

COUNCIL: 29 NOVEMBER 2018

CLEAN STREETS, RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

RSPCA Cymru Community Animal Welfare Footprints (CAWF) Awards

I was pleased to attend the RSPCA Cymru CAWF Award Ceremony, which took place on 5th November 2018 at the Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay. In 2018, more gold awards were given out than ever before, with Cardiff Dogs Home receiving a Gold Award in the Stray Dogs category as I confirmed previously in my statement to Council in September 2018. In addition, RSPCA Cymru presented an 'Outstanding Achievement Award' to Cardiff Dogs Home after being nominated by RSPCA Cymru staff.

When the CAWF awards were launched in 2008, Cardiff Dogs Home was the first winner of the 'Innovator in Animal Welfare' Award, which recognises exceptional achievement in adopting an innovatory approach to improving animal welfare. This was awarded for its collaborative work with other organisations in providing free microchipping for more than 800 dogs and over 468 neutering operations. Cardiff Dogs Home went on to win a second Innovator Award in 2013 for the development of a sensory garden for its stray dog kennels.

I am pleased to advise Councillors that Shared Regulatory Services' commitment to promoting and enhancing animal welfare has also been recognised, not only through its work with Cardiff Dogs Home in winning a Gold Award in the Stray Dogs category, but also through winning a Silver Award for Animal Activity Licensing. These awards reflect the work undertaken across Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to improve existing processes, to reduce expenditure and, above all, to provide better ways of protecting the welfare of animals.

Bereavement Services

Councillors are invited to attend the annual Christmas Memorial Service, which will take place at Thornhill Crematorium chapel on Sunday 9th December 2018 at 2:00pm.

Bereavement Services continues to be one of the Council's outstanding performers in terms of service delivery at both a national and local level. In recent months, Bereavement Services have been nominated for and received a number of awards. Cathays and Thornhill Cemeteries both retained their Green Flag status, whilst Cathays also gained the Heritage Green Flag Award in recognition of its significant value to Cardiff's historical landscape. Thornhill Cemetery was also awarded a silver award as part of the re-launched Cemetery of the Year Awards.

In addition, Cathays Cemetery was commended by the HM Prison and Probation Service Wildlife Awards for the partnership work between Bereavement Services and the Wales Community Rehabilitation Company, Working Links. The award recognised the outstanding work in habitat creation and encouraging diverse flora and fauna within the site for the benefit of local communities.

More recently, Bereavement Services were, once again, finalists in the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Annual Service Awards 2018 in the Best Service Team – Cemetery and Crematorium category.

Glass Recycling Pilot

The glass recycling pilot is continuing to progress really well, with positive feedback from residents. The scheme is performing as profiled and I am pleased that we are getting good market prices for the recycled clean glass bottles and jars, which are higher than expected.

Food Strategy Workshop

A stakeholder workshop to develop the Council's Food Strategy was held on 15th November 2018. This was facilitated by Jacobs utilising Welsh Government Smart Living funding, with over 30 internal and external stakeholders attending representing the public, private and third sectors across Cardiff. Topics included healthy food for all, food driving growth, optimising local growing and enabling a smart approach to food systems. The debate and ideas put forward at the workshop will help us to shape our Food Strategy, which will be drafted over the winter.

Central Transport Services (CTS) Workshops

Recently, CTS has started to insource more vehicle related work in order to save the Council money that would otherwise be going out to third party contractors. The aim is to increase the volume of work carried out in the CTS workshop facility by taking back outsourced repairs and servicing. CTS will also be looking to generate income by carrying out work for local businesses.

The first stage has been to alter the tender for the new refuse vehicles so that it does not include maintenance so the savings can be considerable. CTS has already taken back in-house RCV repairs and damage work and has recently made an agreement to complete maintenance for some new sweeper vehicles.

CTS now has a thriving fabrication workshop that is busy doing all kinds of varied work, including school railings, platform steps and even the fitting of oak mounts for three cannons at Cardiff Castle.

Councillor Michael Michael
Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment
23 November 2018