

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 27 January 2022 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 21 January 2022.

Present: County Councillor McKerlich (Lord Mayor)

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

112 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Linda Morgan. Councillor Philippa Hill-John was having some technical difficulties and will joint as soon as possible.

113 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct:

Councillor	Item	Nature of Interest
Cllr Sandrey	11 – Motion 1	Personal – works for Co-production Network Wales
Cllr Huw Thomas	21	Personal – Non-executive Director, Millennium Stadium PLC
Cllr Mia Rees	11 – Motion 1	Personal – Board Member, Cardiff YMCA who promote youth work
Cllr Bradbury	11 & 12 – Motions 1 & 2	Personal – Member of ACE who provide youth services
Cllr Mackie	11 & 12 – Motions 1 & 2	Personal – Board Member of Cathays Community Centre and Grassroots who provide youth services
Cllr Bowen-Thomas	11 & 12 – Motions 1 & 2	Personal – CEO of Safer Wales who run youth services in the city
Cllr Bridgeman	11 & 12 – Motions 1 & 2	Personal – Professional Youth Worker and employed by Action for Children

		who provide Youth Services in Cardiff
Cllr Gordon	11 – Motion 1	Personal – Director of Grassroots City Centre Youth Project
Cllr Ebrahim	11 – Motion 1	Personal – Professionally qualified youth and community worker and have worked for Cardiff Youth Service.

The Chief Executive declared a personal interest in Item 21 as he is non executive Director of Millennium Stadium PLC.

114 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 25 November were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

115 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Rhydian Payne asked the following question of the Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment, Councillor Michael.

With traffic often a problem outside the HWRC at Lamby Way, can you provide an update on the search for a new HWRC site in Cardiff North?

Reply – Councillor Michael

We are not aware of traffic issues outside of the recycling centre at Lamby Way. The new booking system supports the control of vehicle numbers attending the site and residents are not having any difficulty attending the recycling centre in their allocated time slot.

A baseline review of potential recycling centre sites has taken place, but no suitable locations were identified in the north of Cardiff at the time of the review. Therefore, we are still exploring potential site options as they become available.

Supplementary Question – Rhydian Payne

How many sites have been looked at so far? If all possible sites have been exhausted perhaps the £3m budget set aside for it could be used to offset your planned 4% council tax rise?

Reply – Councillor Michael

A total of 8 sites were looked at. This is well known by all the local councillors, they all had it. I don't make budgetary decisions on the Council Tax level on my own during public questions.

116 : PETITIONS

The following petitions were submitted:

- Councillor Cunnah submitted a petition containing 428 signatures calling on the Council to reinstate the older children's play area at Sanatorium Park.

Councillor Taylor submitted a petition containing 71 signatures calling on the Council to fix the broken pavements and introduce a Walking Strategy

117 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor advised that he had attended a number of events:

- Representing Council at a memorial service for past Lord-Lieutenant Dr Peter Beck at Llandaff Cathedral in November of last year;
- Delivered a welcome speech at the Christmas Memorial Service which took place at Thornhill Crematorium on 5 December which was streamed live;
- Hosted events for Her Majesty The Queens Honours recipients at City Hall on the 14 and 15 December. The recipients were awarded their insignia by the Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan for services to the community; and
- Attended the pre-recorded 'virtual' ceremony for Holocaust Memorial Day; the theme for 2022 being 'One Day'

118 : TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY REPORT

The report was to request formal approval of the Council's Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy following a triennial review.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

1. Approve the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy for publication on 31 January 2022 and adopted for use on that date;
2. Authorise the Head of Shared Regulatory Services to make administrative amendments to the policy should the need arise.

119 : DIVERSE COUNCIL DECLARATION REPORT

The Council was asked to consider the request from the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Council for all Councils in Wales to commit to become a Diverse Council in 2022.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

- a. Note the content of the report and appendices.
- b. Make a Diverse Council Declaration, as set out in full in Appendix C, with a commitment to:
 - Broaden Local Democratic Representation,
 - Support involvement with local decision-making
 - Support Councillors to discharge their responsibilities effectively

- Develop a Diverse Council Action Plan 2022-27, in consultation with representative and community groups, to be submitted for consideration by the Council following the Local Elections in 2022

120 : CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS REPORT

The report was to enable Council to consider recommended changes to the Constitution in respect of the:

- (i) Council Meeting Procedure Rules on Ordinary Motions; and
- (ii) Officer delegations for regrading applications submitted by Operational Managers.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

The Constitution amendments set out in paragraphs 12, 16 and 21 of this report, and ask the Monitoring Officer to update the Constitution accordingly.

121 : CABINET MEMBER STATEMENTS

The [Leader](#) responded to questions in relation to:

- COVID -19 Update
- South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

[Cabinet Member for Housing & Communities, Councillor Thorne.](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Rent Arrears Pathway

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

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Segregated Recycling Collections Pilot Scheme
- Drainage and Gully Cleansing
- Heath Waste Collection
- Assisted Lifts.

[Cabinet Member for Children & Families, Councillor Hinchey](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Oakway Update

[Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health & Well-being, Councillor Elsmore.](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Ageing Well Strategy
- Disabled Adaptations
- Supporting People with a Learning Disability

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

[Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Education, Employment & Skills, Councillor Merry.](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Estyn
- Qualifications Arrangements 2021-22
- Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

[Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport, Councillor Wild](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Bus Strategy Consultation
- Cycleway Programme Update
- Cycle Hire Scheme

[Cabinet Member for Investment & Development, Councillor Goodway](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Indoor Arena and Velodrome
- Business Support

[Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure Statement, Councillor Bradbury](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Sakura Cherry Tree Project
- Benches of Hope
- Parks Playgrounds and Infrastructure

[Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation & Performance, Councillor Weaver.](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- CardiffGov Mobile App

122 : NOTICE OF MOTION 1

The Lord Mayor noted that a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Mia Rees and seconded by Councillor Jones-Pritchard had been received for consideration. Two Amendments had been received from the Labour Group and Liberal Democrat Group.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Mia Rees to propose the motion as follows:

This Council notes:

The quality and value of youth workers and youth work supporting young people in Cardiff

That youth workers are valuable role models for young people

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

The key role youth work has in supporting young people to realise their full potential

That youth centres can be an important part of communities

The hard work and dedication of volunteers who work with young people across Cardiff

The partners that work with the Council to deliver quality youth work in Cardiff

The needs of young people are not limited to one particular arc of Cardiff and whilst deprivation results in increased need, there is need in every ward

The 15 minute neighbourhood concept includes young people, their needs and access to facilities

This Council calls on the Cabinet to:

Make sure that qualified youth workers are able to cover the whole of Cardiff enabling them to reach young people wherever they are and whenever they are needed

Research the co-ordination between youth workers and the police and ensure best practice is in place across the whole of Cardiff in matters involving young people.

To make sure that young people, no matter where in the city they live, have access to youth facilities and can access youth work based support when they need it

Bring a report outlining how support across the city can be improved within 3 months

The Motion was formally seconded by Councillor Jones-Pritchard

The first amendment to the Motion was received from the Labour Group.

The Lord Mayor called upon Councillor Merry to move the first amendment as follows:

Add to sub-paragraph 1 – *‘and congratulates Cardiff’s Youth Service on being re-awarded the Bronze Level Youth Work Quality Mark’*

Add to sub-paragraph 3 – *‘and that youth work is a distinct educational process across a variety of settings which could include street based youth workers, youth mentors and centre based youth workers.’*

Add to sub-paragraph 4 – *‘as is the work carried out by our street based youth work teams, youth mentors who operate across the city responding to local need working with some of the most vulnerable young people in the city wherever they are and our EOTAS team who support some of the city’s most vulnerable learners.’*

Add to sub-paragraph 6 – *‘including those benefiting from Youth Innovation Grants and the council’s financial support for Menter Caerdydd used to run provision for Welsh speakers around the city.’*

Add to sub-paragraph 7 – *‘but that the needs of certain groups of young people and areas are greater particularly with the cut in Universal Credit, increasing cost of living and increasing numbers of children and young people falling into poverty. Youth work can also play an important part in addressing the differential impact of covid on our young people.’*

Add sub-paragraph 9 – *‘The fantastic work of Cardiff Commitment and youth mentors across the city and in all of our schools which has resulted in a fall in the number of young people not in education or training from 8.8% in 2010, well above the Welsh average to 1.5% at a time of great economic uncertainty.’*

Add sub-paragraph 10 – *‘The work carried out by youth workers around the city over the summer including the youth bus.’*

Add sub-paragraph 11 – *‘The work of the digital youth team in engaging with young people virtually’.*

Add a further paragraph – *‘Cardiff Council welcomes the decision to undertake a review of our youth service provision to ensure we can meet the needs of young people and develop sustainable, long term investment in youth services.’*

Delete *‘This Council calls on the Cabinet to:’* and replace with *‘This Council believes the review should include:’*

Sub-paragraph 1 - Delete *‘Make sure that.’* and replace with *‘Widening access as well as ensuring that’*

Sub-paragraph 2 – Delete *‘Research the co-ordination between’* and replace with *‘Ensuring’*

Delete – *‘and the’*

After *..Police* add *‘; education, childrens services, youth justice teams, community safety and the 3rd sector continue to work closely so that the’*

Sub-paragraph 3 – Delete *‘To make’* and replace with *‘Making’*

Delete sub-paragraph 4 and replace with -

‘How we can share good practice whilst ensuring the quality of youth work practice across all youth support services is effective and listen to the voices of young people, providing youth work training to all organisations working with young people

Developing a workforce strategy that invests in a diverse and inclusive workforce that is representative of our communities and provides opportunities for young people through corporate apprenticeships and traineeships

Cardiff Council recognises that as we aim to become a Child Friendly City the council must continue to engage with young people themselves about the services that impact on them.

The Amended Motion would read as follows:

This Council notes:

The quality and value of youth workers and youth work supporting young people in Cardiff and congratulates Cardiff's Youth Service on being re-awarded the Bronze Level Youth Work Quality Mark

That youth workers are valuable role models for young people

The key role youth work has in supporting young people to realise their full potential and that youth work is a distinct educational process across a variety of settings which could include street based youth workers, youth mentors and centre based youth workers.

That youth centres can be an important part of communities as is the work carried out by our street based youth work teams, youth mentors who operate across the city responding to local need working with some of the most vulnerable young people in the city wherever they are and our EOTAS team who support some of the city's most vulnerable learners.

The hard work and dedication of volunteers who work with young people across Cardiff

The partners that work with the Council to deliver quality youth work in Cardiff including those benefiting from Youth Innovation Grants and the council's financial support for Menter Caerdydd used to run provision for Welsh speakers around the city

The needs of young people are not limited to one particular arc of Cardiff and there is need in every ward but that the needs of certain groups of young people and areas are greater particularly with the cut in Universal Credit, increasing cost of living and increasing numbers of children and young people falling into poverty. Youth work can also play an important part in addressing the differential impact of covid on our young people

The 15 minute neighbourhood concept includes young people, their needs and access to facilities

The fantastic work of Cardiff Commitment and youth mentors across the city and in all of our schools which has resulted in a fall in the number of young people not in education or training from 8.8% in 2010, well above the Welsh average, to 1.5% at a time of great economic uncertainty

The work carried out by youth workers around the city over the summer including the youth bus

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

The work of the digital youth team in engaging with young people virtually

Cardiff Council welcomes the decision to undertake a review of our youth service provision to ensure we can meet the needs of young people and develop sustainable, long term investment in youth services.

This council believes the review should include:

Widening access as well as ensuring that qualified youth workers continue to cover the whole of Cardiff enabling them to reach young people wherever they are and whenever they are needed.

Ensuring youth workers, police, education, children's services, youth justice teams, community safety and the 3rd sector continue to work closely together so that the best practice is in place across the whole of Cardiff in matters involving young people.

Making sure that young people, no matter where in the city they live, have access to youth facilities and can access youth work based support when they need it

The first amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Burke-Davies

The second amendment to the Motion was received from the Liberal Democrat Group. The Lord Mayor called upon Councillor Molik to move the second amendment as follows:

After 'This Council calls on the Cabinet to:' add - 'Involve and co-produce the direction of and development of youth service you with youth workers, voluntary and community youth organisations and most importantly our youth'.

After the penultimate paragraph add a further paragraph – 'To make representations to Welsh Government with regards to placing youth services on a statutory footing'

Add to the end of the final paragraph – delete 'within 3 months' and replace with 'as a priority within the next financial year'

The Amended Motion would read as follows:

This Council notes:

The quality and value of youth workers and youth work supporting young people in Cardiff

That youth workers are valuable role models for young people

The key role youth work has in supporting young people to realise their full potential

That youth centres can be an important part of communities

The hard work and dedication of volunteers who work with young people across Cardiff

The partners that work with the Council to deliver quality youth work in Cardiff

The needs of young people are not limited to one particular arc of Cardiff and whilst deprivation results in increased need, there is need in every ward

The 15 minute neighbourhood concept includes young people, their needs and access to facilities

This Council calls on the Cabinet to:

Involve and co-produce the direction of an development of youth service with youth workers, voluntary and community youth organisations and most importantly our youth.

Make sure that qualified youth workers are able to cover the whole of Cardiff enabling them to reach young people wherever they are and whenever they are needed

Research the co-ordination between youth workers and the police and ensure best practice is in place across the whole of Cardiff in matters involving young people.

To make sure that young people, no matter where in the city they live, have access to youth facilities and can access youth work based support when they need it

To make representations to Welsh Government with regards to placing youth services on a statutory footing

Bring a report outlining how support across the city can be improved as a priority within the next financial year

The second amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Naughton.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion and amendments.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Mia Rees to respond to the issues raised and confirmed that the Liberal Democrat amendment had been accepted.

The Lord Mayor called for a Vote on Amendment One.

The Vote on Amendment One moved by Councillor Merry and seconded by Councillor Burke-Davies was CARRIED.

The Lord Mayor called on Councillor Merry to speak before a vote on the Composite Motion as amended by the Labour Group was taken.

The Lord Mayor deferred the item in order for the Groups to agree the wording of the Composite Motion and would be considered at the Council meeting of the 17 March 2022.

123 : NOTICE OF MOTION 2

The Lord Mayor noted that a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Ford had been received for consideration. One Amendment had been received from the Labour Group.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor McEvoy to propose the motion as follows:

This Council regrets the closure of so many Council run youth centres across the City under the Labour Administration and calls for a report on

rebuilding Cardiff's Youth Service and re-opening a new youth centre in every area where one has been closed since May 2012 and

once the relaunching of all former youth centres has been achieved, seeking to increase provision further.

The Motion was formally seconded by Councillor Ford.

An amendment to the motion had been received from the Labour Group. The Lord Mayor called upon Councillor Bridgeman to move the amendment as follows:

Delete: '.. City under the ... to the end of paragraph 1 and add:

'UK. This Council notes that youth services are non-statutory services and local authorities UK wide were left with no option but to cut services due to draconian cuts imposed on them by the conservative, liberal democratic coalition in 2010. Figures uncovered by the YMCA show the true extent of the funding cuts to youth services in England and Wales since 2010. £1.4bn 2010/2011 compared to £429m 2018/19 a real terms decline of 70%. This Council also notes the investment that Cardiff Council has made in youth services under this administration via expanding youth mentoring services, street based youth workers as well as working with partners to maintain services through youth innovation grants.'

Insert the following before rebuilding Cardiff's Youth service: *'Cardiff welcomes the administration's commitment to a review of youth services with the aim of'*

Delete the remainder of that paragraph and add the following sentence: *'The Council notes to do this it is essential that we listen to young people and engage with partners to ensure we can create a modern attractive service that is sustainable and accessible to children and young people across the city.'*

Delete 'once the' from the third paragraph and insert: *'This Council recognises that'*

Delete '.. has been achieved ... to the end of the paragraph and add: *'is something that would create an unsustainable out of date model. With this administration's*
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commitment to review the service we will have the opportunity to create a modern innovative services that would listen to young people and address their needs across the city.'

The Amended Motion would read as follows:

This Council regrets the closure of so many Council run youth centres across the UK. This Council notes that youth services are non-statutory services and local authorities UK wide were left with no option but to cut services due to draconian cuts imposed on them by the conservative, liberal democratic coalition in 2010. Figures uncovered by the YMCA show the true extent of the funding cuts to youth services in England and Wales since 2010. £1.4bn 2010/2011 compared to £429m 2018/19 a real terms decline of 70%. This Council also notes the investment that Cardiff Council has made in youth services under this administration via expanding youth mentoring services, street based youth workers as well as working with partners to maintain services through youth innovation grants.

Cardiff Council welcomes the administration's commitment to a review of youth services with the aim of rebuilding Cardiff's Youth Service. The Council notes to do this it is essential that we listen to young people and engage with partners to ensure we can create a modern attractive service that is sustainable and accessible to children and young people across the city.

The Council recognises that relaunching of all former youth centres is something that would create an unsustainable out of date model. With this administration's commitment to review the service we will have the opportunity to create a modern innovative services that would listen to young people and address their needs across the city.

The amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Lister.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion and amendment.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor McEvoy to respond to the issues raised during the debate.

Councillor McEvoy responded to the issues raised and confirmed the Amendment was not accepted.

The Lord Mayor called for a Vote on the Amendment as moved by Councillor Bridgeman and seconded by Councillor Lister.

The Vote on the Amendment was CARRIED.

The Lord Mayor called on Councillor Bridgeman to speak before a vote on the Substantive Motion as amended by the Labour Group was taken.

The Vote on the Substantive Motion as amended was CARRIED

124 : NOTICE OF MOTION 3

The Lord Mayor noted that a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Mackie and seconded by Councillor Lister had been received for consideration. One Amendment had been received from the Propel Group.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Mackie to propose the motion as follows:

National Energy Crisis

This council recognises the unprecedented energy crisis facing many households across Cardiff, Wales and the UK. In the coming months more and more households will see increases of a magnitude never seen before as the energy price cap is removed or energy deals come to an end.

This comes on top of a cost of living crisis created by the Impacts of Brexit and the Covid Pandemic which have already seen an unprecedented squeeze on peoples incomes.

Inflation remains very high which is putting huge pressure on household budgets as earnings have not kept pace with prices, leaving family budgets squeezed and people worse off.

The additional costs of day to day living are already impacting negatively on every household across Cardiff but even more so on families who are living close to the bread line – many of them working families who nevertheless still need to visit food banks and will now be faced with the terrible choice of heating their home or putting food on the table. This is Tory Britain.

As a Council, we will continue to do everything within our power to help mitigate energy costs. This includes

- the targeted support available to improve the energy efficiency of homes and help those in fuel poverty,
- the work of our Money Advice Service in maximising the claiming of eligible benefits, and signposting residents to the available financial support options
- and our significant investment in existing Council homes, to make them cheaper to heat and live in.
- Our Council Homes building programme, providing ever increasing numbers of low/zero carbon, energy efficient homes for social rent.

However, the help families need to deal with the cost of living crisis can only be fixed by decisive action by the UK Government

An amendment to the motion had been received from the Propel Group.

The Lord Mayor called upon Councillor McEvoy to move the amendment as follows:

Delete the final sentence of paragraph 4 and replace with: *'This is Blue Tory Britain and are Tory Wales.'*

Delete the final paragraph and replace with: *'Instruct officers to produce a detailed report on gas extraction in Wales, its effect on reducing Cardiff's carbon footprint, its potential effect on reducing energy bills for residents of the City with a view to Cardiff Council heading up a public/private partnership in the industry.'*

The Amended Motion would read as follows:

National Energy Crisis

This council recognises the unprecedented energy crisis facing many households across Cardiff, Wales and the UK. In the coming months more and more households will see increases of a magnitude never seen before as the energy price cap is removed or energy deals come to an end.

This comes on top of a cost of living crisis created by the Impacts of Brexit and the Covid Pandemic which have already seen an unprecedented squeeze on peoples incomes.

Inflation remains very high which is putting huge pressure on household budgets as earnings have not kept pace with prices, leaving family budgets squeezed and people worse off.

The additional costs of day to day living are already impacting negatively on every household across Cardiff but even more so on families who are living close to the bread line – many of them working families who nevertheless still need to visit food banks and will now be faced with the terrible choice of heating their home or putting food on the table. This is Blue Tory Britain and are Tory Wales

As a Council, we will continue to do everything within our power to help mitigate energy costs. This includes

- the targeted support available to improve the energy efficiency of homes and help those in fuel poverty,
- the work of our Money Advice Service in maximising the claiming of eligible benefits, and signposting residents to the available financial support options
- and our significant investment in existing Council homes, to make them cheaper to heat and live in.
- our Council Homes building programme, providing ever increasing numbers of low/zero carbon, energy efficient homes for social rent.

Instruct officers to produce a detailed report on gas extraction in Wales, its effect on reducing Cardiff's carbon footprint, its potential effect on reducing energy bills for residents of the City with a view to Cardiff Council heading up a public/private partnership in the industry.

The amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Keith Parry.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion and amendment.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Mackie to respond to the issues raised during the debate.

Councillor Mackie responded to the issues raised and confirmed the Amendment was not accepted.

The Lord Mayor called for a Vote on the Amendment as moved by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Keith Parry.

The Vote on the Amendment was LOST.

The Lord Mayor called for Vote on the Motion as moved by Councillor Mackie and seconded by Councillor Lister.

The Vote on the Motion was CARRIED

125 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question – Councillor Philippa Hill-John

Councillor Elsmore, I would love to hear and know what action can be taken to reduce, or, first of all to confirm the number of beds that are being occupied because the ongoing care packages are not in place for those that are currently in hospital?

Reply – Councillor Elsmore

As the Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing I'm pleased to say that on 21st January 2021, there were 5 individuals in hospital beds waiting for domiciliary care. Care is planned for one of these and they should be discharged shortly.

Also 26 individuals for whom a placement in a care home has been arranged and where individuals are awaiting a date of discharge.

Officers from health and social care have worked together extremely well together to ensure that individuals can be discharged from hospital to a care home for a period of convalescence or to await availability of domiciliary care, thereby freeing up hospital beds.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Philippa Hill-John

What I would like to know is, and I appreciate that we have got a call about this next week but is there any further action that we can do as a Council to raise awareness ... (frozen)

Reply – Councillor Elsmore

Only today I heard that there is a, the Cardiff and Vale Health Board are starting a new project looking at their side of the equation in relation to, what is a very complex issue in relation to hospital discharge and we will be doing all we can in those circumstances to support that work and that agreement has been given, or

assurance has been given rather I should say. As Councillor Hill-John knows she and I having a call next week.

Question – Councillor Taylor

What steps are being taken to ensure the wellbeing of staff in the waste department?

Reply – Councillor Michael

The impact of Covid is subsiding at present and there are currently no ongoing pressures on the service.

A combination of agency workers, using contingency from other service teams within Recycling and Neighbourhood Services, and voluntary overtime has supported delivery of operational requirements.

The Council has comprehensive corporate policies and procedures relating to safe working conditions and employee wellbeing. The management team ensures that these policies and processes are followed, and monitoring of service performance is in place to address any concerns.

The service has successfully implemented a new 4-day working model for collections and this supports employee wellbeing by providing 3 rest days for frontline crews.

In addition, the service has a bespoke in-house safety and compliance team providing assessment and training for frontline officers.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Taylor

There are two reasons why I raise this question; first as the fact that waste collection crews were out at half past eleven and midnight earlier on in the year conducting collections which you addressed in my written question but the second element is I've had contact from Unite, the union, in the last week about concerns of workers within that union. I understand that the council doesn't recognise, for want of a better word, those concerns but clearly there are concerns in the service given what's happened in the last 12-18 months in particular. So what steps are being taken to ensure that employees are engaged in those service changes and that reform, changes that are coming through the service are properly understood and are implemented with workers not just for them.

Reply – Councillor Michael

Councillor Taylor, I have addressed your written question. Those that were actually doing the job at night were on a night shift which we operate commercially. There are processes in place, the Council as long standing processes after agreement with unions, and as now I am not aware there has been any complaints made at any other meetings that have taken place to address this issue. I would urge anybody who has any serious complaints to make; that they take the chance and make those complaints so they can be investigated that's the only way anything's going to actually be achieved

Question – Councillor Keith Parry

Residents of Fairwater, Ely and St Fagans have been greatly put out by the closure of Michaelston Road for two weeks. The alternative route is four miles long and has greatly increased congestion at the Waungron Road and Western Avenue junction. What can the Council do to stop such closures in the future?

Reply – Councillor Wild

As you know utility companies are classified as Statutory Undertakers; they do have a legal right to undertake works within the Public Highway. People need those services utility companies provide. These works are agreed in advance and monitored throughout.

All traffic management options were explored on this occasion prior to agreeing the road closure on Michaelston Road; however, due to the residual widths remaining on the highway, there was just no other alternative option available to enable the works to be undertaken safely.

Question – Councillor Robson

What is the limit of the officer delegation in Cardiff to approve Town Centre Loan fund applications?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

I can confirm that officers are able to approve individual applications for funding as part of the Welsh Government's Transforming Towns loan scheme up to a limit of £1 million. All applications are considered by an investment panel made up of officers from the Council's Finance, Legal and Economic Development Teams, with input from independent advisors. Any application requiring more than £1 million in loan funding is a matter for the Cabinet to determine.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Robson

That's a very interesting and, may I say so, a very high figure in my view for an officer to have delegated to them without reference to Cabinet or democratic structures. I appreciate that it's not technically our money, it's Welsh Government money that the Council administers through the loan scheme but nevertheless do you think that there is an argument for greater involvement of Members, perhaps through Scrutiny, before a Cabinet decision is made, at a lower limit, say half a million or quarter of a million, something more appropriate whereby Councillors can have an input into this. It slightly worries me that, whilst I hope the loan has been approved properly, there is not that recourse back to Members

Reply – Councillor Goodway

I can understand what you are saying Councillor Robson. To the vast majority of people £1 million pounds is an awful lot of money but of course in the context of Council and public spending then £1 million pounds is not that significant and it's not only in relation to this particular scheme that the limit of £1 million applies. Officers can acquire and dispose of land and property under an Officer Delegated Decision up to the value of £1 million pounds so the £1 million pound figure isn't specific to this particular arrangement - it applies across the Council I think, on reflection, it's

proportionate, when you consider the scale of the transactions in which the Council, on a daily basis, engages. If every contract below £1 million pounds had to come before Cabinet or come before Members, I'm not sure members would have the time to deal with them all because we turn over £1 billion pounds a year. A thousand million pounds a year is what we turn over and expend and I'm just not sure we would have the capacity at Member level to deal with all of that. I do understand that the sentiment behind your question which is unfortunate really cos I shouldn't understand I should I?

Question – Councillor Owen Jones

What has the Council been doing to try to prevent young people becoming not employed and not in education or training?

Reply – Councillor Merry

Our focus on post-16 transition continues to have a positive impact for most learners with the NEETs figures in Cardiff in year 11 showing a sustained reduction to 1.5% in 2021 from over 8% back in 2010. Through the Cardiff Commitment the council has built a city wide alliance to support education achievement, raise aspiration and create opportunities, develop skills and support progression into the world of work. The number and breadth of partners involved has grown significantly with over 300 partners now involved in various ways. The most vulnerable are supported by the Youth Service ensuring that those at risk of not progressing are identified and supported early.

Pupils at highest risk are allocated a Mentor who meet regularly with the young person to help identify their preferred pathway and help provide them with support into a destination and of course the Council itself continues to grow the range of pathways into the Council for trainees, apprentices and young jobseekers including most recently via the Kickstart Scheme with 30 opportunities being made available for 16 to 24 year old's. Salaries are uplifted to both the Real living Wage in line with all Council employees and with the option of working up to 37 hours a week

Supplementary Question – Councillor Owen Jones

It is such an important time we cannot afford to lose these young children and young adults if they go off the system, so it's comforting to know that there are so many measures in place.

Question – Councillor Sandrey

Do social services accept the judgements made by medical staff e.g. doctors and nurses, as professional opinions that should be given due consideration, when considering the suitability of a return to home for patients being discharged from hospital and to what extent are observations and opinions of families listened to and taken on board when adult social services discharges its duty of care and decides patients leaving hospital can safely return home?

Reply – Councillor Elsmore

As you will have heard from my earlier answer council officers work closely with health colleagues to facilitate prompt discharge from hospital and we are aided in

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those efforts by our First Point of Contact officers, known as the 'Pink Army', who provide assistance to anyone in hospital who may need help to return home. They ensure that any issues that may delay discharge are identified as soon as possible.

Discharge will only take place once clinical professionals indicate that treatment is complete. Social workers then, as the care co-ordinators, are responsible for discharge if the individual has eligible care and support needs. A Multi-disciplinary approach is taken but the social worker consults with therapists, the clinical staff, but central to all decision making is the individual and their wishes and feelings are key to discharge planning. Also unpaid carers, families and friends to establish how the person was, prior to admission. The social worker will also take into account wider issues, such as their current accommodation and finances to ensure safe and successful discharge.

Question – Councillor Ali Ahmed

We have now had 3 years as a Real Living Wage city. Can the Cabinet Member tell us if we achieved the targets we set in this area?

Reply – Councillor Weaver

Yes, I am very pleased to see we have. Three years ago we set with our Partners and the Real Living Wage Foundation some pretty ambitious targets and we have met them all and have met them early which is superb. What that means is that since 3 years ago we have nearly doubled the number living wage employers who are now accredited living wage employers that now means that we used to have 27,500 people working for accredited employers there now 64,000 people in the city working for an accredited employer. 8,000 people directly got a pay rise as a result of the accreditations what that has meant Cardiff Uni have calculated is £39m a year more in the pockets of the lowest paid workers in the city now circulating in our economy. So it's been a fantastic success, many partners we've worked with on this and I'd like to congratulate every business and organisation who signed up. We are still seeing people sign up right now, the rate is still growing and yes we have met those targets and are very happy about it.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Ahmed

With the three year action plan coming to an end this year are there plans to prepare another one to help more businesses sign up so that our residents can benefit from this?

Reply – Councillor Weaver

Yes, absolutely so there is was a three year action plan and it comes to the end in in May of this year but we've already been discussing with our living wage city steering group and leadership group about how we extend that, absolutely we would love that, we will have another three year plan we will be looking at more ambitious targets and trying to get more people on board and truly make Cardiff a Living Wage City.

Question – Councillor Hudson

How much does the upkeep of the bowling green at Llwynfedw gardens actually cost and who pays for it?

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Reply – Councillor Bradbury

Maintenance costs for the bowling green itself are estimated to be in the region of £6,300 and these costs are paid by the residents club, St. Joseph's Bowls Club.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Hudson

What further costs related to the bowling green or been identified and who paid for them please?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

Councillor you are going to have to help me as to what costs you are referring to?

Councillor Hudson

OK I was told that the fence around the bowling green costs £20,000?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

If you write to me with the actual requests as to what work has been done and where I'll be able to give you an informed out answer as to what costs there was who paid for it. But the actual maintenance and running of the of the bowls Green and the wider project – its St Joseph's Bowls Club who are a member of the wider friends of Llwynfedw Gardens group and I think are a great example of what local communities can achieve and this was highlighted with their award of the Green Flag Communities Award they got in then 2021. I will look into those points, if you write to me about it, I seem to remember some Section 106 funding being used for some of this, but I'm happy if you write to me with the specifics I will get you a detailed answer as always Councillor.

Question – Councillor Carter

What plans does the council have to collect and recycle the old blue glass caddies from houses and flats and remove the contaminated blue communal bins from flats?

Reply – Councillor Michael

Following the cessation of the former glass recycling trial scheme, a number of caddies have continued to be presented at the kerbside or in frontages in Grangetown due to the housing demographic. As a result, the decision was taken to remove those caddies that have been left at the kerbside or in frontages.

There are no plans to remove caddies from other trial areas in the city, as there have not been any issues with the storage of the caddies for glass recycling in these areas.

When the new caddies for glass recycling are introduced city-wide, those households that were previously part of the former trial scheme will be issued with new caddies. They can choose whether to use their old caddies for additional glass recycling or repurpose them in some other way.

If residents who were part of the previous scheme wish to dispose of their caddies, they can be recycled via the hard plastics skip at either of the recycling centres at Lamby Way or Bessemer Road.

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Supplementary Question – Councillor Carter

Thank you Councillor Michael for indicating we can take them to Lamby Way or Bessemer Road, that's the first time that that has been communicated publicly to my knowledge so I'm grateful for that. I would urge the Cabinet Member to consider organising a scheme like in Grangetown. Whilst there may well have been issues with garden storage in Grangetown, I would argue that in my own Ward and in many other parts of the city residents have patiently kept these bins in their gardens for the last 3 years fully expecting them to be used again. Whilst a tiny minority may well have used them as plant pots the vast majority have had them just gathering space and now they have had to find new space for new bins. I understand that some have been supposedly checked in the bin lorry when they have gone past. I think it would be great if the Cabinet Member could consider a mass pick up scheme like in Grangetown in other wards as well.

Reply – Councillor Michael

I am happy to discuss this with officers and see how we go and I think the first thing we need to do is get the trial out of the way first and evaluate that and then see what happens after that.

Question – Councillor Mackie

Could the Cabinet Member for parks please update us on the progress of the refurbishment of our smaller parks in Cathays, which have been funded by Section 106 monies collected from developers?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

We have an extensive Parks delivery programme covering the whole city and we will have delivered projects totalling more than £3 million of investment by the end of March.

At Maindy Park there is a really exciting play area currently being installed, which is due to be completed by the end of March in readiness for the Easter holidays.

At Cogan Gardens, design work is ongoing and, provided that there is sufficient Section 106 funding, the park will be delivered in readiness for the summer holidays.

In Cathays Park, work on the new play park located behind the National Museum Cardiff is ready to go as soon as our sustainable drainage application has been approved, and I anticipate that works will begin on site in late spring.

We are also at the design stage for improvements to the City Hall fountains to create a wet play area that is not only befitting of its setting, but also creates a key city centre play space linked to our Child Friendly City ambitions. It's an exciting agenda in Cathays.

Question – Councillor Cowan

Which schools in Cardiff are currently not serving hot meals to pupils, and for how long, and what communication has there been with parents and local Councillors?

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Reply – Councillor Merry

Obviously our aim is for every child to have a hot lunch - our Schools Meals Service though continues to face ongoing challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic and that's in terms of staffing absences within its own workforce and the impact on both suppliers and contractors.

The other issue is that some schools also have small dining halls which cannot support effective social distancing or require maintenance works to be undertaken.

Those Cardiff schools unable to provide any school meal provision or where there is currently no hot meal provision are Birchgrove, Bryn Deri, Lansdowne, Meadowbank, Millbank, Rhiwbina, Roath Park Primary Schools and St Teilo's High School. There is limited provision at Llanedern and Marlborough Primary Schools.

Unfortunately, the actual dates have not been included so I will have to provide that separately.

In schools where there is no meal provision, all pupils eligible for Free School Meals will continue to receive supermarket vouchers.

Where there is limited school meal provision, this is in the form of sandwiches and grab bags. As I understand it some of them are taking those meals in the classroom for example so you couldn't serve a hot meal and I believe all parents are aware although obviously from your question the local Members haven't necessarily been aware so apologies for that.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Cowan

How long do you think is too long though for schools not to provide the hot meal and I didn't realise that they had social distancing in place and for children currently now who were going to school to have their meals. Is that something that Cardiff has put in recently I'd be interested to learn a bit more about that and perhaps you could give me the information about how long, but how long do you think is too long for this provision not to be available because some pupils this is their only hot meal of the day.

Reply – Councillor Merry

I totally take the point about the hot meal not being available, particularly as you say, for some children it is the only hot meal. I'm sure officers would share the same concerns. I think the social distancing element, I'm presuming that that will be at the point of being reviewed as all these things are as this pandemic, hopefully, progresses. In terms of individual schools you will find the reason for it is different in each case but unfortunately the information I've got to hand about this I can't really go into individual schools at this point.

Question – Councillor Hopkins

Following several serious accidents in the last few months on the A48/Eastern Avenue, does the council have any plans to install a permanent crash barrier on that

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part of Eastern Avenue located at the rear of houses on Ambleside Avenue in Cyncoed/Lakeside? Residents have reported damage caused at the rear of their properties and have raised concerns about their safety as a result of these incidents.

Reply – Councillor Wild

We have liaised with the Police following the recent incidents. The road safety investigation identified that the likely cause of both incidents was as a result of standing water.

The Highways Asset Management Team was notified and has carried out cleansing works to clear the gully grates of a build-up debris. The drains are now fully operational.

The A48 is subject to programmed maintenance, during which gullies and roads are cleansed. However, due to adverse weather conditions, there may be times when debris, such as leaf fall, may build up on the gratings and cause the water to drain at a slower rate. Any reports of such ponding are addressed accordingly.

The speed limit on the A48 has recently been reduced to 50mph. There have been no recorded collisions at this location prior to the recent incidents, and measures have been taken to ensure that the drainage is operating effectively. The Council has no plans to install crash barriers at this location.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Hopkins

I raise the matter actually because on the 31 October a car came off at Eastern Avenue and crashed into the garden at one of the houses at Ambleside Avenue causing significant damage. Had the accident happened during daylight hours it doesn't bear thinking about what might have happened to children or adults living at the property and may have been in the garden at the time and then again on Christmas Day a car crashed and overturned at the same location and I think whatever the circumstances surrounding an accident is an accident and these particular houses in question occupy a unique position in that they are very very close indeed to the carriage way. In response to the first incident the Council installed a temporary barrier which I believe has since been removed so I would ask you can you ask officers to look at this again and make the case for a permanent barrier which would surely represent money well spent?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I certainly will Councillor Hopkins. I am not entirely sure whether the incidents to which you referred to are ones that our officers reported or newer ones. Either way they sound very serious so, you've made your point, let's take it offline and check that everything that needs to be done is getting done.

Question – Councillor Sangani

Late last year, Labour Councillors for the Heath Ward made representation to the Council about whether land at the recently acquired former Tax Office car park, on the south side of the Ty Glas industrial estate, could be used as a temporary recycling facility until the office blocks on the north side are demolished and our new

Cardiff North community high school plans are ready to begin on site. Could you update us on any progress?

Reply – Councillor Michael

Following the success of our Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling events, plans are underway to trial mobile recycling centres at various locations in the city in order to collect a wider variety of recyclable materials.

The former tax office car park at Parc Ty Glas in Llanishen will act as a mobile recycling centre on Saturdays soon. The site will open on Saturdays from at least 9.00 until 3.00 which will accept garden waste, wood, metal, hard plastic, textiles, cardboard, small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, and household batteries.

The service will help us to understand the types of recycling services that residents require, and whether positioning sites in additional locations leads to an increase in the volume of recyclables captured. Residents will be able to book online as they do at present.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Sangani

Can you please confirm the actual opening date in March and that you will regularly review the operation including meeting with us to understand and improve service to residents.

Reply – Councillor Michael

We are, as you are well aware, having a trial at the moment and changing the way we recycle just like we changed waste services. We are determined to change to a far better, easier, recycling collection. I can tell you that the site, the new site will be open on Saturday 5th March 9 am.

Question – Councillor Hudson

How much compensation was paid by Council to the Winter Wonderland & ice skating attraction, after Welsh Government's decision on restrictions? Will Cardiff council be compensated for any losses?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

The operators of Winter Wonderland and other Christmas attractions in Cardiff were able to benefit from being open for the majority of the Christmas period. However, they were not able to operate for the last week between Boxing Day and New Year, which is normally one of the busiest periods. The Council will not be compensated as the impact was felt by the operators and not therefore by us. We will work with the various operators to apply for any eligible funding through the Welsh Government recovery schemes for those businesses.

Question – Councillor Berman

Since work was undertaken to improve the drainage of the pitches at Ysgol Bro Edern in 2014, some residents of Carisbrooke Way, whose rear gardens slope down from the side of the pitches, have experienced water streaming into their gardens

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during periods of moderate or heavy rainfall. Whilst remedial works have since helped some affected properties, others are still experiencing this problem eight years later. I am advised that the council is looking again at options to deal with this issue, so can you please tell me what options are being looked at, when you anticipate the problem might finally be resolved for those residents who are still affected, and whether you think it's acceptable that these residents have been left to suffer from this problem for such a long period of time?

Reply – Councillor Merry

The Council is aware of the drainage issue being experienced by local residents, which has resulted from historic works to the pitches, and officers are currently considering all of the available options.

Despite previous attempts to rectify the issue, it is likely that more intrusive drainage works may be required but this would require a feasibility study to be undertaken and work in relation to that is already underway. The feasibility work will then inform what works are required in order to rectify the problem. The results of this work will be communicated at the earliest opportunity and I am sure that everybody wishes to see the issue resolved as quickly as possible.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Berman

It's hard to believe that the Council is keen for it to be resolved as quickly as possible considering residents have been suffering from this for eight years now. I suppose the question is - previous works obviously haven't resolved it all for all residents so if there is for the work undertaken will it be properly followed up by Council officers to check that it's actually dealt with the problem, and, will we actually make sure that those who have suffered for such a long time can finally see an end to this after all it did come about because of works the Council undertook originally so surely the council has responsibility to actually get this resolved.

Reply – Councillor Merry

I'm sure Councillor Berman didn't mean to suggest that council officers were not in a rush to resolve the issue which seemed to be the implication at the beginning of his statement. I wasn't actually aware of this issue, Councillor Berman had never actually contacted me personally about this issue before raising it as a question in this Council Chamber now which is surprising considering it is such a long standing issue.

Question – Councillor Lister

With the well-being of children and young people continuing to be a key priority for the Council, could the Deputy Leader update the Council on the progress of the Winter of Wellbeing programme?

Reply – Councillor Merry

The Council has received a £657,000 funding allocation from the Additional Play Grant in the current financial year which means we can follow up on the success of our Summer of Smiles.

Our Winter of Wellbeing programme includes four key elements: the Christmas activity and events programme, which took place last month and provided free

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access to various shows and experiences; a free Winter of Wellbeing Arts Programme being delivered across the city in partnership with Arts Active Trust between January and March; there are Winter of Wellbeing Community Wellbeing Grants, which are available to organisations across the city to deliver activities between January and March; and a Winter of Wellbeing pop-up 'wellbeing shop' in the city centre in partnership with St David's Centre. This will operate in the old GAP store in the shopping centre from 16th February until 27th March. And again they are all continuing to work closely with our partners whether they are Arts organisations or Third Sector, further information can be found on Child Friendly Cardiff, Winter of Wellbeing.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Lister

Obviously a lot of activities have been taken place in Grangetown as well from activities like The Women Connect First club, the great Boys & Girls club to the fantastic Grange Pavilion of which I'm a proud board member of and I would just appreciate if you could outline some of those wider activities?

Reply – Councillor Merry

There are activities that young people from Grangetown will be able to access dependent on their eligibility, for example, there is a science festival on Penarth Road, EOTAS and the Arch has funding as well for Tiger Bay Youth Development and Tiger Bay ABC but Grangetown Boys and Girls Club had funding to run sessions for 11 to 15 year old's on a Friday evening covering all kinds of sport and music and craft sessions within the Grangetown pavilion, and thank you for the continuing support of them.

They have funding to run arts activities including photography, painting, acts and all delivered with their partners within Commonwealth Theatre and Clear the Fog and will also be range of Welsh-medium activities delivered from the pavilion as well as funding for Female Only art group and Women Connect First also have funding to provide wellbeing activities for 100 BAME children and families in southern areas of Cardiff including Grangetown.

Question – Councillor Cowan

What is the current total consultancy bill for the current financial year, with a breakdown of departments and the percentage spend of their overall budget? Can I please have the same figures for agency staff? I appreciate Chris that this will have to be done through exchanges in writing.

Reply – Councillor Weaver

You have anticipated part of my answer indeed I will need to write to you to break it down amongst the Directorates. Across the Council though, very briefly, the consultancy spend so far in Quarter 3, up to the end of December, across all Directorates and the Housing Revenue Account - is just over £700,000, which is 0.06% of overall budgets.

In terms of agency, directorate spend, across all Directorates, is about 2.3%, just over £18 million by the end of quarter 3 which is very slightly lower than at the end of

Quarter 3 last year but a pretty similar profile, a pretty similar amount. I will write to you though with the full breakdown as you have asked, across the Directorates.

Question – Councillor Sandrey

Can the relevant cabinet member provide an update on the purchase of land in Pentwyn that includes woodland in the Hawthorns and outline what if any plans the council has for the area?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

I can confirm that, following an approach by Councillor Jacobsen, the parcel of land was secured pre-auction and acquired by the Council on 12 January 2022 and not sold by the Council as the Councillor had previously asserted. The Councillor will be aware that the area is of an informal nature and future maintenance will extend to low frequency vegetation management.

Question – Councillor Cunnah

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on when the Newport Road and East Tyndall Street pop-up cycle ways will be fully open?

Reply – Councillor Wild

You will have seen that the cycleway element of Newport Road opened just today, or yesterday. The bit on East Tyndall Street is a little bit longer pending delivery and installation of some new street lighting that, following some safety tests, turns out we need just to increase the safety there before than can be properly opened, but hopefully within the next month for that part.

Supplementary Question – Cunnah

Since I put that question in ,as you say, you have provided a really good update in your statement which I hadn't seen and I have just seen today that the Newport Road on is open and that is really good and I'm sure a lot of cyclists will be making use of it from today. Obviously we have got one in Canton as well Councillor Wild which we are hoping will come through your own Ward in Riverside, down through Leckwith Road and into Lawrenny Avenue so I was wondering if you had any further updates on that part of the cycleway system is likely to be complete or any further information.

Reply – Councillor Wild

Thanks for your help in the consultation on that part. There is an acceleration of that because of the Fitzalan School and really wanting to get that in by the time the school opens. The really tricky bit, as you know, is the bit in between Wellington Street and Lawrenny Avenue. There are some designs which have been brought forward for that which we've just got a test and take through public consultation to get that bit right because it is going to be tricky but the officers are working as hard as they can on it and we will get it to you as soon as we can.

Question – Councillor Hudson

What is the council doing to assist the disabled to access buses and to reach Cardiff central train station?

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Reply – Councillor Wild

The Council will continue to provide raised kerbs at bus stops throughout the city to enable the level access to buses and in the city centre, particular care is being given to locate bus stops within easy reach of Cardiff Central Station, and the Council continues to work with Transport for Wales to progress the completion of the new central transport interchange. This will be integrated with the railway station for ease of interchange between modes. In addition, the Council is working closely with Transport for Wales and other partners on major improvements to Cardiff Central Station which should also provide improved disabled access.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Hudson

There's a loss of bus services to and from Cardiff North, especially at night, so can this be addressed in future please, and as cars seem to be the only alternative to some disabled people, can some disabled car parking be reinstated in Westgate Street where it was previously lost?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I think we've had various previous discussions when I have spoken to you about the number of blue badge parking spaces in and around the city center at lots of really important locations spread really well. I will check for you, but as far as I know I don't think that there are plans to reintroduce any on Westgate Street such is the need for all the other things there in terms of public transport and various things like that.

Question – Councillor Dilwar Ali

Pleased to see the launch of a brand-new fleet of 36 zero-emission buses as part of the commitment to improve air quality and invest in public transport. Can you confirm which routes the electric buses will serve?

Reply – Councillor Wild

It was good news for the City to see those buses come in, the first main tranches of them. The original proposal, as set out in the successful bid, was to operate the new electric vehicles on Cardiff Bus services 27 Thornhill to Birchgrove, the 44/45 and the one 49/50 which goes to Llanrumney. Currently, as Cardiff Bus is operating a reduced timetable, electric vehicles are also being used on services 28/28A/28B and the 5/X45 service as well.

Question – Councillor Cowan

Will you rule out a 4% increase in Council Tax based on the very generous settlement from the UK Government to the Welsh Government which saw Cardiff receive a 10.7% increase in the budget settlement for 2022/23?

Reply – Councillor Weaver

As you well know the public consultation is still ongoing and the Council budget meeting is not for a few weeks yet. As ever, I will not be setting the budget in January though I appreciate the annual attempt to get me to do so. I can reassure you however that this administration is well aware of the Cost of Living Rise that

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residents of the City face, whether that is the £20 a week universal credit or the proposed National Insurance rises, inflation now at over 5% and the crisis in energy prices and so whilst any possible, conceivable change in Council Tax would be a tiny fraction compared to any of these costs, we are conscious of them all and we will be taking them into consideration, as always before we make our Budget Proposal in a few weeks' time.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Cowan

I always think that Labour seem to propose an increase as a matter of the first resort and not the last resort so I am pleased that you are actually reflecting on that and looking at the challenges. I think for me lots of people pay such a lot of money into their Council Tax, people are struggling as you say so I think it would be a really good sign from the administration to see a dramatic decrease in the Council. As you said it wouldn't make a huge difference overall to the budget for the Council but it would make a huge difference to individuals who are struggling.

Reply – Councillor Weaver

Obviously this administration will take any comments, before we publish our Budget, under consideration. It is actually a good time for Councillors to get in touch, you appreciate I will never answer a question in January about exactly what the Budget Proposals will be, but knowing where people want to see it is always very helpful.

126 : URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

127 : STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE - INDEPENDENT MEMBER
APPOINTMENTS

To seek Council's approval for the appointment of two independent members of the Standards and Ethics Committee.

RESOLVED: Council AGREED to:

Approve the appointment of (1) Mr David Mills (effective immediately) and (2) Mr Rashpal Singh (with effect from the date that the second vacancy arises), as independent members of the Standards and Ethics Committee, for a term of 4 years in each case.

128 : PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

To approve the programme of Full Council meetings for the period January 2022 to June 2022 and note the provisional programme of Cabinet and Committees for the period January 2022 to June 2022, to be finalised in consultation with Chairs of Committees and in line with Forward Work Plans.

RESOLVED: Council AGREED to:

1. approve the programme of Council and Committee meeting dates for January 2022 – June 2022.
2. Note the provisional dates of Cabinet meetings during the period January 2022 – June 2022; and
3. delegate authority to the Director of Governance and Legal Services to make any necessary alterations to the programme of Committee meetings which may be required.

129 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

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

RESOLVED: Council AGREED to:

Receive nominations and appoint to the vacancies on Committees, in accordance with the allocation of seats approved under agenda item 8 of this Council meeting and Party Group wishes, as set out on the Amendment Sheet.

130 : APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS

To appoint Local Authority School Governors to fill vacancies.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

Approve the new appointments of Local Authority Governors to the school governing bodies as set out in Appendix 1, each for a term of 4 years from the date of the appointment, in accordance with the recommendations of the Local Authority Governor Panel.

131 : CONSTITUTION OF A NEW TEMPORARY GOVERNING BODY FOR A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL & APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY GOVERNORS

To constitute a new temporary governing body for a new primary school and appoint its temporary governors.

RESOLVED: The Council AGREED to:

Constitute a new Temporary Governing Body for the new primary school to serve the Plasdŵr development, and approve the appointment of temporary Local Authority and Parent school governors to it, as listed in Appendix 1.

132 : URGENT OFFICER DECISION - 33

The Council noted the Urgent Officer Decision - 33.

133 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17(f) [Written Questions](#) received for consideration will be included as a record of the minutes.