
TRANSPORT, PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

Planning

Having demonstrated the issues associated with an abundance of letting boards (April 2015), the Council successfully obtained the powers from the Welsh Government to remove traditional, large style letting boards in the Cathays and Plasnewydd wards. Considerable efforts were made over the summer of 2015 to ensure the letting agent and landlord community were fully aware of the imminent changes and new guidance, which would see the removal of boards that did not accord with guidance that limited the visual impact and number of letting boards. This came into force on 1 October 2015. The impact was an immediate success, with around 95% of boards being removed in the first week. After an initial round of enforcement, it is estimated that more than 1,400 boards have been removed from Cathays and Plasnewydd. The number of traditional style letting boards is now close to zero and the response from the public has been overwhelmingly positive.

Sustainability

We have installed energy efficiency measures, such as LED lighting, heating upgrades, insulation and better energy management to a wide range of Council properties which together have contributed to a reduction in energy bills of over £1m. They've also helped to reduced carbon emissions in the Council's estate by 6% in 2015/16 alone. We've also delivered 1.6MW of renewable energy generation capacity, including a range of solar panel schemes and the Radyr Weir hydro generation project. Together these produce enough clean, renewable energy to power the equivalent of around 1,600 homes.

In addition, we've installed energy efficiency measures to over 1,700 homes in a programme that has brought in over £10m of external funding and is targeted at deprived areas. Our Cyd Cymru collective energy switching scheme also helped 4,000 household to switch to lower energy tariffs and facilitated savings of almost £1m across Wales.

Alongside this work, we've also hosted 7 first-of-a-kind innovation projects for energy, bringing in almost £2m of external funding to the Council and partnering with over 30 organisations across Europe. These schemes, including new energy efficiency products for historic buildings, portable solar panel equipment, and a new ground source heating system, were showcased in our well attended Cardiff Energy Innovation conference last year.

In partnership with Public Health Wales, we also successfully established the Food Cardiff initiative, the city's local partnership on sustainable food issues. Cardiff currently has Bronze Sustainable Food City status and is working towards Silver status.

Highways

LED Street Lighting:

Work has commenced on the delivery of £4.5M LED street lighting on the strategic road network across Cardiff. 2000 of 13,600 LED lanterns have been completed to date, with work taking place in Pentwyn, Whitchurch, Ely, Trowbridge and on major routes such as North Road and Manor Way.

Cardiff is now the only city in the UK recognised by the International Dark-Sky Association. This recognises that the Authority has considered the importance of responsible lighting and has taken action to provide their constituents with safe, cost effective, environmentally friendly street lighting.

Road Patching:

£750,000 has been spent this financial year on patching our roads. This strategic change in approach for dealing with small areas of localised failures has made high standard improvements across the city's road infrastructure. The money has delivered 25,000m² of improvements that equates to 3.5 football pitches. In addition, £2.3M of additional road improvements (reconstruction, resurfacing and surface treatments) have been made to the road infrastructure across the city this year.

Road Safety and Enforcement:

The Civil Enforcement Team is now operating a new enforcement vehicle with a mast. The vehicle will operate outside schools and on locations of banned movements where static cameras are not in operation. The vehicle will provide effective and efficient enforcement; as demonstrated by the 60 vehicles in Lawrenny Avenue that were issued with penalty fines recently outside Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch and Fitzalan High School.

Transport

Parking Strategy:

A new Parking Strategy for Cardiff was developed, consulted on and published in 2016. The review of the Council's Parking Strategy and policies was undertaken to align the approach to managing parking with the Council's vision to become Europe's most liveable capital city. The new strategy looks to the future, take account of how Cardiff is developing and growing as a city and how technology can contribute to making sure that the city is people friendly and an attractive place to live. The strategy includes changes to the way residential parking is considered in delivering more liveability for local people, and taking into account impacts from the wider area.

The new Parking Strategy has also delivered the first city wide deployment of a sensor parking system in Europe. This demonstrates the Council's commitment to embracing new technology in delivering tangible improvements to the way people live their lives. The system provides real time information to motorists via

a free to use App, enabling parking to be found more quickly and easily. This will have a number of benefits, notably helping in our aim to reduce congestion and improve air quality levels in the city centre.

20mph scheme:

The City Council's primary focus is to encourage public transport, cycling and walking and encouraging people to leave their cars at home. In support of this focus, the City of Cardiff Council has taken the first steps in rolling out 20mph limit areas to the city as part of our vision to have 20mph limits in residential areas in Riverside, Canton, Gabalfa, Grangetown, Plasnewydd, Adamsdown, Penylan, Splott, Butetown and further upgrade the scheme in Cathays. A programme has already begun in Riverside and Canton this year, and will continue to develop incrementally over the next 3 years.

Cycling Strategy:

City of Cardiff Council has set out an ambitious vision to double the levels of cycling by 2026 in the Cardiff Cycling Strategy, which sets out an action plan to achieve this vision including a 3-year programme to develop two new Primary Routes connecting existing communities with major destinations and strategic development sites and a programme of activities to enhance the impact of infrastructure provision by working with key partners at schools, workplaces, and retailers to promote cycling for shorter journeys.

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