

COUNCIL, 24 JUNE 2021 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE
(COUNCILLOR KEITH JONES)

W1	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES</u></p> <p>How many cases of planning enforcement have been successfully concluded in the past four years?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Between April 2017 and March 2021, 896 Enforcement Cases have been concluded. It should be noted that the Enforcement Section of the Planning Service investigates an average of circa. 350 cases per year.</p>
W2	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER</u></p> <p>What criteria is used to determine whether a planning application is considered by the planning committee or under delegated authority?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>A report to Council in March 2019 approved the Head of Planning's current delegation for incorporation in the constitution. The approved delegations aim to provide an effective, clear and transparent scheme of delegations for the discharge of the Council's planning functions.</p>

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
(COUNCILLOR GRAHAM HINCHEY)

W3	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR JONES-PRITCHARD</u></p> <p>This week's BBC news article about the growing number of children in care in Wales revealed that 1.14% of Welsh children are being looked after away from home in Wales. The rate is reported to have increased from 0.64% in 2003 and is the highest of all the UK nations, with England the lowest at 0.67%. Although it was reported that the increase in Wales since 2003 is almost 80%, the percentage in Carmarthenshire has not changed. What is the number of children looked after away from home in Cardiff and how does this compare to the situation in 2003?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Children looked after is a homogenous term, which is split into children who are looked after in regulated settings and those who live with their parents and family/friends. Our focus is on shifting the balance of care to ensure that children can remain at home where possible in the kinship care of family and friends.</p> <p>Currently, the total number of children looked after by Cardiff Council is 998, which is 1.33% of all children in Cardiff. The total number who are looked after away from their family and friends is 564 (0.75% of all children in Cardiff).</p> <p>As of 31st March 2003, the number of children looked after by Cardiff Council was 566, which was 0.81% of all children in Cardiff. The total number who were looked after away from their family and friends was 355 (0.51% of all children in Cardiff).</p>
W4	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>What percentage of children in our care get involved with substance misuse or on youth offender register whilst in our care?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Currently, the total number of children looked after by Cardiff Council is 998. The number of children looked after who are recorded as having a substance misuse issue is 39 (3.9%). The number of children looked after who are also known to the Youth Justice Service (YJS) is 20 (2%).</p>

There are currently 17 young people on the active YJS caseload that are accessing substance misuse services via the YJS seconded substance misuse workers. This is approximately 15% of the full caseload, which is a significantly smaller percentage than has been traditionally seen in youth offending services. Of those 17 young people, 8 are recorded as children looked after.

W5

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILLIPS

In 2020 Estyn awarded Ty Coryton 'Good' across all assessed areas. Its report included:

Care, support and guidance: Good

The school promotes values of tolerance and respect strongly. It is particularly sensitive to the needs and abilities of every pupil. Nearly all staff are positive role models and reinforce these values positively throughout the school day.

We will all be aware of the whistleblower accusations made against the school.

When was Cardiff Council made aware of the accusations?

How many of our Looked After Children reside at the school?

How many day pupils has the authority placed at the school?

What actions is the authority taking, or had to take, to ensure the immediate safety and well-being of children and young people at the school?

Prof Jones from the British Institute of Learning Disabilities has said he believed it was likely the type of problems alleged at Ty Coryton could be happening elsewhere. What steps, if any, is the authority taking to investigate the safety and well-being of children and young people at other care settings?

Reply

Children's Services were made aware on 6th May 2021.

No Cardiff children attend the school and only a very small number of Cardiff children have been placed in the residential care provision at Ty Coryton, alongside children from other Local Authorities.

Safeguarding processes have commenced in relation to all individual children. A thorough investigation is being co-ordinated by the Council. Regular visits are being undertaken by relevant Health, Social Care and Commissioning colleagues.

Families have been informed of the ongoing process, and provided with a single point of contact. Information sharing with other Local Authorities is being undertaken through the Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru (4Cs) escalating concerns process.

The provider has agreed not to take any new referrals at present, and all children placed will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure their needs can continue to be safely met.

In addition to statutory social care visits, we work closely with Care inspectorate Wales and the 4Cs to understand and monitor concerns.

CLEAN STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT
(COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MICHAEL)

W6

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

Broken down by waste stream and month, how many waste collections in Pontprennau and Old St Mellons have been missed both since January 2020 and since the introduction of the 4 day week regime?

Reply

At the outset of all these Written Questions relating to the changes to the new 4-day collection model, it is important for me to make clear that the team delivering the recycling and waste collection service strives for excellence, and we are sorry for any occasions when a collection is missed. Where this does happen, the team endeavours to collect the waste within the next 12-24 hours.

It should be recognised that when the new shift pattern was introduced in February 2021, Cardiff was still being impacted by the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, which saw a number of frontline staff still shielding and a number having to self-isolate as the changes were delivered. Our frontline officers worked throughout the pandemic with very little disruption to services and I am extremely grateful for their efforts through this difficult period.

The service has had to deal with an unprecedented situation where the majority of residents were working from home due to the lockdown restrictions in place at the time. This meant that we had to manage an increase in tonnages and also significant increases in demand for services like bulky collections.

Planned contingency was on hand to support the initial introduction, and with further changes to cleansing services now underway also, we are making good progress towards achieving the overall objective of the collection changes, which is cleaner streets for our residents.

In total, there have been 9,430 missed collection reports since the change to a 4-day collection model on 23rd February 2021. It has been necessary for the service to revisit properties or roads on 4,269 occasions in order to clear the missed collections reported.

These figures need to be considered in the context of the 17.7Million collections of food, recycling and residual waste that are undertaken every year from 136,505 properties in the city.

Looking specifically at March, April and May 2021, this represents 4.4Million collections, with missed collection reports representing approximately 0.2% of all collections.

Missed collection reports are now dropping to levels similar or below those before the introduction of the 4-day collection model. At the same time, we have also made it easier for residents to raise a missed collection report via a digital process.

Please see below the requested figures for the Pontprennau & Old St Mellons ward:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working														Post introduction of 4 day working				
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	1 - 22nd Feb 21	23rd - 28th Feb 21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	10	110	12	6	21	51	21	6	29	12	9	14	27	22	66	56	40	26	5
Garden Waste	3	2	1	0	2	2	12	5	6	4	1	0	35	9	0	46	19	18	9
Food	1	5	1	0	0	4	10	8	14	13	0	11	13	0	3	38	75	72	12
Recycling	6	8	3	0	0	5	6	11	21	18	3	24	34	4	0	26	14	3	2
Hygiene	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	3	0	2
Totals	21	126	17	6	23	63	49	30	70	47	13	49	109	35	69	178	151	119	30

Note:

1. Prior to the introduction of 4-day working, the only way of reporting missed collections was by phoning C2C. The collections app and facility to report via the website were also introduced along with 4-day working, which made it easier for residents to log a missed collection.

	<p>2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.</p>
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W7

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES

How many additional days have been worked to collect the backlog of waste in Pontprennau and Old St Mellons and what has been the additional cost of doing so?

Reply

Work on six additional days has been required since the introduction of the 4-day collection model in order to clear the backlog of recycling and waste in Pontprennau & Old St Mellons, with your ward representing only a proportion of the additional working days and the backlog would not relate to all properties or all recycling and waste streams collected. Collection vehicles cover multiple wards and, therefore, the service has a total figure for the additional working days required, but not the additional cost for a specific ward.

W8

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MIA REES

How many waste collections in Whitchurch and Tongwynlais have been missed since the introduction of the 4 day week changes? I would appreciate this data by waste type and month.

Reply

Please see below the requested figures for the Whitchurch & Tongwynlais ward:

Waste Stream	Post introduction of 4 day working				
	23rd - 28th Feb	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	0	54	12	11	7
Garden Waste	0	229	25	13	12
Food	6	69	47	61	33
Recycling	7	43	19	10	9
Hygiene	0	6	1	0	3
Totals	13	401	104	95	64

Note:

1. Prior to the introduction of 4-day working, the only way of reporting missed collections was by phoning C2C. The collections app and facility to report via the website were also introduced along with 4-day working, which made it easier for residents to log a missed collection.

W9	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>Under the new waste collection arrangements in Cyncoed and Lakeside, emptying of the green garden waste bins has been completed on the designated Friday on only one occasion out of five since March. On each of the other occasions they have been emptied over the weekend or the following week, sometimes as late as the following Tuesday or Wednesday. What assurances can the cabinet member give that this will not continue to be a problem throughout the summer months?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The service area is reviewing the delivery of garden waste services to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of collections.</p> <p>When there have been resource concerns collecting food, recycling and residual waste, the service area has moved teams off garden waste collections. This is because the presentation of garden waste is predominantly in a bin and, therefore, has limited impact on the street scene.</p> <p>The service is now ensuring the application of dedicated crews to garden waste collections to ensure any rescheduling is limited. However, garden waste poses a further challenge in terms of the presentation tonnage varying by over 100% depending on the weather and, therefore, there is a requirement for the service area to redesign the service to manage these fluctuations, whilst ensuring effective and efficient use of resources.</p>
W10	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>In many locations in Cyncoed and Lakeside there is a lack of waste bins with lids specifically designed for dog waste. People walking their dogs, as a result, often use the general waste bins instead. The bins for general waste are necessarily in locations such as bus stops and outside shops. The absence of nearby bins for dog waste is unhygienic and poses a health hazard. What plans does the administration have to increase the number of bins with lids specifically designed for dog waste?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>There are approximately 3,500 bins across Cardiff. Our policy is not to have dedicated dog-fouling litter bins and to utilise general litter bins, both post-mounted open top and free standing closed lid bins. Furthermore, dog-fouling litter bins with lids and handles provide a health risk for users in relation to the transmission of Covid-19 and other transmissible diseases. The Council will place additional litter bins in locations where identification of litter is a concern following an appropriate review.</p>
W11	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>Many residents face persistent problems with assisted lift and hygiene waste collections, often being missed week after week but unable to arrange recollections via C2C. What steps is the council taking to improve the experience for these residents?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The reporting of missed collections by residents can take place 24 hours following the scheduled collection day. This increases to 48 hours for residents who are on an assisted lift service.</p> <p>Reporting of missed collections can take place if a property shows as collected by clicking the tab for residual, striped bags, recycling, food, hygiene or garden waste and reporting a missed collection. More information is available at www.cardiff.gov.uk/aboutmissedcollections</p> <p>The system has the same integration and information used in the Contact Centre (C2C), including reporting missed collections. This additional digital approach provides a quick and easy approach in comparison to previous reporting via the C2C, thereby enhancing the opportunities for residents to report missed collections.</p>
W12	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALKER</u></p> <p>Since the introduction of the four day week in Waste Management, how many households have needed and been provided with special late collection visits?</p> <p>Has this been costed and, if so, what is the total cost of this late collection service to date?</p>

Reply

I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Williams (W6).

Due to the change from two shifts to one shift per day, the service anticipated that there would be an increase in the number of individual properties reporting missed collections whilst they got used to the new collection times/dates. The service is now in a position to prove/disprove whether an individual property reporting a missed collection is a genuine missed collection. Where it is genuine, the service will ask the crew that missed it to make the collection.

Since the introduction of the new 4-day collection model, 1,973 hours have been worked outside of the contracted working hours at a cost of £114,161 in the three months: March, April and May 2021. This figure is within the modelled financial contingency for the introduction of the new 4-day collection model.

W13

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALKER

In terms of average days per employee in Waste Collection, what has been the level of sickness absence since the four day week was introduced?

How does that compare with pre-reorganisation levels?

Reply

2019 - Collections Only					2020 - Collections Only						2021 - Collections Only					
Date	FTE	No of Staff Members reported Sick	Total No of Days Sickness 18/19	Average days sick per employee	Date	FTE	No of Staff Members reported Sick	Total No of Days Sickness 19/20	Average days sick per employee	% Change from previous year	Date	FTE	No of Staff Members reported Sick	Total No of Days Sickness 20/21	Average days sick per employee	% Change from previous year
Feb-19	164	29	268	19.6	Feb-20	164	33	352	25.8	31%	Feb-21	150	30	335	26.8	4%
Mar-19	164	18	253	18.5	Mar-20	164	24	253	18.5	0%	Mar-21	150	32	405	32.4	75%
Apr-19	164	19	169	12.4	Apr-20	164	18	228	16.7	35%	Apr-21	150	32	350	28.0	68%
May-19	164	20	215	15.7	May-20	164	17	216	15.8	0%	May-21	150	36	317	25.4	60%
Totals	656	86	905	16.6	Totals	656	92	1049	19.2	16%	Totals	600	130	1407	28.1	47%

W14	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALKER</u></p> <p>Since the new four day week structure was introduced in Waste Collection, what is the total cost and number of hours worked in employee late shift and weekend working (and any other overtime)?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I would refer you to the answer provided to your earlier Written Question (W12).</p>
W15	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALKER</u></p> <p>Since the new reorganisation in Waste Collection, what is the overall average monthly take home pay (before tax and NI) of the top ten highest earning manual operatives (no individual employee identification requested or required)?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The average monthly take home pay using gross pay and overtime figures for the period from March to May 2021 for the top ten highest earning manual operatives is £2,836.</p>
W16	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALKER</u></p> <p>Since the introduction of the four day week in Waste collection, on how many occasions has it been necessary to revisit missed collection premises or roads which were the subject of recent previous reported missed collections?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Since the introduction of the 4-day collection model, it has been necessary to revisit missed collection premises or roads, which were the subject of recent previous reported missed collections, on 4,269 occasions.</p>
W17	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Some residents have found that the online system for reporting missed waste collections has incorrectly listed their street as collected in recent months. What is the council doing to ensure that the online system accurately reports which streets have had waste collected?</p>

Could this issue affect the accuracy of figures used to monitor the effectiveness of the waste collection service?

Reply

I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Taylor (W11).

There are some issues relating to reporting a further missed collection, if a missed collection report is still outstanding and not closed down for a particular waste stream. The service is working with the Digital team to make improvements and remove this concern. Whilst this will have an impact on the accuracy of the figures for recorded missed collections, the numbers will be limited. A number of these missed collections have been reported by Member Services or dealt with directly between the service area management team and Local Members.

W18

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

Broken down by waste stream and month how waste collections in Rhiwbina have been missed both since January 2020 and since the introduction of the 4 day week regime?

Reply

Please see below the requested figures for the Rhiwbina ward:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working														Post introduction of 4 day working				
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	1 - 22nd Feb 21	23rd - 28th Feb 21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	8	11	11	11	7	9	11	17	9	12	29	43	17	20	0	23	26	13	0
Garden Waste	13	6	4	0	0	3	12	6	5	7	1	0	17	3	0	0	9	4	12
Food	3	4	1	0	0	3	8	2	5	1	4	8	8	2	4	21	21	8	10
Glass Caddy	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recycling	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	6	2	8	6	9	2	4	14	2	4	1
Hygiene	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Totals	27	26	18	11	7	15	32	29	25	22	42	57	51	27	8	59	60	29	23

Note:

1. Prior to the introduction of 4-day working, the only way of reporting missed collections was by phoning C2C. The collections app and facility to report via the website were also introduced along with 4-day working, which made it easier for residents to log a missed collection.
2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.

W19

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

How many additional days have been worked to collect the backlog of waste in Rhiwbina and what has been the additional cost of doing so?

Reply

Work on six additional days has been required since the introduction of the 4-day collection model in order to clear the backlog of recycling and waste in Rhiwbina, with your ward representing only a proportion of the additional working days and the backlog would not relate to all properties or all recycling and waste streams collected. Collection vehicles cover multiple wards and, therefore, the service has a total figure for the additional working days, but not the additional cost for a specific ward.

W20

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILIPPA HILL-JOHN

Broken down by waste stream and month how waste collections in Llandaff ward have been missed both since January 2020 and since the introduction of the 4 day week regime?

Reply

Please see below the requested figures for the Llandaff ward:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working														Post introduction of 4 day working				
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb 21	23rd - 28th Feb	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	6	4	14	7	30	5	20	5	5	8	14	12	14	0	0	18	14	14	3
Garden Waste	5	8	1	0	9	9	30	6	13	7	0	0	51	4	0	103	14	6	1
Food	5	1	1	0	1	5	6	5	11	3	5	22	13	0	16	58	14	26	4
Recycling	8	1	0	0	0	4	7	6	8	0	5	6	2	0	3	17	17	5	2
Hygiene	1	0	0	0	1	1	9	0	0	0	1	11	0	0	0	2	1	2	0
Totals	25	14	16	7	41	24	72	22	37	18	25	51	80	4	19	198	60	53	10

Note:

1. Prior to the introduction of 4-day working, the only way of reporting missed collections was by phoning C2C. The collections app and facility to report via the website were also introduced along with 4-day working, which made it easier for residents to log a missed collection.
2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.

W21

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILIPPA HILL-JOHN

How many additional days have been worked to collect the backlog of waste in Llandaff ward and what has been the additional cost of doing so?

Reply

There was one occasion where the collection of residual waste was not completed and it was rescheduled for collection on a Saturday.

There was one occasion where the collection of recycling was not completed and it was also rescheduled for collection on a Saturday.

Collection vehicles cover multiple wards and, therefore, the service area has a total figure for the additional working days, but not the additional cost for a specific ward.

W22

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR KELLOWAY

Broken down by waste stream and month, how many waste collections in Cyncoed have been missed both since January 2020 and since the introduction of the 4 day working week regime?

Reply

Please see below the requested figures for the Cyncoed ward:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working														Post introduction of 4 day working				
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	1 - 22nd Feb 21	23rd - 28th Feb 21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	2	4	3	13	5	6	9	6	5	11	12	47	20	20	0	41	30	20	11
Garden Waste	15	18	1	0	0	2	7	4	4	2	0	0	39	2	0	20	6	6	29
Food	9	12	0	1	0	13	5	0	6	4	2	1	8	5	7	22	31	9	6
Recycling	4	5	1	0	0	9	10	7	15	0	21	11	17	4	3	21	26	8	3
Hygiene	2	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	13	0	0	1	2	0	8
Totals	32	48	5	14	5	31	31	17	36	17	35	59	97	31	10	105	95	43	57

Note:

1. Prior to the introduction of 4-day working, the only way of reporting missed collections was by phoning C2C. The collections app and facility to report via the website were also introduced along with 4-day working, which made it easier for residents to log a missed collection.
2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.

W23	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR KELLOWAY</u></p> <p>How many additional days have been worked to collect the backlog of waste in Cyncoed and what has been the additional cost of doing so?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Work on nine additional days has been required since the introduction of the 4-day collection model to clear the backlog of recycling and waste in Cyncoed, with your ward representing only a proportion of the additional working days and the backlog would not relate to all properties or all recycling and waste streams collected. Collection vehicles cover multiple wards and, therefore, the service has a total figure for the additional working days, but not the additional cost for a specific ward.</p>
W24	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR KELLOWAY</u></p> <p>Can the Council please outline its policy on assisting disabled residents with the removal of waste from their vehicles at waste and recycling centres?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Disabled adapted vehicles are able to access the Recycling Centres in order to dispose of recycling. The 'meet and greet' service provided at the Recycling Centres also enables the identification of any assistance by council staff that is required by service users in order to help them remove recycled waste from their vehicles.</p> <p>The service area is currently reviewing improvements to the Recycling Centres, and is looking at the provision of a dedicated bay at the Recycling Centres and how the booking system could identify vulnerable users who need support from staff prior to them arriving at the sites.</p>

W25

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILLIPS

How many waste collections in Whitchurch and Tongwynlais have been missed since the introduction of the 4 day week?

What are the comparative figures with the same period in 2020 and 2019? Please break down figures by waste stream.

Reply

I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Mia Rees (W8).

Please see below the requested figures for the Whitchurch & Tongwynlais ward prior to the introduction of the 4-day collection model:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working 2019											
	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Residual			28	7	9	12	9	6	15	39	22	20
Garden Waste			6	19	21	9	12	2	8	2	5	11
Food			14	12	33	15	8	7	18	24	11	21
Recycling			16	6	17	8	0	3	7	2	8	10
Hygiene			1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	3
Totals	0	0	65	45	81	45	30	18	50	68	46	65

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working 2020/21													
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb 2021
Residual	18	16	20	11	20	14	16	51	89	9	21	26	44	28
Garden Waste	6	8	1	0	1	5	31	18	17	11	1	0	35	0
Food	28	5	9	0	1	6	33	20	20	21	19	19	26	14
Recycling	12	19	3	0	0	12	14	16	14	17	7	19	11	5
Hygiene	2	10	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	1	0	5	0	0
Totals	66	58	34	11	22	38	100	105	140	59	48	69	116	47

Note:

1. Missed collections started to be recorded on Collective from March 2019; therefore, no data exists for January or February 2019. Data was collected by C2C during these months, but was not collected in the same format as Collective.
2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.

W26

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILLIPS

How many working days have been lost in the same period due to sickness?

What are the comparative figures with the same period in 2020 and 2019? Please provide absolute figures and percentage of workforce.

Reply

I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Walker (W13).

W27	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILLIPS</u></p> <p>In Whitchurch and Tongwynlais, since the introduction of the new 4 day week, how many missed collections have required repeated returns in order to complete waste removals?</p> <p>Please break down by C2C and elected members requests.</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>287 requests have been reported by the general public via C2C or directly through the app and website. The information is extracted from Collective, the digital system managing collections.</p> <p>No requests from elected members have been received for Whitchurch and Tongwynlais according to the Members Services Halo system. Any requests sent directly to officers and not via the Halo system will not be captured within these figures.</p>
W28	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>What has happened to the suspended waste operatives – are they on gardening leave, are they drawing salaries and have they been replaced?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>All current internal disciplinary processes have been concluded in relation to the arrests of five Council employees and two agency employees that were made in February 2018. Therefore, there are currently no officers on suspension in relation to this case. Two employees remain employed by the Council, with the other roles being either recruited to or modified during the recent restructure of the service area. Suffice to say, in considering this matter, the Council needs to be careful not to prejudice the police investigation that remains ongoing.</p>
W29	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER</u></p> <p>When will the glass recycling restart?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Glass recycling has not stopped and has always been in place.</p>

W30	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>Of the amount of recycling, what percentage is sent to be incinerated?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Following the processing of co-mingled recycling at the Materials Recovery Facility, approximately 30% of the material goes to the energy from waste facility for incineration as a result of contamination caused by residents placing incorrect materials within their co-mingled recycling.</p>
W31	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN</u></p> <p>Since the wholesale changes to waste collections in the City, what has been the total overtime bill to date?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Walker (W12).</p>
W32	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN</u></p> <p>How many dog wardens do we currently employ for the whole of Cardiff?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) has a total of four Animal Wardens who provide dog warden services across the SRS region (Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend).</p> <p>Two of these Wardens are assigned to cover the Cardiff Council area and this is the same level of staffing as that which was in place prior to the creation of SRS. However, at busy times or during periods of annual leave for these officers, the Wardens that would normally work in the Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan Council areas are able to provide resilience and continuity of service for the Cardiff area. Likewise, there is a reciprocal arrangement in the event of an incident or staff annual leave when extra resilience is needed in the Bridgend or Vale of Glamorgan areas.</p>

W33

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

Over the years, I have had complaints from many residents of my ward about repeated missed collections in certain locations, including from certain flat complexes. Often this happens when waste crews change, with information about how waste should be collected from these locations not being adequately passed on from one crew to the next. In some cases this problem has been exacerbated since the recent switch to the new waste collection rotas with missed collections happening more frequently, presumably as different crews are filling in to mop up missed collections. What actions has the council taken to date to properly deal with this problem, and what further steps will it take to minimise it from re-occurring going forward?

Reply

The service operates a digital collection system that provides information to drivers and shows the streets and flat complexes where collections are to take place. The presentation of recycling and waste at certain locations can result in collections being missed when there is a change in crews; however, the controllers and supervisors are able to add information to the digital collection system and provide guidance to the crews.

The service area aims to ensure that crews undertake the same rounds in order to gain good familiarisation of the round and associated presentation of recycling and waste at particular locations. Where possible, the crew that misses the collection will return to make the collection.

W34

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

How many missed collections, broken down by waste stream, have there been across the city since the switch to the new waste collection rotas (designed to operate over four days per week rather than five) for each week since the new rotas were put in place?

Reply

As I outlined earlier in my reply to the Written Question from Cllr Williams (W6), in total, there have been 9,430 missed collection reports since the change to a 4-day collection model on 23rd February 2021.

These relate to the following waste streams:

- Recycling = 1,817
- Food = 2,721
- Residual = 2,601
- Compost = 1,907
- Hygiene = 384

The total number of collections across the city for 136,505 properties in March, April and May 2021 for recycling, food and residual waste was 4.4million and, therefore, these missed collection reports represent approximately 0.2% of all collections.

W35

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

How many public electric vehicle charging points has the council been instrumental in having had installed in the city since the last local elections in 2017, broken down by ward, and how many more such electric vehicle charging points do you currently envisage the council will have helped have installed by the time of the next local elections in May 2022, again broken down by ward?

Reply

29 Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points have been installed by the Council at the following locations in the city (all have dual charging capacity except Butleigh Avenue):

- Anglesey Street – Canton
- Butleigh Avenue – Canton
- Severn Road Car Park – Canton
- Victoria Park Road – Canton
- Maindy Road – Cathays
- Redlaver Street – Grangetown
- Mardy Street – Grangetown
- Llandaff Car Park – Llandaff
- Penylan Library Car Park – Penylan
- Stallcourt Avenue – Penylan
- Waterloo Road – Penylan
- Kyveillog Street – Riverside
- Pontcanna Street – Riverside
- Rennie Street – Riverside
- Turning Head Car Park – Riverside

In addition, a rapid charge point pilot project has been progressed with Osprey Charging, with 2 x 50kw chargers being installed at the following locations:

- Howard Place – Adamsdown
- Britannia Quay – Butetown
- Bute Crescent – Butetown
- King Edward VII Avenue – Cathays
- Park Place – Cathays
- Windsor Place – Cathays

The Council has secured funding from Welsh Government to install a further 20 (2 x10 locations) 22kw charge points in car parks in the city centre/district centres. These are still being finalised in terms of final locations, but we will make an announcement in due course once locations have been confirmed with an appointed installer and Western Power Distribution.

The Council is also looking to undertake a pilot project installing charge points into existing street lights and, utilising One Planet funding, we are looking to install up to a further 20 charge points. Again, the locations where these charge points will be installed is still being investigated with contractors and Western Power Distribution.

W36

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GAVIN HILL-JOHN

How many waste collections in Pentyrch have been missed since the introduction of the 4 day week?

What are the comparative figures with the same period in 2020 and 2019? Please break down figures by waste stream.

Reply

Please see below the requested figures for the Pentyrch ward:

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working 2019											
	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Residual			7	0	2	2	4	2	4	4	1	1
Garden Waste			3	8	2	4	2	1	3	4	0	7
Food			2	6	11	5	4	0	2	5	4	0
Recycling			4	6	12	1	1	0	0	5	5	0
Hygiene			0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	16	20	30	12	11	3	9	18	10	8

Waste Stream	Prior to the introduction of 4 day working 2020/21													
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	1st - 22nd Feb 2021
Residual	6	6	1	2	5	6	10	8	7	1	7	2	8	4
Garden Waste	2	3	0	0	0	2	8	7	4	2	0	0	30	1
Food	1	5	0	0	0	3	7	4	2	0	6	5	3	2
Recycling	5	7	2	0	0	0	2	4	7	0	10	2	5	2
Hygiene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	14	21	3	2	5	11	27	23	20	3	23	9	46	9

Waste Stream	Post introduction of 4 day working				
	23rd - 28th Feb	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	1st - 15th June 21
Residual	0	9	17	12	4
Garden Waste	0	43	15	9	6
Food	2	3	18	15	6
Recycling	2	7	15	12	7
Hygiene	0	4	0	1	0
Totals	4	66	65	49	23

Note:

1. Missed collections started to be recorded on Collective from March 2019; therefore, no data exists for January or February 2019. Data was collected by C2C during these months, but was not collected in the same format as Collective.
2. Due to Covid-19, separate collections were stopped between 30th March and 1st June 2020 and all waste was collected in the same vehicle.

W37

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GAVIN HILL-JOHN

How many working days have been lost in the same period due to sickness?

What are the comparative figures with the same period in 2020 and 2019? Please provide absolute figures and percentage of workforce.

Reply

I would refer you to the answer provided earlier to the Written Question from Councillor Walker (W13).

W38

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GAVIN HILL-JOHN

In Pentyrch, since the introduction of the new 4 day week, how many missed collections have required repeated returns in order to complete waste removals?

Please break down by C2C and elected members requests.

Reply

105 requests have been reported by the general public via C2C or directly through the app and website. The information is extracted from Collective, the digital system managing collections.

No requests from elected members have been received for Pentyrch according to the Members Services Halo system. Any requests sent directly to officers and not via the Halo system will not be captured within these figures.

CULTURE AND LEISURE
(COUNCILLOR PETER BRADBURY)

W39	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR NAUGHTON</u></p> <p>Could an update be given on the vaccination centre at Pentwyn Leisure Centre and whether it will reopen?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The mass vaccination centres at Pentwyn Leisure Centre and at the former STAR Centre in Splott have been a great success and I'm delighted that the Council has been able to play an important part in supporting Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (UHB) in its response to the Covid-19 pandemic and in achieving its remarkable percentage of vaccinations of Cardiff residents.</p> <p>Both facilities are under review by the UHB as they wait for guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and Welsh Government about Phase 3/booster programmes. The Pentwyn mass vaccination centre has currently paused delivery whilst the UHB reviews its workforce requirements in line with future delivery requirements and plans for its booster programme.</p>
W40	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON</u></p> <p>Is the Cabinet member aware of the See Around Britain (seearoundbritain.com) photo gazetteer which aims to help disabled people help decide if a venue will be suitable for a visit?</p> <p>What assistance can the Council give in promoting this initiative?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Visit Cardiff team would be happy to engage with See Around Britain and can work with their Visit Cardiff Network to further promote the uptake of venues and attractions. We can also link directly to their website from our Visit Cardiff and Meet in Cardiff websites.</p>

W41	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR JONES-PRITCHARD</u></p> <p>Last Friday evening, a fire destroyed a council building and a school hide, in Forest Farm. Cardiff Conservation Volunteers lost equipment and all irreplaceable records and photographs of their work around the city, going back many years. It is understood that groups meeting under the shelter of the hide and lighting fires, is a regular occurrence yet, despite this knowledge and obvious risk, there does not appear to have been any CCTV on site. Why was there no CCTV in this location, which is part of a complex owned and operated by the city, and will arrangements be made, both to replace this valued facility and to equip it with CCTV when completed?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I was angered by the mindless actions that led to this event and the distress and inconvenience that it has caused the Cardiff Conservation Volunteers.</p> <p>Officers had reported previous activity in the area to South Wales Police and while CCTV provision exists, coverage does not extend to the entire building's footprint, which includes the stable block where the fire occurred.</p> <p>As a priority, officers are processing the necessary insurance claim documentation, and my current understanding is that it is likely that the building will require renovation as opposed to replacement. These works will be covered by the sum insured.</p> <p>Officers have been tasked with reviewing CCTV provision on site. I am very aware of the competing priorities across the city for such and the need for the Council to take a proportional, evidence based approach, considering the level of risk and severity of implications.</p>
W42	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Will the council now provide full details regarding what the funding allocation for the Roath Park Dam in this year's capital programme is paying for together with an explanation of how this does, or does not, relate to the introduction of flood protection measures to assist those properties in Penylan previously recognised as being at risk of flooding from Roath Brook and which would have gained protection had the third phase of NRW's Roath Flood Scheme proceeded?</p>

Reply

The sum allocated in the 2021/22 capital programme is for developmental purposes. Surveys and exploratory works will be undertaken to inform the overall scope of works, options appraisal and detailed design. As part of this process, and in consultation with Natural Resources Wales, consideration will be given to the relationship with the remaining phase of the Roath Brook Flood Scheme and any measures that may be taken to help mitigate the proposals for such.

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS
(COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

W43

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY

Are there plans to change secondary school catchment areas in Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn to allow children to go to school more locally and if not then why was a resident told by a C2C operator that Llanedeyrn would be in the Cardiff High catchment area for the coming academic year?

Reply

Following the decision that was taken by the former Lib Dem-Plaid Cymru administration in December 2008 to close Llanedeyrn High School, the primary school catchments within the former Llanedeyrn High School catchment were added to the catchment areas of both Llanishen High School (Glyncoed, Bryn Celyn, Springwood and Llanedeyrn Primary Schools) and Cardiff High (Marlborough Primary School) from September 2011.

As has been set out in public documents on school organisation proposals and associated Cabinet reports that are publicly available on the Council's website, there will be a need to look at catchments across Cardiff in coming years. When any changes are proposed, there will be full consultation where stakeholders, including members of the public, are able to give their views.

Customers are advised that there is a tool available on the Council's website, which shows which catchment area applies to each property within Cardiff. This means that a family is able to look to see where their residence is and which school catchment boundaries it sits within. Any catchment changes are uploaded at the time they take effect. Similarly, applicants can see which schools are located nearest to their home. These are not necessarily the same thing. Being able to see both enables families to make informed choices when stating five school preferences, which is strongly encouraged when applying for a secondary education place.

Families are also advised that living within a catchment area does not guarantee that the child will secure a place at the associated school and that there are a range of oversubscription criteria that are applied in the event that demand exceeds supply. These are all contained within the admissions booklet for parents and also in the Admissions Policy, which is available on the Admissions page of the Council's website.

C2C handles calls on a wide range of council services. When further details and/or specific clarification or confirmation are required, the customer is advised to check with the specific team concerned. In the case of School Admissions, the team can provide clarification on catchments, any changes agreed and when they will take effect. They can also provide support with further information regarding application dates and previous patterns of take up etc.

W44

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH

A new analysis by the Construction Industry Training Body (CITB) indicates that the construction sector has bounced back more quickly than expected from the Covid-19 pandemic, and will need more than 9,000 new recruits by 2025 in Wales to meet growing order levels. What can the Council do to help ensure that Cardiff residents have the skills needed to access these opportunities locally and awareness of their availability?

Reply

I am pleased to say that we are already supporting people to access the opportunities in this sector through not only the Council's Into Work team, but also through the new on-site Construction Academy based on the old Llanrumney High School site, which was launched last month and is fully funded by CITB. This facility will provide jobseekers, who are interested in the sector, with experience of working in the construction industry, practical entry level training, work experience placements with contractors and access to jobs.

In addition, we are providing training through our Adult Learning team, support for recruitment by our Employer Liaison team, as well as working directly with Council linked projects, including new housing developments and the new Arena.

The Council is also engaging with a wide range of construction businesses as part of its Cardiff Commitment initiative to raise the profile of construction as a career opportunity within schools. The construction industry is also represented on our senior steering group for the Cardiff Commitment.

W45

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER

What youth services are currently operating in Pentwyn and Llanedeyrn?

Reply

Youth Club runs on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 5pm-6pm and 8pm-9pm. Youth mentoring sessions are also held four days a week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Activities provided include the State of Mind project, which is working with identified males around mental health. The service is also supporting young people on a one-to-one basis through youth mentoring and those expressing concerns in the community.

The service provides a youth mentor in the three local High Schools who work with identified young people, as well as supporting Year 11 through summer transition. In addition, a Post-16 team attends the centre every Wednesday and, at present, are running construction industry Health & Safety qualification sessions with local young people who want to work in the building trade.

The Ministry of Life also operates on Mondays between 4pm and 6:30pm, with targeted sessions on a Thursday between 4pm and 6pm. Activities include pop-up youth clubs and delivery of training for the construction Health & Safety card. There are also targeted recording studio sessions. The club attracts over 30 young people per session.

There are several key events planned for the next month, including a skate park competition. The activities are designed to engage young people and to reward them with positive activities to counteract any involvement in anti-social behaviour, which could arise from boredom or negative influences.

W46

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN

There are a number of Cardiff schools which are running with a deficit budget. What are the timescales involved before the Council or Senedd step in to oversee the running of the school?

Reply

The actual total balances held by Cardiff schools at 31st March 2021 was £21.118m, of which £9.796m was additional Welsh Government grant that was given to schools in the final two weeks of the 2020/21 financial year.

Schools wishing to set a deficit budget are required to make an application to the Council's Section 151 Officer by 30th April of the financial year. As part of that application, they are required to submit a medium term financial plan showing how they will manage the budget out of deficit. There are a number of reasons why a school may find itself in a deficit position and that is why we have agreed a medium term approach to schools in this position.

For the 2021/22 financial year, discussions started with 8 schools who had indicated that they may be in a deficit position. This figure has now reduced to there currently being four schools in the city with a deficit budget. Officers are working with each one through the process of agreeing a medium term recovery plan, which will then be monitored on a regular basis. With regard to any further intervention, the Council would work within the guidance provided by the Welsh Government on Schools Causing Concern.

FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE
(COUNCILLOR CHRIS WEAVER)

W47	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>In respects to the Council's involvement with the Coal Exchange, have any business rates owed to the Council been written off?</p> <p>If so, by how much and why?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>No business rates have been written off.</p>
W48	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>Is it right that social housing residents in Eastside Quarter had to wait six months to find out what council tax band they are in, resulting in financial difficulty for some?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The responsibility for Council Tax banding rests with the Valuation Office Agency, which is part of HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). They routinely provide updating schedules for both Council Tax and Business Rates.</p> <p>There are 73 properties currently in this development with effective dates ranging from 30th June 2017 to 8th December 2020. This appears to be a phased development.</p> <p>We received an updating schedule on 24th March 2021 bringing 16 properties into Council Tax with effect from 8th December 2020. These details were updated immediately and new bills issued on the 12th April once the Council had completed issuing all of the annual Council Tax bills.</p> <p>All customers have the right to pay their bill over 12 instalments up until March 2022. If the backdating element of the bill causes financial hardship for residents, then they should contact C2C to discuss further.</p>

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES
(COUNCILLOR LYNDA THORNE)

W49	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>What is the council's position on the proposal by Welsh Government to trial a UBI pilot specifically aimed at care leavers and does the administration agree with the removal of the 'universal' component?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Universal Basic Income (UBI) is a scheme whereby government pays all individuals a set, regular income regardless of any other income or capital they may have. This is paid without any conditions being placed on individuals before they receive the payment.</p> <p>Welfare benefits are currently controlled by the UK Government and any change of this nature would need to be carefully planned to prevent any unforeseen consequences. A pilot approach would therefore seem appropriate and the Leader of the Council wrote to the First Minister in November last year, urging the Welsh Government to consider a UBI pilot in Cardiff.</p> <p>The Welsh Government's Programme for Government 2021-2026, which was published earlier this month, includes a commitment to "<i>pilot an approach to the Basic Income</i>". We look forward to finding out further details when proposals come forward from the Welsh Government, together with confirmation of whether or not care leavers would be the group that would be involved in any future pilot in Wales. Clearly, care leavers face significant barriers to achieving a successful transition into adulthood and these barriers can make them more vulnerable to poverty. They would therefore be one of the groups that would benefit the most from the additional income.</p>
W50	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>The UK Government is cutting funding for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) for struggling tenants by more than a fifth. Local Housing Allowance has also been frozen this year, leaving tenants facing higher rent shortfalls in many parts of the country. How much would you estimate Cardiff Council stands to lose because of this DHP funding cut and what potential impact will this have on low-income households during a time when many will be facing hardship?</p>

Reply

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) help people who are facing exceptional circumstances to meet their housing costs. This can include reducing rent arrears to prevent homelessness or meeting the gap between the level of benefit received and the full rent.

In 2020/21 Cardiff Council received £1,278,380 from the UK Government Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) for DHPs. The actual spend was £1,303,109, with Council funds being used to meet the shortfall.

In April 2021, DHP funding of £802,079 was awarded to Cardiff Council by the DWP, which was considerably less than last year. In addition to this, £40 million will be released UK-wide in the autumn. Cardiff's share of this is not yet known.

The Welsh Government has recently announced additional funding of £4.1 million for Wales to support those who are struggling to pay their rent. Cardiff will receive £493,349. Therefore, the total confirmed funding for 2021/22 is £1,295,428. This is slightly above the amount that was received in 2020/21. The additional allocation from the DWP in the autumn will increase this amount further.

These funds will be very much needed as the levels of evictions and indebtedness overall are anticipated to increase as Covid-19 assistance ends. It is therefore more important than ever that we can support our citizens and help them to access the assistance they need.

There are a range of schemes that citizens can access to get financial help, as well as practical advice. Additional funding has been made available this year to build on our Advice Services and ensure that everyone gets the right help they need, from the right scheme, first time.

Officers from our Housing Options and Advice Services are working closely together to ensure that there is a joined-up approach for those struggling to pay their rent or mortgage and to prevent evictions and homelessness. Information about the help and support available will be published widely to ensure that all citizens are aware of the assistance available to them.

Anyone in need of help should contact the Adviceline on (029) 2087 1071.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH

A group of former rough sleepers who were left destitute after the Department for Work and Pensions automatically deducted a third of their Universal Credit allowance to pay off court fines have won a high court victory brought by the housing charity Shelter. DWP policy required deductions to be imposed at a fixed 30% rate from the monthly allowances of claimants who owed historical court fines – including those issued for begging – regardless of individual circumstances. The ruling means claimants repaying historical fines who are facing financial hardship – not just rough sleepers – can now ask the work and pensions department to lower the level of deductions. About 120,000 universal credit claimants are believed to be repaying these fines through deductions. What can Cardiff Council do to highlight that this is something that people in this situation are now able to request and to assist them in doing so if necessary?

Reply

The level of deductions make by the UK Government Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) can lead to significant hardship and, therefore, this ruling is very welcome.

The Council will raise awareness of this change in several ways. Advice Mentors will brief internal staff and external partners who work with clients in receipt of Universal Credit about the ruling. Communications will sent be out through the Council's various social media channels. Hub, Housing Solutions, and Advice officers will speak to customers who are in receipt of Universal Credit when they access our services. Officers will also work with the DWP to ensure that any customers in this situation accessing Job Centre Plus support can be referred for assistance.

The Money Advice team will be able to support people that want to reduce the amount of their deductions from their ongoing Universal Credit payments. Advisors will also ensure that those facing hardship are supported with other debts as well as making certain that clients are claiming all of the benefits, grants and discounts that they are entitled to.

Anyone in need of help should contact the Adviceline on (029) 2087 1071.

W52

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH

Could you provide an update on progress made in vaccinating Cardiff's homeless population against Covid-19?

Reply

The Council continues to work closely with Health colleagues on the mass vaccination programme and, in particular, to identify any individuals who may fall through the net.

Cardiff's homeless population often does not take up the medical help that is available; therefore, early on, it was agreed to deliver vaccinations in a range of hostels and supported accommodation venues.

I am pleased to say the vaccination team has already delivered the first dose in 12 of the larger hostel/supported accommodation sites. The team is now in the process of delivering the second dose and has been back to 9 sites to date, with only 3 left to be scheduled.

The nurse from the Multi-Disciplinary Team also works closely with the mobile vaccination team to offer drop-in sessions twice a week across all supported accommodation settings. These are in addition to the planned visits by the team and pick up any opportunistic new vaccinations quickly.

In terms of the vaccination of other vulnerable groups in the city, the vaccination team has had a very good uptake of first and second doses of the vaccine at both Gypsy and Traveller sites in the city. Vaccination sessions are also held at the Oasis Centre in Splott, which offers support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the city. The team also encourages people using the Oasis Centre to go over to the mass vaccination centre in Splott as it has a private room that can be used if people prefer that option.

In addition, the team has an ongoing programme of vaccinations underway at Cardiff Prison.

W53

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK

Why has substance misuse become a normal sight on Cardiff roads?

Reply

Reports of open substance misuse are commonly connected to vulnerable people with complex needs and often this cohort will have experiences of poverty and traumatic backgrounds. While this is not unique to Cardiff and not reported as a city-wide issue, there remain areas of concern, particularly in the city centre and surrounding wards. Studies suggest most drug users will look for privacy, secrecy and concealment for their drug use; however, data from partner organisations also suggests any issues that do occur within the public realm are strongly linked to the proximity of supply and that assisting the police in tackling drug dealing will be a crucial step in addressing this issue.

By recognising that some of our communities are affected disproportionately by drug activity in public spaces, the Community Safety Partnership has created a *Street Based Lifestyles & Complex Needs* priority group to coordinate work with partners, including South Wales Police, the South Wales Police & Crime Commissioner, Cardiff & Vale Area Planning Board and a number of key third sector organisations. A key priority will be to recognise the impact that substance misuse can have on both the individual and the community, which will lead to smarter and more sustainable actions and activity developed within this workstream.

For instance, work by the Council-led Multi-Disciplinary Team and rapid rehousing measures implemented during the Covid-19 pandemic have seen the number of rough sleepers and tents in the city reduced to single figures. Although there is a common misconception that all rough sleepers are involved in drugs, it is certainly true that a large number will have dependencies. In line with the *No Going Back* vision, by housing and involving this cohort in support services, each individual is given an opportunity to treat their habits and move away from a street based lifestyle via a multi-agency pathway.

As an example, nurse-led substance misuse services have revolutionised treatment with virtual GP assessments and the use of the new drug substitute, Buprenorphine. 60 residents are currently in consistent treatment via the rapid access to the *Prescribing Support Project*. This consistency is of particular note as many individuals will continue to face temptation, peer pressure or even exploitation within their established networks.

Cardiff Council, the Wallich and Salvation Army have also established a targeted outreach model. All parties now actively

encourage and empower people to move away from Street Based Lifestyles and promote a range of alternative choices to engaging in street-based activities. This is a key method in helping to promote positive and pro-community choices for this cohort.

There is a risk of Street Based Lifestyle related issues increasing as Covid-19 restrictions are eased; however, better emerging data from partner organisations presents an opportunity to build upon the excellent outreach work and mitigate the impact these lifestyles have upon communities. An intelligence and evidence based approach has therefore been established to inform the response to substance misuse in the city. This has proved highly informative for monitoring the overall trend in discarded needles, establishing hotspots for open drug activity, informing Outreach Teams and measuring the outcomes of tactical action.

As mentioned previously, most incidents associated with Street Based Lifestyles cannot be attributed solely to rough sleepers and many outdated views around homelessness persist. There is an opportunity to enhance partnership working by engaging with the community, as well as charities, volunteers and donors. This joined-up approach will further enhance efforts to identify and mitigate any reports of open substance misuse affecting public spaces in Cardiff, whilst taking account of the vulnerabilities and complex needs of this high-risk group.

Anyone concerned about an incident of drug crime or anti-social behaviour should contact the Police by phoning 101 or visit the Crimestoppers website (<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>) where information can be given anonymously.

Anyone specifically concerned about a vulnerable street based person can also alert the Council's Outreach Team by texting REALCHANGE to 80800.

INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
(COUNCILLOR RUSSELL GOODWAY)

W54	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>Rumours are circulating the Council is looking to dispose of prized assets, including City Hall and the Mansion House. Will the Cabinet Member set the record straight and provide assurances to the Council on the Council's plans and intentions for City Hall and the Mansion House?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will appreciate that I do not comment on rumours. If the Councillor has evidence to support these claims I would be happy to review it. In the meanwhile, the Councillor might like to refer to the November 2018 Cabinet report which set out the Administration's intentions for these buildings.</p>
W55	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES</u></p> <p>Iconic clocks in the City Centre are not working and have not been for some time. The Echo Centenary Clock in Queen Street stands permanently at 1 o'clock. The historic Monkey Clock, at one time in the Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay and now the main feature of street artwork in St Mary Street needs urgent attention. The Market clock above the High Street Market Entrance to Cardiff's iconic indoor market is not working. With the City Centre hopefully soon recovering from Covid 19 pandemic closure and tourism recommencing, will the Council commit the necessary funding to restore these historic, important landmark clocks to full working order?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will be pleased to learn that the Council is in the process of appointing Smiths of Derby to undertake a review of the main public clocks in the city centre in order that we can fully understand what is required to bring them back into use.</p> <p>The Echo Centenary Clock in Queen Street requires a new power connection which is currently being addressed as part of works to lighting columns in the city centre. The relocation of the historic Monkey clock is being explored, potentially into the grounds of</p>

	<p>Cardiff Castle. There are two clocks associated with Cardiff Market which are not currently working. The large clock fronting St Mary Street, close to the entrance to the market, is not owned by the Council. However, the Council is seeking permission for it to be included in the review. The neon clock above the entrance to the market is owned by the Council and will be included in the review. Once the costs associated with the repairs are fully understood, the Council will seek to identify funding to bring the clocks back into use.</p>
W56	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>At the start of February the UK Government's Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Beis) department outlined a new set of rules designed to supersede the EU's state aid regime, which will mean, they claim, that: "local authorities, public bodies and the devolved administrations in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast will be empowered to decide if they can issue subsidies by following a set of UK-wide principles". How would the Cabinet Member like to see this new supposed empowerment used in Cardiff and the wider region?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Administration is hopeful that any new state aid provision will enable the development of a new suite of initiatives that can focus on the development and attraction of knowledge based, tech, creative and green businesses.</p> <p>However, the Administration believes that it is important that this is not introduced as a means of steering businesses to locate in specific areas where grants are available and believes that funding should be applied in a manner that creates more competitive businesses. Funding should be directed in ways that will ensure the development of skills, knowledge and IP, investing in Research & Development and the things that will create the competitive and clever businesses that deliver more and better jobs. The Administration is committed to working with all levels of Government to ensure that people and places benefit in the long-term.</p>
W57	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>What money used, whether grants, direct help or loans have been given to CATs from the Council since transfers in the Heath Ward from 2015 to date?</p>

Reply

The Council used to operate a small fund to assist with Community Asset Transfers, but this was withdrawn in 2017 when the Council decided to move away from Community Asset Transfers as a disposal option.

A total of £25,000 has been allocated to CATs in the Heath Ward since 2015.

LEADER
(COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS)

W58

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD

Has Cardiff Council or its employees experienced any increased workload or costs as a result of new administrative requirements or changes due to the UK exit from the European Union and Single Market?

Reply

The UK's exit from the European Union and Single Market has generated specific work for the Council in response to its implications, such as:

- Ensuring business continuity and emergency planning arrangements are aligned with the potential implications.
- Creating a Brexit Issues Register, which is monitored and updated by officers on a regular basis.
- Promoting the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS), as well as providing advice and support to individuals applying.
- Identifying children looked after and vulnerable adults who need to apply to the EUSS (and supporting their application).
- Monitoring changes to legislation, including, for example, the new points-based immigration system that treats EU and non-EU citizens equally and upcoming changes to procurement regulations.
- Recent increases in EU couples who wish to marry – from 1 July 2021, the required documentation will change and the Council's Registration Service has been inundated with couples wanting to beat the deadline.

- Training of Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) officers as Certifying Officers for Export Health Certification (although there has not been an increase in demand for health certification for exportation).
- Policy development and research relating to EU Transition.

An internal working group, with officers represented from each Directorate, has been established to ensure that the Council has a robust ongoing strategy to address Brexit, its challenges and opportunities.

In terms of workload, whilst this has increased in some areas, there has so far been no new, unmet costs. This is because the Council has utilised already existing resources and has received resources from the Welsh Government to respond to the implications of EU Transition, in the form of an:

- EU Transition Grant, enabling the Council to appoint a EU Transition Coordinator (since July 2019);
- Increased Cohesion Grant;
- EUSS Grant, enabling the short-term appointment of a Senior Policy Officer responsible for the coordination of support services and information for EU nationals relating to the EUSS and future immigration rules. The voluntary sector has also been well resourced to assist the delivery of the EUSS.
- Export Health Certificate Grant, enabling 14 SRS officers to be trained as Certifying Officers.

In terms of the wider strategic implications for the Council, there are some concerns about delays that have been experienced in materials being delivered or available and costs appear to be rising in a number of areas, such as cement, timber, metal, biodegradable bags and polythene bags. This, in turn, has an impact on the delivery timescales and possible costs of programmes, schemes and services, particularly in areas of building and construction. At this time, it is difficult to ascertain if this is a result of Brexit or due to changes in demand related to the Covid-19 pandemic – a longer term analysis of trends over time is therefore required.

Moving forward, the Council will continue to closely monitor and react appropriately to any further practical implications that arise as a result of EU Transition. This includes closely monitoring the new Border Operating Model with the EU as it's fully implemented, particularly changes to imports, as well as wider economic impacts and potential long-term effects on the labour market.

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
(COUNCILLOR CARO WILD)

W59

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

During the pandemic, the School Crossing Patrol Officer at Pontprennau Primary School was withdrawn, citing a lack of social distancing. There has always been, and continues to be a need for the School Crossing Patrol Officer at our local primary school. At present, and without the School Crossing Patrol Officer, children's lives are at risk. Why are the Council refusing to reinstate our School Crossing Patrol Officer?

Reply

I am aware that officers have communicated extensively with you about this matter and I would re-iterate the comprehensive responses that they have already provided to you.

There has never been a permanent School Crossing Patrol on this site. A Mobile Crossing Patrol has previously been deployed, but only for the purposes of assessing the operation and safety of the crossing.

The School Crossing Patrol service operates under Road Safety GB guidelines and adheres to Cardiff Council's risk assessment processes, including Covid-19 risk assessments. Under Road Safety GB guidelines and officers' own assessments of the site, the zebra crossing at Pontprennau Primary School does not require a School Crossing Patrol. There are traffic calming measures in place at this site and an enforcement camera has also been installed in addition to the zebra crossing.

The School Crossing Patrol Service's Manager and a Mobile School Crossing Patrol have visited the site to monitor the situation there. They witnessed parents using the zebra crossing and found that the crossing site was operating as it should.

From the responses already provided to you by officers, you will also know that we are taking other actions to address pedestrian safety within the vicinity of the school. An enforcement camera has been installed to enforce parking on the zig-zag markings outside the school. A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for loading restrictions is also being prepared to tackle the parking issues around the junction of Heol Pontprennau and Kenmare Mews.

	<p>We are also working closely with the school's head teacher to help communicate key messages to parents about parking, the need for them to closely attend to small children and protocols for the correct use of zebra crossings. This includes clarifying that, under the Highway Code, drivers are under no obligation to stop for pedestrians waiting until they have set foot on the crossing.</p>
W60	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member advise the Council the total cost committed and incurred for the expansion and creation of cycle lanes in Cardiff and identify the source of the funding?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council's Transport White Paper commits to investing £10m of the Council's own capital budget up to 2022 to match grants from the Welsh Government to create a network of segregated cycleways across the city. This upfront commitment has already yielded results and has enabled us to secure and match-fund grant monies from the Welsh Government's Local Sustainable Transport Covid Response Fund to accelerate the construction of key cycleways as part our transport response to the Covid-19 pandemic. It has also helped us to lever in over £10m from the Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund and Safe Routes in Communities Fund for active travel projects being delivered in 2021/22.</p>
W61	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES</u></p> <p>The Council has erected an on street camera near Pontprennau Primary School to assist in the enforcement of road safety measures. Is this camera routinely monitored so that parking enforcement vehicles can be effectively deployed when vehicles are parking on double yellow lines endangering the lives of children attending the local primary school?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The static camera that has been installed across from Pontprennau Primary School is an enforcement camera. It can enforce parking on school 'Keep Clear' markings, zebra crossing zig-zag lines and where there are loading/unloading restrictions with double or single yellow lines in place and appropriate signage (there is an exemption to board and alight from a vehicle on loading restrictions).</p>

Enforcement by the static camera of the school's 'Keep Clear' markings and the zebra crossing zig-zag lines has been in place for some time, with almost all vehicles abiding by these rules.

On 16th June 2021, the camera was able to enforce all other parking violations listed above. 75 fines were issued during the first three days of operation. The camera is being continually monitored and the school is being provided with a weekly update on the number of vehicles caught each day until the end of the summer term.

From our experience of enforcement at other schools, we would expect that once people become aware that enforcement is taking place, the number of vehicles in violation of these restrictions will reduce significantly, which will help improve the safety of the pupils attending the school.

W62

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DIANNE REES

How many parking tickets have been issued in Pontprennau in the last four years?

Reply

The Civil Enforcement team undertakes regular patrols around the Pontprennau area; however, as there aren't many parking restrictions to enforce, the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued does not reflect the amount of visits and observations that the officers undertake within the area.

Please see below details of the number of PCNs issued, the number of visits/patrols of the area and the number of vehicles where observations were taken:

Year	No. of PCNs Issued	No. of Visits/Patrols	No. of Observations
2021	14	108	20
2020	49	109	85
2019	61	177	107
2018	47	155	76
2017	131	305	377

	<p>The difference between the number of PCNs issued and the number of observations relates to vehicles that were moved on before a PCN could be issued.</p>
W63	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>In many locations throughout Cyncoed and Lakeside the roots of trees planted at the roadside have caused the pavements to become uneven often making it difficult or impossible for residents in wheelchairs and with other mobility difficulties to use the pavements safely. In some locations remedial work is being done to make the pavements passable and safer without damaging the trees. Can the cabinet member provide information about the criteria used to determine which locations are a priority for this attention and whether there is a planned schedule of remedial work?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Pavement defects arising from tree root damage are, in general, identified during routine highway safety inspections. The highway Safety Inspector will use a risk-based approach when assessing damage and consider the likelihood and impact of any potential accident or injury. The outcome of this risk assessment determines the response time for repair, which can vary from the next working day to three months. The results of the inspection form the schedule of remedial works, which are prioritised based on the response time.</p>
W64	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CUNNAH</u></p> <p>This Council has made lots of good progress recently in introducing many miles of Pop-up Cycleways, in a very short space of time. However some residents report features that they feel are inconvenient or unsafe. How does the Cabinet Member intend to keep monitoring and making further improvements to these Cycleways?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Every cycleway scheme is subject to a Road Safety Audit. This process covers each stage of the scheme design and after its opening for use. It enables potential hazards to be identified and then addressed through modifications being made to the scheme design on plan or on site.</p>

The team has received feedback from some users about the design aspects of some of the pop-up cycleway routes. In response, the design team has carried out an investigation of the sections of route where the problems have been highlighted. As a result, we have made making several improvements to the scheme, including:

- Minor design changes, such as lane allocation changes and junction modifications;
- Design changes as a result of consultation and monitoring with bus operators – they include changing the side of the road the cycleway is on, tweaks to bus stop areas to give more room and reintroducing bus lanes on Dumfries Place;
- Extra signage at junctions to remind cyclists to use their own lights;
- Extra lining on the ground to reinforce aspects such as priority and lane allocation; and
- Changes to bus stops to include new road markings, extra signage and red paint on the ground to warn both cyclists and bus users that they will be mixing in this area.

The team is continuing to monitor the safety of the routes through site inspections and monitoring of user feedback via emails and social media accounts.

W65

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

Residents have faced ongoing issues with problem parking around Herbert Street, Cross Place, and Parkfield Place with ambulances, carers, and waste collection teams unable to access the road. Despite this, yellow lines and other measures have been ruled out. Would the cabinet member meet with ward members and residents to review parking regulation arrangements for the area?

Reply

I am advised that officers have previously investigated this issue and have committed to monitoring the situation. As you will appreciate, the current situation with parking in residential areas is not typical due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions. In due course, when a more normal situation is in place, officers will re-visit the issue and consider if additional parking restrictions are appropriate. I am, of course, more than happy to meet with ward members on this issue at the appropriate time. In the meantime, I would advise that issues regarding obstruction of the highway should be dealt with by the police.

W66	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>Has any impact assessment been carried out to understand the impact of proposed closure of Crown Way to through traffic on the Gabalfa area?</p> <p>If not, when will this be done?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Proposals are currently being developed for the new Cathays High School. There is no firm proposal to close Crown Way, although it was referenced as a potential option in the recent consultation on the expansion and redevelopment of Cathays High School, which took place between January and March 2021.</p> <p>Options for the configuration of the new school site and access arrangements are still under consideration. Should the closure of Crown Way be deemed necessary to facilitate the new school development, this would be subject to a full assessment of the impacts of this on the local highway network as part of the Transport Assessment process.</p>
W67	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>Whitchurch Road is a key route into the city and is in a very poor state, with potholes and damaged road surface running from the interchange to the junction with Allensbank Road. Can the cabinet member confirm when the road will be resurfaced and what works would be deemed appropriate for such a route?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Extensive permanent patching works have been carried out along the length of Whitchurch Road from Gabalfa Interchange to the junction with Allensbank Road. The works were carried out at night between 9th and 11th June 2021. The area treated was approximately 600 square metres. The existing road surface is a Hot Rolled Asphalt construction and, overall, is considered to be in good condition. The main issues related to failed utility trenches and uneven manhole covers, which resulted in a very poor ride quality along the road. The ride quality of the road has improved significantly due to the aforementioned works having recently been completed.</p>

W68	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>What COVID compliant face to face activities are planned to engage communities in the LDP consultation and its implications for the city?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic and related Welsh Government restrictions and health & safety advice, we are restricted in terms of what type of consultation activities can currently be undertaken and, for this reason, face-to-face LDP meetings are not being planned as part of the current consultation.</p> <p>However, in order to adapt to these restrictions and to encourage active participation in the preparation of the plan, the Council has invested in the use of user-friendly online consultation methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of virtual consultation room technology with display panels, a short film to explain the process and an online survey; • A new bespoke user-friendly website; • Extensive and targeted use of social media to explain the process and publicise these consultation methods; and • The use of existing networks to engage virtually with those who do not usually take part in LDP consultation, such as young people. <p>In addition to this, the LDP team is available to answer any queries. This approach was generally accepted by stakeholders and respondents in the consultation that took place earlier in the year on the LDP Delivery Agreement. Clearly, going forward with LDP preparation, we will revisit this approach as part of the wider recovery measures and relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions in Wales and, hopefully, will be able to hold public meetings as part of future consultation and engagement processes.</p>
W69	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>Is there an upper limit on how much car parking should be provided in traffic calmed areas and if not then how does this meet the objective of calming traffic in a particular area?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The provision of parking does not relate to the speed limit in place or the existence of traffic calming measures; however, the Council will seek to control parking where this causes a safety issue on the highway.</p>
W70	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>Are there plans for the council to work with relevant public transport providers to get people back on board and attract new patronage as well?</p> <p>If not, why not?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Working groups have been established in partnership with the Welsh Government, Transport for Wales, local authorities and bus operators on the Bus Emergency Scheme (BES) being funded by the Welsh Government. The BES2 Agreement has been formulated to be in place until 31st July 2022, and it will continue to address the loss of farebox revenue and the additional costs associated with responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. It will also seek to provide a platform for improving the bus network and encouraging people back onto public transport during the recovery period.</p>
W71	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Does the council have any plans to increase 'greenery' through tree and wildflower planting along the main travel corridors into the city (for example North Road) which would likely help improve biodiversity and contribute to a positive perception of the city by visitors?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>All areas within the city are being considered for the type of improvements you have described as part of the Coed Caerdydd canopy project. Local Members will be invited to put forward suggested sites for 'greening' as part of the project and these will be scoped for potential for tree planting and biodiversity improvement before being included within the funded 2021/22 and 2022/23 planting programmes.</p>

	<p>In addition, improved amenity and biodiversity are two of the standards that would be required through the introduction of sustainable drainage features, such as rain gardens, in large highway improvement schemes. These can be seen in the Greener Grangetown project area and also in the new highway developments on Wood Street and Tudor Street.</p>
W72	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Residents of Africa Gardens and the adjoining roads have had trouble parking for many years despite holding permits. This is believed to be, in part, due to the impact of commuter parking. Could the council provide an update on when possible measures to help alleviate these problems, such as increasing permit parking from 50% to 75% of these streets, will be considered?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>There are parking pressures in many wards in Cardiff relating to both commuter parking and demand by local residents. This has become marked during the Covid-19 pandemic due to many people working from home and the lack of a 'normal' pattern of commuting, which means that undertaking surveys is currently not an option.</p> <p>The Council is currently in the process of preparing the statutory public consultation stages for Active Travel measures, which include Cathays Terrace and Allensbank Road. This includes parking measures in the area of Gabalfa north of Whitchurch Road. Following this consultation and any decision emerging from it, the Council will undertake to monitor the impacts and part of this will include undertaking parking surveys. Where appropriate, adjusting the parking scheme in the areas to the south of Whitchurch Road will be considered. Any proposals would mean changes to Traffic Regulation Orders and these would be subject to public consultation.</p>
W73	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>What involvement has Cardiff Council had in plans for the new Gabalfa Metro Station?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Welsh Government has secured land in Gabalfa that could potentially be used to provide a new Metro station. Council officers have met with Welsh Government officials in support of the aspiration in the Transport White Paper for a new Metro station at Gabalfa. There have also been technical discussions regarding rights of access over council owned land.</p>
W74	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR NAUGHTON</u></p> <p>Would the council consider extending 20 miles per hour zones to all schools?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council's Transport White Paper includes a commitment to make 20mph the default speed limit for all parts of the city. All residential streets south of the A48 will have 20mph limits by the end of the current financial year.</p> <p>The Council is currently implementing a project to introduce area-wide 20mph limits in the wards of Heath, Llandaff North, Rhiwbina and Whitchurch & Tongwynlais. The project forms part of a national pilot funded by Welsh Government, which is intended to pave the way for planned legislation to make 20mph the default speed limit for all built up areas in Wales by 2023. The introduction of the new default 20mph limit will result in all schools within Cardiff falling within 20mph limits.</p>
W75	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CARTER</u></p> <p>How many 20 mile per hour zones have been introduced since 2020 and where are they?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>A limit area is a speed limit that is installed using only repeater signs and road markings. A zone has signage gateways at the start and end of the area that advise motorists of the speed limit, and include physical traffic calming measures to ensure speeds are reduced. They do not have repeater signage in place.</p>

I can advise that no 20mph zones have been introduced in Cardiff since 2020; however, a number of 20mph limit areas have been, or are in the process of being, installed, including in Pentwyn and areas of Canton, Llandaff, Butetown and Splott. In addition, some 20mph limits have been applied in specific streets in district and local shopping centres across the city to support Covid-19 recovery measures.

The Council is committed to expanding 20mph limits to all residential areas in the city. The Welsh Government plans to legislate to make 20mph the default speed limit in all residential areas in Wales, and Cardiff Council is currently engaged with the Welsh Government on a pilot scheme to develop the technical processes. This project is underway in Central North Cardiff and is due for implementation this year (subject to consultation). This includes the wards of Llandaff North, Whitchurch & Tongwynlais, Rhiwbina and Heath.

The timescale for extending 20mph limits to all residential areas of Cardiff will now be dependent upon the timetable for the new legislation set by the Welsh Government. This is likely to be in 2023. Cardiff Council will not be processing any new 20mph speed limits until this legislation comes into force.

W76

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR JONES-PRITCHARD

On a recent, very enjoyable, cycle ride down the Taff Trail, through the city and around the Bay, I considered walking around the centre and Googled where I could park the bike. Apart from a link to a map of walking and cycling routes in the city, showing street stands, there was no information on any secure parking. Given the existing, and planned, increased use of active travel, what measures are being taken to provide covered, secure parking for those coming into the city by bike?

Are there discussions with the major car parks in St David's or John Lewis for bike parking areas or perhaps the use of a vacant street level shop unit?

If there are, what is the outcome and if not, what are plans are there to provide secure undercover parking for cyclists? Given the value of many modern bikes and ebikes, I'm sure owners would be prepared to pay, as they would for their car.

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>We recognise the need for fully secure cycle parking in the city centre and recently invited expressions of interest from potential operators for the provision of an indoor cycle parking hub in the city centre area. Following this, we are in discussion with an operator of a potential scheme and are investigating sources of funding to support its development, which could serve as a pilot for other similar schemes in the future. The Council has also significantly increased the amount of standard cycle parking spaces in the city centre over the last few years.</p>
W77	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>Could impact assessment done including equality of access, number of cyclists using cycle lane, impact on businesses, impact on air quality and impact in terms of reducing motorists on and around Wellfield Road be shared?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The temporary scheme on Wellfield Road has been developed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to create space for social distancing to enable people to safely access local centres and other amenities. The current layout evolved from the initial temporary re-allocation of parking/highway space and has been informed through the engagement which has taken place with local businesses, residents and other stakeholders.</p> <p>An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on the proposal and I would be happy to provide you with a copy of this. Traffic surveys were also carried out prior to the implementation of the one-way system. These surveys will be repeated shortly to assess the changes that the proposals have had on cycle and vehicle movements in the area. We engaged with local businesses during the development and delivery of the changes. We shall be engaging further with them and the local community as we develop the permanent proposal for Wellfield Road.</p>
W78	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>When will we be seeing improvement in public transport and a transport infrastructure planning which promotes sustainability and accessibility and doesn't leave the less able bodied people behind?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council is working closely with Welsh Government, Transport for Wales and our regional partners on a range of public transport and Active Travel measures, which have sustainability and accessibility at their heart. The WelTAG process by which these schemes are assessed requires these matters to be taken into account when schemes are designed. Many bus stops have been upgraded to improve accessibility. Additional grant funding has also been secured to provide further improvements.</p>
W79	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>Buses to Cyncoed are partly none existent, but where there is a service it stops at 8pm. How do you expect people in Cyncoed (where over 60% are pensioners) to choose to travel without their cars and contribute to the favourable local shopping streets i.e. Wellfield Road and Albany Road if public transport does not support this shift?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Bus services are generally tailored to reflect the demand for such services. In Cyncoed, bus usage has historically been very low compared to other areas of the city and the bus services have always required financial support from the Council. However, funding to support uneconomic levels of service provision is limited and this has only been exacerbated by the current pandemic.</p> <p>The Council is currently working on a bus strategy for the city, and it is possible that new ways of supporting services in areas of low demand may enable service levels in Cyncoed to be improved. I also expect that new housing developments in the North East of Cardiff will provide additional demand for bus services, as well as potential financial contributions from developers to support the provision of bus services that could be routed via Cyncoed.</p>
W80	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN</u></p> <p>How many planning officers did we employ in 1999 compared to the 11th June 2021?</p>

Reply

In 1999, the Planning Service included teams such as Sustainable Development and Neighbourhood Regeneration, which are now larger teams working with, but outside, the operational management of the Planning Service. There are also a number of qualified and Chartered Town Planners working for the Council, but based outside of the Planning Service, including Directors and Operational Managers, so it is not possible to make a direct comparison in terms of staffing numbers between 1999 and 2021.

As of 11th June 2011, there were 44 Planners/Planning Officers employed by the Council's Planning Service. Currently, the Planning Service establishment contains c.75 posts, which includes other specialisms beyond Planning, such as Building Control, Conservation, Trees and Ecology, as well as a business and technical support posts across teams. There are also a number of current vacant posts, as well as part-time staff and job sharers.

W81

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN

You will be aware of some recent coverage in the South Wales Echo of the long-standing campaign by residents of Fair Oak Court in Penylan to persuade the council to install a sound barrier fence between their flat complex and the adjacent A48/Eastern Avenue to reduce the impact of traffic noise. As the council has repeatedly refused to provide such a fence, will you now initiate discussions with the freeholders of the flat complex, as well as with residents and local councillors, to explore options as to how such a sound barrier fence might be procured?

Reply

Officers have previously investigated and responded to residents' concerns, and residents have also been made aware that the Council is unable to justify the erection of a noise fence. At this time, the situation has not changed.

The legal position regarding the generation of noise from an existing highway and the provision of noise reduction measures under either the Land Compensation Act or the Noise Insulation Regulations is also unchanged.

	<p>The Council has assessed that this site does not meet the necessary criteria and has consistently advised that it is unable to consider making an exception at this location. The decision to install, finance and procure a noise reduction fence remains the responsibility of the freeholders of the flat complex.</p>
W82	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>The plans for the Waungron Road bus interchange have been revised. It is said that all children should have a say when it comes to decisions made by the council. As the local schoolchildren would be using the Waungron Road bus interchange, can you list what schools were informed of the proposals as part of the consultation?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The proposed interchange at Waungron Road originally achieved a planning approval in November 2016. Although small changes to the layout of the interchange are now being proposed as part of the current planning application for the overall development, to better integrate the interchange with the residential building, the changes remain minor.</p> <p>Whilst no schools were independently contacted regarding the scheme as they are not statutory consultees though the planning process, a full pre-application public consultation has taken place. This was focused on understanding the views of the local community, and engagement with a wide range of community stakeholders and residents has helped to shape the final set of plans submitted.</p> <p>Furthermore, all internal consultees within the Council have been engaged during the design, pre-application and planning process, including the Education Service. Indeed, collaboration is ongoing between Housing and Education regarding Waungron Road and the proposed new secondary school for the area to ensure that the projects are aligned.</p> <p>As part of the delivery of the project, a range of community engagement schemes are expected to be implemented, including public artwork projects for the interchange element of the project. This will, of course, include engagement with local people, local children and local schools.</p>

W83	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>What private bus companies and school transport bus companies been consulted as part of the Waungron Road bus interchange?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Operators of services using Waungron Road and Western Avenue for public services were consulted when the scheme was proposed.</p> <p>School bus service operators were not consulted per se, as operators change frequently and routes are varied to reflect the locations of students.</p>
W84	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>Can you list what bus routes will be entering and leaving the proposed new bus interchange on Waungron Road?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Bus services 1, 2, 15, 32A, 61 and 320 currently operate within the vicinity – the current routes that are likely benefit from the new interchange, along with the opportunity to change journeys from and to the train station. New routes are expected to come on stream as housing developments to the North West of the city are built out. Substantial amounts of funding have been allocated to support new bus services and subsidy. These are based on triggers and thresholds linked to the number of people living in the new housing developments.</p>