want everybody to be able to contribute to and benefit from the City's success.

As I said in my earlier answer, we will be looking at this situation, colleagues across the chamber will appreciate the financial strictures that the Council is experiencing and I wonder if there is a National solution that can be pursued through the Welsh Assembly that will then put the funding in place not just for this authority but for all authorities to make sure that these people get access to the education they need.

Question -*Councillor Sandrey*

Waste collections regularly fail to empty and return communal bins at blocks of flats across Llanedeyrn. Residents in Brynfedw, Coed Y Gores, Chapelwood and Pennsylvania would like to know when they can expect a better service?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

I am aware of the issues experienced in your ward; the majority of which have related to contamination of the recycling and food waste presented by some residents. The waste collection teams will not collect contaminated bins as this risks the rest of the load.

Education and enforcement officers are working with residents to improve ownership and responsibility for their household waste. The irresponsible actions of a few are having a big impact of their neighbours, but we are committed to tackling these issues in order to improve the service for everyone.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Sandrey*

Poorly carried out collections leave areas looking dirty and untidy.

Could these estates please be considered for deep cleans to rectify this mess?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

I'm not sure what poorly collected waste is. If residents have contaminated waste then our teams will not collect them. If you can imagine a lorry load of recycling, you only want one bag of contaminated waste to ruin the whole load, so we aren't going to do that.

If you write to me and explain where in your ward you are having problems I will see if I can arrange for some cleaning to be done there for you.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Lancaster*

Councillor Sandrey's question sheds light on an important issue that recycling rates in our large blocks of flats around the City is traditionally low and continues to prove a stumbling block in the efforts of Cardiff Council to improve its recycling rates.

Do you have any plans to improve the rates of recycling in our large blocks of flats?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

In the next few months we will be bringing out a new waste strategy, and that will focus exactly on that, enforcement and education, because one of the things we have to do is increase our recycling rate to get to 64% then 70%. We are down to nearly 15/20,000 tonnes, we have to try to eek this out from everywhere possible, so we will be looking at waste from flats and working with housing to see if we can find a way to help increase that rate.

Question - *Councillor Singh*

What steps is the Cabinet Member taking to ensure that the benefits of the development taking place on the BBC building which is on the doorstep of areas such as Riverside and Grangetown will be shared with residents of these areas?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

By its very nature the development now under way at Central Square will drive economic activity and social improvements across the wider area. It's already starting to happen and can be seen in developments like the Tramshed in Grangetown.

But this Administration takes nothing for granted. The new Council leader has made clear that he wants the benefits derived by the delivery of our ambitious agenda to be felt across the county and we will learn from past mistakes.

My officials are currently exploring new funding opportunities to support investment in the area to the immediate west of Central Station to help improve accessibility and the commercial environment. As soon as we are in a position to do so we will consult with local members of the nature of those improvements as well as specific schemes. This aims to ensure that the benefits of the development are shared by surrounding communities.

In addition we are addressing a range of labour market initiatives as part of the Cardiff Commitment. The Councillor may be aware that, as part of that initiative we recently held an 'Open Your Eyes Week' event involving the 9 cluster primary schools to Fitzalan where over employers based in Central Square such as Blake Morgan and BBC Wales, presented career opportunities to the year 6 pupils. The event will repeated in June this year.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Williams*

Would Councillor Goodway agree with me that in order for the growth and opportunities that stem from the City Centre, and for the whole of the City to benefit, those opportunities need to be shared throughout every ward in our City and the wider region?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

I reiterate it is the commitment of the Leader of the Council to make sure we design the delivery of the agenda so that people across the city feel the benefit of it.

Question - *Councillor Hudson*

Cardiff businesses in particular rely heavily on tourism. With the imminent abolishment of tolls on the Severn Bridges, a population close to 1million people living in Bristol and South Gloucestershire area can access south Wales easily. What measures are the council undertaking in the greater Bristol areas to promote and encourage these people to visit Cardiff in particular?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

I refer the Councillor to the answer I gave to the Leader of the Opposition when he asked a similar question during consideration of the Investment & Development statement.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Hudson*

We see adverts to use Bristol Airport etc. I think this is a key opportunity for Cardiff Council to explore so that we can advertise our services as well, especially for Cardiff Airport. Can you take this forward please?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

We are ahead of the game, the previous Cardiff Business Council as you recall funded a massive advertising campaign in London around the theme of Cardiff the nearest Capital to London that was a hugely successful campaign. Unfortunately the Cardiff Business Council was wound up under the previous administration but we will be working with the business community in order to establish new arrangements including the new organisation that is now in place, in order to make sure that we exploit the opportunities that are derived from the change that is going to take place at the end of the year.

Question - *Councillor Molik*

Show Racism the Red Card Wales published a report late last year stating increase in the level of racism seen amongst primary school children in Wales, more recently home office statistics have shown 29% increase in hate crime and 35% increase in religious hate crime. Young Muslims in Wales say they have been frequently stared at in public, called "terrorists" at school and been told by strangers to take off headscarves. What are we doing to tackle racism, religious hate crime and Islamophobia in our schools?

Reply- *Councillor Thomas*

At present, the recording and reporting of hate crime incidents is not consistent in Cardiff schools.

This has been recognised as an area requiring improvement and, in order to address this issue, the Council convened a multi-agency group in October last year to improve the quality and consistency of schools' responses to hate related bullying

and discrimination. This group includes young people so that their views are considered fully.

The group is establishing a best-practice model, including a training package for school staff and guidance material that reflects the Welsh Government's revised guidance on anti-bullying.

The training will enable schools to have an appointed 'expert' staff member, equipped to offer advice, promote recording and monitor incidents within their school. This will enable schools to better identify bullying trends and bring in external specialist support where necessary.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Molik*

A couple of months ago we celebrated the life of Betty Campbell in this Chamber - the very first black head teacher in Cardiff. My question is that we now have reports that due to racism within the education sector it is actually putting off non-white teachers from working within the sector in Wales and that is not only causing inequality within our workforce in education but also it lacks the role models that our young people need in schools. Is there intention of addressing this diversity issue that's occurring in our teaching workforce?

Reply – *Councillor Thomas*

You are absolutely correct to highlight that as a potential issue in terms of lack of role models and in terms of negative experiences putting people off.

One of the things I recognise as having made a difference in recent years is the Welsh Government's Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant which has specifically targeted schools with high levels of children from minority ethnic backgrounds with additional money so they are able to employ more teaching staff to provide those children with the best education possible.

You will be aware with the Assembly Member for Cardiff Central Jenny Rathbone having raised this in plenary last week that there is a concern that changes being made that grant will be significantly reduced in Cardiff and I would urge members of your group that if you are able to bring influence to bear Welsh Government Ministers and the Education Cabinet Secretary in particular to make sure that grant is continued in full then now is the time to do so as that will have a knock on impact on what you and I are seeking to achieve in terms of better representation of minority ethnic staff members in our schools.

Question - *Councillor Jacobsen*

Will the Cabinet Member arrange a meeting with the leaseholders of the old Morrison's Store in Pentwyn and myself to discuss the use of the building for the benefit of residents in Pentwyn?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

I would be very happy to facilitate such a meeting with the leaseholder.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Jacobson*

I have the names of the leaseholders and financial consultants of this building, can the Council move forward quickly for the residents of my ward on this please?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

I shall take every step to make sure we deal with the matter expeditiously.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Sandrey*

I've been trying to work on this issue for months and failing to make contact with the leaseholders so if there is a meeting, can my ward colleagues and I also be invited?

Reply – *Councillor Goodway*

I'll make sure that happens

Question -*Councillor Hudson*

In view of the increase in fly tipping, how many times has Wedal Road HWRC been closed to residents in the last 6 months, and was it closed in an effort to downgrade the site?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

As I confirmed in my earlier statement, fly tipping in the city is actually going down and has been since 2011.

In the last quarter, we also achieved 100% clearance of reported fly tipping incidents in less than 5 days.

Your personal opinion of fly tipping in Cardiff is therefore unfounded and wrong.

Of the 182 operational days in the last six months, the Wedal Road site has had to close fully or partially on 7 occasions. This is due to one of two reasons – operational issues, such as a breakdown in the vehicles that service the skips, or due to traffic congestion leading into the site which causes obstructions on the main road.

As an old site, Wedal Road will experience temporary closure issues so I would encourage residents to go to Lamby Way or Bessemer Close as these sites do not experience similar service disruption. The facilities at Bessemer Close and Lamby Way provide more recycling options, have covered disposal areas and have more space for vehicles so don't experience these issues.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Hudson*

I was concerned about Wedal Road closing because a few residents have contacted me, will the Cabinet Member confirm or deny that Wedal Road will close on 3rd March

and that no new site for recycling in Cardiff North has been identified let alone will open before the closure.

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

Every time I'm asked this question I always give the same answer, which is when I have something to say on this subject I will say it and I continue to say the same thing.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Cunnah*

My view is it's up to people to have to dispose of waste to check the opening times and it is completely wrong to dump your waste in someone else's road and which we shouldn't condone that.

I would just like to ask the Cabinet Member that I noticed in his statement before that 100% of fly tipping incidents have been dealt with within 5 days, in Canton when people have been irresponsible and I have reported it, it's usually been the same day, often the next day and I think the officers have done an excellent job responding to fly tipping and would he join me in thanking those officers.

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

We often get into political rows about what we see as fly tipping and it's always someone else's fault. It's not the fault of the people in this room, it's not the fault of the Council, it's the fault of those who actually do it and as I said earlier, we don't dump waste but what we can do is actually pick it up and get it off the streets as quickly as possible. So I share Councillor Cunnah's view, the officers have done a fantastic job, let's hope they can keep it up for the next 3 months.

Question - *Councillor Henshaw*

Could the Cabinet Member outline to us what provision is being made to ensure that people who are deaf have efficient and sufficient access to the advice sessions at the City Centre Hub?

Reply – *Councillor Thorne*

A number of officers based at the Central Library Hub have recently passed Level 1 in British Sign Language and more officers will be attending training from April in order to gain this qualification. In addition to this, all staff based in the Advice Hub will have received basic sign language training by April this year.

Officers can arrange for a translator to attend an appointment with the customer; however, it is accepted that this can be an inconvenience as the customer will need to return to the Hub at a later date.

As a result, the Hub service is in the process of introducing Signvideo, which is an instant BSL interpretation service for face-to-face enquiries.

This will allow the Hub Officer and the deaf customer to converse normally using a video-based interpreter to relay the conversation. This service is due to go live shortly and we hope this will significantly improve the service to our hearing impaired customers.

Hearing loops are also available in all Hubs for hearing impaired customers who use hearing aids. These loops help to reduce external environmental noises making it easier to converse with officers on a one to one basis.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Henshaw*

Thank you for reaffirming our commitment to equality and thank you for reassuring us that as a Council we are providing equality of access to services for our residents who are deaf.

Question - *Councillor Robson*

Dog mess is a major problem in our Parks and Open Spaces. Will you commit to increase the level of enforcement to ensure that dog owners pick up after their dogs?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

The Council has 7 officers in the Parks Rangers team and 27 officers in Neighbourhood Services Enforcement team that can issue fines for dog fouling, along with undertaking a range of other duties. However, it is extremely difficult to witness offences due to the size of our public open spaces and parks.

I am supportive of the proposed implementation of Public Space Protection Orders relating to dog control. These would look to exclude dogs in all enclosed playgrounds, marked sports pitches and schools that are owned and/or maintained by the Council.

Public Space Protection Orders will help to send a clear message to dog owners and assist enforcement action to help control dogs in these key areas.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Robson*

The development of these new orders sounds very positive, in terms of tackling the problem particularly in our sports pitches which is one of the areas where this particular question originated from. Many sports pitches do suffer from this problem, and it's dangerous for those who are playing sport on those fields and obviously it's very inconsiderate of the dog owners, so can you keep me updated please as this develops.

Rhondda Cynon Taf has I believe, these in place now and it's made a big difference so hopefully we can emanate it.

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

I am aware of the damage this causes, a friend of mine actually lost his leg playing rugby on a pitch where we had this problem so I am well aware of the damage this does.

We are discussing this, we are going to go through consultation and I will let you know exactly how this is progressing.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Howells*

I don't know if you saw at the weekend the picture that was tweeted by Clwb Cymru highlighting the amount of dog mess that they have had to remove, if you haven't I can send it to you. It's not very pretty so I share the concerns of Councillor Robson and ask that you seriously consider the approach that RCT is undertaking which is to ban dogs from marked sports pitches and play areas.

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

I did see the picture, I've been to plenty of sporting events throughout my life and shifted a lot of it in my early days running football and rugby teams, so I'm well aware of the mess, we will be going down that route so we will be doing it.

119 : URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business

120 : LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

The Council was requested to approve the recommendations of the Local Authority Governor Panel 15 January 2018.

RESOLVED – That

1. the following appointments be approved to existing vacancies: -

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Appointment Approved
Bryn Deri Primary School	Radyr & Morganstown	03/10/2017	Neil Desmond
Marlborough Primary School	Penylan	23/06/2017	Trevor Saadi
Peter Lea Primary School	Fairwater	09/12/2017	Philip Bond
Radyr Primary School –	Radyr & Morganstown	07/08/2017	Charlotte Robins
Ysgol Glan Morfa	Splott	19/12/2017	Owain Gwyndaf Jones
Ysgol Pencae	Llandaff	01/09/2016	Blodwen Lewis

2. the following appointments be approved to future Local Authority vacancies

School	Ward	Start of Vacancy	Appointment Approved
Adamsdown Primary School	Adamsdown	25/03/2018	Cllr Nigel Howells
Bryn Celyn Primary School	Pentwyn	27/03/2018	Marion Ludgate
Bryn Deri Primary School	Radyr & Morganstown	27/03/2018	Matthew Jones
Greenway Primary School	Rumney	21/02/2018	Caroline Derbyshire
Radnor Primary School	Canton	27/03/2018	Cllr Elsmore
St Peter's RC Primary School	Plasnewydd	21/02/2018	Cllr Mary McGarry
St Teilo's CW High School	Pentwyn	27/03/2018	Phillip Smith
The Court	Llanishen	27/03/2018	Garry Hunt

121 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Council was requested to approve changes to Committee Membership.

RESOLVED – That the following appointments to Committee vacancies be approved in accordance with Party Group wishes:

Committee	Nomination
Constitution Committee	Councillor Lister
Democratic Services Committee	Councillor Lister
Local Authority Governor Panel	Councillor Congreve
Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Owen Jones
Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee	Councillor Keith Jones

122 : OUTSIDE BODIES APPOINTMENTS

The Council was requested to approve the appointment of Council representatives to Outside Bodies vacancies under the Local Choice Functions.

RESOLVED - That

1. Councillor Lister is appointed to the South Wales Merchant Navy Board.
2. The vacancy on the Cardiff and Vale Community Council be filled at a future meeting

123 : URGENT DECISION: INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT - THE WELSH LEARNING CAMPUS

This report was received by Full Council for information only and was in relation to an urgent decision taken by the Director of Education in relation to the making of an

Instrument of Government under The Federation of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2014 for the Western Learning Campus.

124 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER CLEAN STREETS,
RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT

Written Question from Councillor Sandrey

It has been suggested that public drinking water fountains could be a way of reducing the use of plastic-bottled water. Has Cardiff Council looked into this possibility at all? Hull and Bristol have recently installed some.

Reply from Councillor Michael

This is something that we are looking into, particularly in relation to how we can encourage the refilling and reuse of plastic water bottles or other drinks containers in order to reduce the amount of plastic waste produced here in Cardiff. However, we currently have no plans to support the widespread provision of public drinking water fountains across the city.

Written Question from Councillor Sandrey

A man called Brian Harper is the inventor of the UK's first dog-poo powered street lamp. He was featured in the Guardian on January 1st and says he is looking to interest managers of urban parks in the technology. Is this something Cardiff Council could express an interest in trialling?

Reply from Councillor Michael

No.

Written Question from Councillor Boyle

Are you satisfied with the rigour and findings of the ecology reports produced as part of NRW's planning application for the Roath Flood Scheme?

Reply from Councillor Michael

The ecology reports were considered by officers to be thorough and adequate to enable an informed determination of the application by Planning Committee back in April 2016 when I was the Chair.

Written Question from Councillor Berman

Is the council satisfied that that the works being undertaken by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) as part of the Roath Brook Flood Scheme are proportionate to the identified level of flood risk to properties in the area, that NRW has suitably assessed all the available options for mitigating against the identified flood risk and that NRW

has appropriately determined the best approach, including when taking account of the impact on the local environment?

Reply from Councillor Michael

The planning application for the flood scheme was approved by the Council's Planning Committee in April 2016 and the scheme was subject to relevant technical scrutiny and assessment by council officers at the time. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is the competent regulatory body responsible for the management of flood risk from main rivers in Wales. The Council considers that NRW has suitably assessed the available options to minimise the impact on the local environment from a flood risk perspective.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER CULTURE AND LEISURE

Written Question from Councillor Carter

How much money was raised as a result of the sale of the Dome Education centre in Pentwyn and how much was subsequently invested at Pentwyn Leisure Centre?

Reply from Councillor Bradbury

The disposal of the former Dome Community Centre site in 2015 realised a capital receipt of £460,000, which was ring-fenced for investment in improving local facilities in Pentwyn, including the leisure centre. £161,000 was spent on accessibility and internal works at the leisure centre, which included the installation of automatic doors, fire risk assessment modifications, conversion of a changing room into a community room and the conversion of a store room into a first aid room. In addition, £123,000 was spent on tile replacement in the swimming pool.

Written Question from Councillor Berman

At the last full council meeting, I asked if you would look again at the trees in Roath Brook Gardens and Roath Mill Gardens which Cardiff Council has asked Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to fell at the same time as implementing the next phase of the Roath Brook Flood Scheme, even though these trees are not required to be felled to facilitate the flood scheme works. I understand there are three trees in this category (with another five such trees having been felled in the earlier phase of the scheme). Can you update Members as to what reconsideration, if any, has taken place and what the outcome was?

Reply from Councillor Bradbury

I discussed this matter with officers following the Council meeting in November and they reviewed the position regarding the three trees in question. They have concluded that the original decision to fell them on safety grounds due to their poor condition is appropriate and, on this basis, should proceed. The situation is that, if these specific trees are not felled as part of the flood risk management scheme works, then the Council will need to follow on within a relatively short timeframe and undertake the work itself.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT
AND SKILLS

Written Question from Councillor De'Ath

A number of primary schools in the city have participated in the Operation Christmas Child (OCC) initiative run by US-based group Samaritans Purse, whereby gifts are collected in shoeboxes to be sent to children in hardship overseas. After being collected by the group, each donated shoebox has religious literature added, alongside the gifts, which aims to convert the recipient to evangelical Christianity. This act has attracted criticism for attempting to convert potentially vulnerable young people to a different faith – with the OCC website containing a supposed case study of an African child who “led her Muslim family to Christ” after receiving a OCC shoebox.

What guidance has been issued to schools around participating in OCC and will the Council seek to ensure that all parents and carers at schools that do participate are made fully aware of what OCC entails?

Reply from Councillor Merry

I am aware of the concerns which have been expressed in relation to Operation Christmas Child and I can confirm that this issue is due to be discussed next month at a meeting of Cardiff's Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).

Written Question from Councillor Berman

What timeframe do you currently envisage for taking forward the recently announced and very welcome proposals for an expansion of Cardiff High School and, given that this expansion will take some time to be delivered, will you consider making any temporary provision in the interim to increase capacity so more pupils who live within the school's catchment area can secure a place at the school in the intervening period?

Reply from Councillor Merry

As was set out in the report on the Council's 21st Century Schools Band B priorities, which was considered by the Cabinet on 14th December 2017, our Band B submission seeks to address the most acute sufficiency and condition issues in Cardiff. Any project to increase the size of a school establishment, change its configuration or location will require statutory consultation and Cabinet determination. The statutory consultation will set out the detailed proposals and proposed location for each scheme in line with the School Organisation Code 2013. It is anticipated that any statutory consultation on the matters contained within the report on Band B would commence in batches from Spring 2018, pending confirmation of the Council's budget position, as this will inform the match funding associated with the programme for the forthcoming year.

Similarly, it should be noted that because of the scale and number of proposed projects in the Band B investment programme, the delivery of the schemes will also be undertaken in batches over the timespan of the programme commencing in 2019.

As a result of the phasing, it may be necessary to put interim measures in place where sufficiency issues present and there are no local alternatives available.

It is recognised that Cardiff High School may be parents' first preference for their child(ren)'s secondary education. However, there continues to be sufficient English-medium secondary education places available in the locality, including in neighbouring catchments areas, that are able to provide for demand and the Local Authority continues to be able to offer places.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE

Written Question from Councillor Berman

Given that the council's most recent budget monitoring report shows that directorate budgets are projected to be overspent by £4.956 million by the end of the current financial year; that a shortfall of £1.954 million is projected in meeting savings agreed within the budget for 2017-18; that the Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee has expressed concern about unrealistic savings proposals; and that a balanced position is only likely to be obtained by drawing down the entirety of the £3 million general contingency budget coupled with management actions to control expenditure in the current year and the identification of in-year targeted savings, do you accept that the council's administration is failing to ensure the provision of effective financial rigour and that the council's financial management appears as a result to be in chaos with a not insignificant level of unplanned savings now having to be made?

Reply from Councillor Weaver

The key point is that the Budget Monitoring – Month 6 Report, which was considered by the Cabinet in November 2017, showed that, at an overall level, the Council is projecting a balanced position against budget.

Yes, there are pressures within directorate budgets and, yes, there are potential shortfalls against budget savings; however, these have been effectively managed through a combination of prudent budget setting and the in-year management of resources.

With regard to the directorate positions, the major element of this relates to demographic pressures in relation to Looked After Children and children with Additional Learning Needs; pressures that are common to many local authorities across the UK.

Given the quantum of the budget savings that this Council has had to achieve in recent years and the increasingly challenging nature of the savings proposals themselves, it is unsurprising that some degree of risk to the achievement of in-year savings will exist. These risks are clearly set out the Council's Budget Report.

It is also worth noting that, in the majority of cases, the projected shortfalls are simply due to timing issues, rather than any failure to achieve the savings as a whole. These

factors were recognised in the Council's 2017/18 Budget with the £3million General Contingency being set aside to reflect potential risks in this area.

I agree that fiscal management and discipline is important, and Cabinet colleagues share that view. The consequences of decisions committing the Council to a policy or project can be significant. For example, the business case for subsidising the Dr Who exhibition that was signed off in July 2011 assumed that the scheme would be cost neutral, but has actually left the Council with a liability of £1.147 million, creating an additional challenge to setting a balanced budget. All decision makers ought to be conscious of the impact that such decisions can have.

I would submit that, rather than the position being as you set out in your question, the financial management of this Council continues to be very effective, both in terms of managing the in-year position and in identifying and managing financial risks in the medium term.

Written Question from Councillor Berman

As referred to in paragraph 4 of the month 6 budget monitoring report to the November Cabinet meeting, can you please provide full details of all the management actions taken across directorates to control expenditure in the current financial year and a full breakdown of the in-year targeted savings which have been identified by directorates?

Reply from Councillor Weaver

The management actions undertaken during the year included a review of all key areas of spend by directorates. This included any non-essential purchase of goods and services, a review of agency engagements, overtime working and the timing and need to fill posts as they became vacant. Directorates have also reviewed income sources in order to seek new opportunities to maximise income in the current year. In addition, directorates also identified targeted in-year savings, which were reflected as part of their Month 6 projections in the Budget Monitoring – Month 6 Report that was considered by the Cabinet in November 2017. This included a variety of different measures, including holding vacancies, the identification of additional income, use of reserves, maximisation of grant funding and targeted reductions to external spend.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

Written Question from Councillor Carter

What steps are taken to keep drugs out of night shelters and other accommodation for rough sleepers?

Reply from Councillor Thorne

With regards to the management of premises, all homeless accommodation providers fully comply with the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. This means they will not knowingly permit or suffer the production or attempted production of any controlled

substance, the supply or attempted supply of any controlled substance or the smoking of cannabis, cannabis resin or prepared opium.

As part of this, each organisation works closely with the Police and will share all relevant intelligence. A resident in breach of these conditions would also be in contravention of their occupancy agreement and would face disciplinary action, up to and including eviction. These issues would never be ignored and all evidence and suspicion will be followed up.

In relation to personal use of controlled substances, each scheme will have its own drug policy. These were developed following direct consultation with South Wales Police.

All recent counts have found that approximately 70% of people sleeping rough have very significant substance misuse issues. As such, frontline services must work with active users to try to assist them to address this support need and policies must reflect this to avoid multiple exclusion and increased vulnerability. This would relate only to the accommodation occupied exclusively by a service user. Clearly, drug use in shared sleeping space and other communal areas would never be tolerated in any scheme.

Treatment, rehabilitation and other second stage schemes working with people who are actively engaging with support to address their drug use will apply stricter conditions on personal use. This ranges from close monitoring to voluntary drug testing and is necessary to ensure that any relapse suffered by an individual does not impact on the recovery of other service users. The Council's Gateway model ensures that we can work towards placing people according to their need and preference.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER

Written Question from Councillor Boyle

Has UEFA told us why our late bid to be a host city for the 2020 European Championships was unsuccessful?

Reply from Councillor Huw Thomas

I met with the Chief Executive of the Football Association of Wales (FAW) following the decision that was announced by UEFA on 7 December 2017 and I know that we received only positive feedback that Cardiff's bid was solid and strong.

The decision making process by UEFA's Executive Committee was based on the votes of committee members and, unfortunately, we lost out to London's Wembley Stadium, which was already due to host matches as part of EURO 2020.

The Council will continue to work in partnership with the FAW, Welsh Government, South Wales Police and other organisations to bring major football events to Cardiff in the future.

Written Question from Councillor Wood

Revised security measures during the autumn rugby internationals saw extensive queues form on pavements and open spaces outside the stadium. Some fans expressed concerns these crowded, and often confined queues put them at increased risk. With the upcoming Six Nation internationals these queues may reoccur, have revised risk assessments been undertaken?

Can any reassurance be provided to rugby fans, regarding their safety, whilst queuing to enter the stadium before passing the security check points?

Reply from Councillor Huw Thomas

The safety and security of the visiting public and, likewise, the staff at each of the stadium venues in Cardiff is the responsibility and first priority of each venue's safety management team; similarly, the Council led Sports Grounds Safety Advisory Group works with each venue to deliver this goal.

Members of the public also have a responsibility to themselves and others and in this respect, and they are advised to follow the advice and guidance provided for their own benefit when attending such events. In recent months, part of this advice has been – and will continue to be for the foreseeable future – that people arriving at the venue allow additional time to negotiate the necessary safety and security checks and that they should avoid carrying bags or other items that are not essential.

The Autumn Series of rugby internationals at Principality Stadium were the first rugby matches where these additional safety and security measures had been implemented. Following the problems that were experienced at the first match of the Autumn Series on 11 November 2017, which attracted a crowd of over 70,000 people, the Chief Executive and I, in our capacity as directors of Millennium Stadium plc, raised matters directly with Welsh Rugby Union officials in order to ensure that improvements were made in accordance with safety and security requirements. Throughout the Autumn Series, operational plans were re-evaluated and refined to minimise queuing and, wherever possible, to minimise the perceived risk to the queuing public. This same approach will be applied to future events, including the upcoming Six Nations matches.

Although it is not possible to provide blanket guarantees with respect to public safety, I can assure you that there is a detailed risk assessment process in place for each event. This process involves stadium managers, South Wales Police, the intelligence services, other emergency services and the Council, who together determine the appropriate measures required to provide reassurance and safeguard the public.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

Written Question from Councillor Carter

Who agreed the installation of anti-terrorism barriers on the new Cardiff Bay cycle path?

Reply from Councillor Wild

The installation was agreed by Cardiff Harbour Authority following advice from the Welsh Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit.

Written Question from Councillor Carter

When the original Cardiff East park and ride was established, Cardiff Bus (and previously First) won the tender to operate for the service for the council on a commissioned basis. Under the current contract, could you explain who is responsible for changing services and prices in the current Cardiff East Park and Ride contract?

Reply from Councillor Wild

Cardiff Bus operates the bus services and manages the site. Revenue generated is retained by Cardiff Bus. The current contract allows Cardiff Bus to change the operation and tariffs charged, subject to agreement to the changes by the Council.