

COUNCIL, 22 JULY 2021 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE **(COUNCILLOR KEITH JONES)**

W1	<p data-bbox="277 349 1434 389"><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p data-bbox="277 439 1434 521">Are there any restrictions on how many telecoms masts can be erected on green space within a specific area?</p> <p data-bbox="277 566 384 607"><u>Reply</u></p> <p data-bbox="277 651 1434 902">Telecommunications operators do not have to apply for ‘planning permission’ in the normal manner, as you would expect to see for other forms of development. There is a permitted right, provided by the Welsh Government, for them to undertake works associated with the telecommunications network/infrastructure subject to certain limitations.</p> <p data-bbox="277 947 1434 1290">With regard to 5G masts, the erection of the apparatus is ‘permitted development’ not requiring planning permission from the Council as the Local Planning Authority. The Welsh Government recognises the importance of access to affordable, secure telecommunications infrastructure by the citizens of Wales and supports the 5G rollout, with the ‘permitted development rights’ being reviewed in 2017 and amended subsequently to provide greater flexibility, including allowing for taller masts, to provide for the emerging technology.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1335 1434 1715">To enjoy the permitted right to erect a mast at a new location, the operator must apply to the Council as to whether ‘Prior Approval’ is required as to the siting and design of the structure. At an existing cell site, ‘permitted development’ can extend to the replacement of a mast and equipment cabinets and is not subject to the need for ‘Prior Approval’ of the Local Planning Authority to be sought, with only notification being required. Such a situation could occur where there is an upgrade to existing infrastructure, which could include a replacement mast.</p>
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CLEAN STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT
(COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MICHAEL)

W2	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR OWEN</u></p> <p>Some time ago, the Council introduced a trial separate blue bin collection to recycle glass separately in parts of Rhiwbina and across other areas of Cardiff. Can you please update us on whether this scheme will recommence, and if so, when?</p> <p>Also, can you please indicate whether the scheme will be introduced to all parts of Cardiff?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The successful glass trial was concluded last year, with the following key outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99.4% of respondents from the mid-trial survey were taking part in the scheme. • 50.3% of respondents from the mid-trial survey thought the caddy was too small, compared with 5.2% who thought it was too large. • 95.5% said the information was easy to understand. • 85.8% had all the information they needed to take part. • Those needing more information would typically look for it on the Council's website. • 77.4% of respondents taking part in the pilot survey agreed that the scheme should be expanded across the city. <p>This information has informed improvements made by the service area to both the caddy and the information provided to residents.</p> <p>The development of a new collection model for recycling is currently taking place to support improving recycling performance and ensure that collections are effective and efficient. This includes the city-wide collection of glass separately. A pilot of the new model will need to take place prior it being rolled out city-wide to ensure that the business case for the model is robust and concerns relating to the changes are addressed prior to wider implementation.</p>
W3	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR OWEN</u></p> <p>How much has the Council spent so far on acquiring the blue collection bins for glass recycling and how much would it cost if the scheme were rolled-out across Cardiff?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>£495,268.02 has been spent on blue collection bins for glass recycling (excluding bins purchased for trial). This was grant funded by the Welsh Government through the Circular Economy Fund.</p> <p>As I confirmed in my previous answer, the development of a new collection model for recycling is currently taking place to support improved recycling performance and ensure that collections are effective and efficient. This includes the city-wide collection of glass separately. Therefore, the cost of the scheme roll-out across Cardiff is still to be confirmed.</p>
W4	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>Are shared regulatory services still inspecting venues in respect of breaches of Covid-19 regulations, and if so can details be provided covering the period of time since lockdown started easing in March?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I can confirm that officers from Shared Regulatory Services continue to inspect business premises as part of their Covid compliance work on both a reactive and proactive basis.</p> <p>Cumulatively, since lockdown started in 2020, there have been over 2,000 inspection visits where there has been engagement with businesses, across a wide range of sectors. As a result of inspections, guidance has been provided in relation to social distancing or other measures that have been put in place to manage the risk of transmission of the virus. Where required, formal action has also been taken.</p> <p>In addition to these visits, a significantly larger number of general observation checks have been carried out on businesses across the city to check if they are closed or complying with mitigation measures.</p> <p>Since March 2021, there have been 318 recorded interactions with businesses as a result of an inspection visit. This is in addition to any visits to specific sectors, such as care homes and more general Covid compliance work surrounding checks on cases and contacts to ensure isolation and compliance with returning traveller protocols.</p>

	<p>SRS officers have worked very closely with colleagues from South Wales Police as part of the Joint Enforcement Team (JET) throughout and will continue to do so whilst legislation to protect the public from the risk of transmission of the virus remains in place.</p>
W5	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>Many residents near student residences, such as Talybont in Gabalfa, have been impacted by significant noise at night and other challenges over the past year, exacerbated by COVID-19 restrictions. What engagement, if any, does the council have with the University on these types of issues?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council has worked closely with Cardiff University and Cardiff Metropolitan University in relation to students living either within halls of residence or the wider community. The Council's Student Liaison Officer is also taking a lead in engagement with the city's universities and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>With regard to involvement with noise complaints, officers from Shared Regulatory Services have been working with South Wales Police and the universities to investigate anti-social behaviour at student halls of residence in the city. SRS officers from the Pollution Control team have also attended disciplinary meetings onsite at student campuses, together with South Wales Police, in response to issues regarding breaches of Coronavirus legislation and also noise due to parties. This work has been carried out through the Joint Enforcement Team (JET) that has been formed with South Wales Police to help reduce the spread of Covid-19.</p> <p>Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the management of the student halls of residence to lead on mitigating noise issues within the complex and they have powers to deal with such issues under their tenancy contracts. However, SRS can investigate further if there are ongoing issues with individual tenants and SRS officers have been in contact with residency managers and liaising with residents who have complained. It is hoped that the opening up of hospitality venues in the wider economy going forward will reduce the frequency of anti-social behaviour at the student residences. As a Council, we will continue to engage with the city's universities and South Wales Police in order to manage any issues that arise.</p>

W6	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE</u></p> <p>Could we have an update on the blue bin glass collection trial?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I would refer you to the answer provided in reply to the earlier Written Question (W2) from Councillor Owen.</p>
W7	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE</u></p> <p>Denstone Court has suffered from multiple missed waste collections over recent years. Why?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Denstone Court has a bin store located within the property behind security gates. Therefore, crews have to access the area on foot to collect the bins and return them to the bin store. To limit missed collections, it is preferable that each property is given an individual bin that they present at the edge of the adopted highway. The Council will arrange to communicate the changes to residents in the coming weeks in order to address any ongoing concerns.</p>
W8	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Given the repeated missed waste collections experienced by many residents since February, particularly garden waste, will the cabinet member issue an apology to the residents of Cardiff as the accountable elected representative for the failure to ensure the provision of a reliable waste collection service?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Yes, I want to extend my apologies again to all those residents who have suffered a missed collection, but it's also important for me to put the extremely low numbers of missed collections in the context of the overall position in Cardiff, where we have completed 99.9% of all collections. Where missed collections have occurred, these have predominantly been collected within 24 or 48 hours. This figure shows that there has been no systemic failure of the waste collection service, but inevitably there have been some teething problems as we transitioned to the new collection model.</p>

	<p>It is also important to recognise that the Council has delivered frontline services throughout the pandemic. It has been widely publicised that a number of Local Authorities have suspended waste collection services, such as garden waste, but, here in Cardiff, we have continued to collect all waste streams, albeit not always on the schedule day.</p> <p>One of the main reasons for waste collections issues experienced by Local Authorities across the UK relates to a shortage of Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) drivers required to drive refuse vehicles. The 4-day collections model in Cardiff has actually reduced the number of drivers required to deliver the service and has provided better resilience to the pressures seen elsewhere with regard to the supply of HGV drivers.</p>
W9	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Is there any requirement on waste collection teams to pro-actively identify and report loose waste or fly-tipping on their rounds, and for this to be followed up and dealt with?</p> <p>If not, why not?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The collections team works proactively to place 'pink stickers' on contaminated recycling and this is reported to enforcement officers for them to address.</p> <p>The new cleansing services model will support collections and the work of environmental enforcement officers by actively reporting any concerns relating to fly-tipping and the incorrect presentation of waste and recycling for collection. Street Scene officers will undertake this work as they clean and clear concerns, sending evidence/images to allow environmental enforcement officers to address any concerns.</p> <p>This new approach will support frontline officers in managing concerns at the point of contact and environmental enforcement officers in managing any education or enforcement process.</p>

W10	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Please can you provide a list of sites the council has investigated or considered since May 2017, and subsequently rejected, for the development of the promised replacement Household Waste Recycling Centre for the north of Cardiff?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As I have confirmed in reply to previous Written Questions, a baseline review of 8 sites was undertaken in 2018/19, but none were identified as suitable at the time of the review. Details of the sites considered previously remain confidential. We are therefore still exploring site options, as they become available, in order to identify a suitable site. In the last 24 months, no suitable site has been identified for further review.</p>
W11	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Do you consider it acceptable that C2C should feel the need to advise a resident who is registered for an assisted lift but has not had her waste collected for a few weeks that she should contact a local councillor because they have been unable to resolve the matter for her themselves – and, if not, what steps will you take to ensure such complaints can receive more responsive action in future when passed on by C2C to the council’s waste management service?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>C2C aims to resolve customer requests/queries at the first point of contact, providing information, reporting issues to service areas to action and chasing reports when needed.</p> <p>If action is not taken and customers wish to make a complaint, C2C will reference the Council’s complaint policy and ways in which a complaint can be made. C2C will also advise customers that they can raise failure of service/concerns with local councillors who can act on their behalf. This ensures the customer is fully aware of their options to escalate any matters.</p> <p>I am sorry that the resident in question has experienced problems with having her waste collected, but if you send me the details of this specific case, then I will ensure that this matter is addressed by managers.</p>

W12	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>What action can the council take to deal with problems of repeated dumping and incorrect disposal of waste in the lane behind the Clarendon Road shops in Penylan, which often leaves the lane in a deeply unsanitary state?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council will remove any reported fly-tipped waste within 5 working days. As part of the removal process, the Council will review the contents of the fly-tipped waste in an attempt to find out where it has come from.</p> <p>In 2020/21, 6,896 reported incidents of fly-tipping were recorded and 99.38% of these were cleared within 5 working days. These figures show a marked improvement from 2011/12 when you were Leader of the Council, when there were 11,185 reported incidents of fly-tipping, with only 88.69% being cleared within 5 working days.</p>												
W13	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN</u></p> <p>How many sites have officers identified as possible replacement sites for the Wedal Road Household Waste Site since 2017 and where are they?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I would refer you to the answer provided in reply to the earlier Written Question (W10) from Councillor Berman.</p>												
W14	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN</u></p> <p>What is the cost of an hour's overtime in the waste management department (with a grade breakdown)?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <table><tr><th>Grades</th><th>Spinal Column Point</th><th>Hourly Rate Overtime</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>£13.95</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>£14.15</td></tr><tr><td>2/3</td><td>3</td><td>£14.43</td></tr></table>	Grades	Spinal Column Point	Hourly Rate Overtime	1	1	£13.95	2	2	£14.15	2/3	3	£14.43
Grades	Spinal Column Point	Hourly Rate Overtime											
1	1	£13.95											
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2/3	3	£14.43											

3	4	£14.72
3	5	£15.02
3/4	6	£15.32
4	7	£15.62
4	8	£15.93
4	9	£16.25
4/5	11	£16.91
5	12	£17.25
5	14	£17.95
5	15	£18.30
5	17	£19.04
5/6	19	£19.81
6	20	£20.21
6	22	£21.03
6	23	£21.57
6	24	£22.29
6/7	25	£23.00
7	26	£23.68
7	27	£24.37
7	28	£25.06
7	29	£25.59
7/8	30	£26.27
8	31	£27.00
8	32	£27.79
8	33	£28.71
8/9	34	£29.46
9	35	£30.24
9	36	£31.01
9/10	37	£31.78
10	38	£32.56
10	39	£33.29
10	40	£34.10

CULTURE AND LEISURE
(COUNCILLOR PETER BRADBURY)

W15	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR OWEN</u></p> <p>Residents of Rhiwbina have been waiting years for the children's play facilities in Caedelyn Park to be replaced and it would be sad to see another summer pass without such facilities being available. We are grateful that work is now underway to replace them, but there have been numerous delays to the work. Can you please give us a firm completion date for these play facilities so we can advise residents when their children will be able to enjoy them?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The new play facility at Caedelyn Park is nearing completion. All equipment and safety surfacing has been installed, with only the application of a sand overlay to finish the scheme remaining.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the silica grade sand required to meet safety standards, which anchors the safety surfacing and prevents it from buckling under heat or from use, particularly around fixed equipment, is currently unavailable due to supplies not coming in from Russia to our contractor on time. There is no alternative product that can be utilised.</p> <p>This is a UK-wide issue in terms of both a shortage of supply of this product and transportation constraints due to a significant shortage of HGV drivers that can be attributed to a combination of Covid-19 and Brexit, which has been widely reported in the media in recent weeks. In a recent letter to the Prime Minister about the current crisis, the Road Haulage Association estimated that there is a shortage of over 100,000 drivers in the UK, compared to around 600,000 prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, which included 60,000 drivers from EU member states who were living and working in the UK.</p> <p>As a result, I am not able to provide a precise timeframe for completion; however, our contractor is exploring all opportunities for the supply of this product and I anticipate completion by mid-August 2021. Officers will continue to keep local ward members updated.</p>
W16	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>What action can the council take to address issues with antisocial behaviour in Maitland Park?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The actions that the Council can take will be very much dependant on the nature of the anti-social behaviour taking place at Maitland Park. I would encourage ward members and local residents to ring 101 to report any incidents and also to contact the Parks Service by email (parks@cardiff.gov.uk) detailing the concerns so that the appropriate course of action can then be determined.</p>
W17	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>When will the concerns around quality of lake water and the silt issues be addressed for Roath park lake?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>You will recall that I have responded to your questions concerning water quality on numerous occasions.</p> <p>The accumulation of silt is a natural occurrence as the Nant Fawr stream enters the lake. Notwithstanding silt deposits, the water quality of the lake is good, as evidenced by the health of natural growing pondweed, vegetation and fish stocks. Boating on the lake has also resumed.</p> <p>As you will be aware, there is an allocation within the current Capital Programme for works to Roath Park Dam and consideration will be given to a de-silting exercise as part of the scheme. All ward members will be updated on progress at the appropriate juncture.</p>
W18	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>What is happening in Heath Park regarding the facility of a toilet, which is not only an essential but additional asset to the park?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Heath Park had not previously benefitted from a public convenience until the introduction of the Golf and Tennis Kiosk currently under the management of Parkwood Leisure. This facility enabled access to its toilet facilities during operating hours; however, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, it has not been viable for the facility to reopen.</p>

	<p>Officers within my portfolio area are currently working in conjunction with colleagues from the Strategic Estates team to explore alternative options for a more permanent solution, such as a café concession, which will enable this facility to be reopened as soon as possible. Temporary options are also being considered and local ward members will be kept abreast of developments.</p>
W19	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>Why has the cricket wicket and pitch disappeared from Heath Park and will it be reinstalled?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As you will be aware, I have been in correspondence with all local ward members on this matter, who have also raised this with me.</p> <p>The Council's strategy for cricket provision was developed and implemented over 10 years ago, with a move to the centralisation of facilities and resources to Pontcanna Fields, Blackweir and Llandaff Fields for league and club cricket. As a result, we now have improved playing surfaces for competitive and recreational cricket at these venues.</p> <p>Since relocating to centralised venues, there has been very limited demand for cricket facilities in Heath Park or elsewhere in the city. We have an excellent Schools Coaching Programme in partnership with Cricket Wales and are signposting children to join their local cricket club. This has proven successful in sustaining club infrastructure and participation for the long term.</p> <p>The artificial cricket wicket in Heath Park remains in situ and has not disappeared; however, it is in a poor condition due to vandalism and is unsuitable for recreational use. Owing to the wicket not being in use, the former outfield has now been incorporated into a one-mow area to promote biodiversity and local ward members were consulted on this last year.</p> <p>There are no current plans or budget allocations for the replacement of the artificial wicket; however, I would be more than happy to meet with local ward members and officers to understand what potential demand may exist and how this can be supported.</p>

W20	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>Why is the Dreams & Wishes stone surrounded by a 'no mow' area which could be difficult to see and access, and why have the seats not been replaced?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As you will be aware, last year, the Dreams & Wishes charity notified the Council of its desire to relocate the stone and seats owing to vandalism. In view of this, there are no plans to replace the seats in the original location and I understand that a meeting with all local ward members took place yesterday (21 July 2021) to consult on proposals for an alternative location within Heath Park.</p>
W21	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Further to the petition I previously submitted, what proposals does the council currently have, or is currently considering, for improving the footpaths around Roath Park Recreation Ground which regularly flood?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Officers from Parks and Highways are finalising investment proposals for the perimeter footpaths and wider infrastructure improvements and I anticipate that local ward members will be consulted next month.</p>

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS
(COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

W22

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

What plans does the Council have to urgently improve access to the secondary school provision in the North of Cardiff, especially to young people and their families in Pontprennau?

Reply

Coordinated arrangements for admission to secondary education were introduced in 2018. Since they were put in place, no child within catchment, applying on time, has been refused admission to Llanishen High School.

The Council has over recent years had sufficient places to admit all children from North Cardiff who may apply. There are sufficient English-medium secondary school places to meet the needs of the Pontprennau community, which is currently served by Llanishen High School (with other families also choosing to take up the Catholic and Church in Wales provision offered at Corpus Christi and St Teilo's respectively).

Taking the most recent allocations for entry in September 2021, after Looked After Children in Education, statement and catchment applicants, Llanishen High School will admit a further 33 from out of catchment this year. This means that every child in Pontprennau who wanted a place at their catchment school was offered a place. All children in North Cardiff applying for a place at their catchment area Welsh-medium secondary school, be that Ysgol Bro Edern, Ysgol Glantaf or Ysgol Plasmawr, were also admitted.

As you are aware, in the longer term, an outline planning application for 2,500 new homes in North Cardiff has been submitted and this includes proposals for a new primary school and secondary school to serve the new housing developments.

The Council is aware of an increasing demand for secondary places ahead of Band B so interim arrangements are in place with our partner schools to ensure a greater amount of flexible surplus will be in place to provide additional places in the Band B investment period from 2019-2024. This will continue to ensure that all pupils in North Cardiff can continue to be admitted to local schools.

W23	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>When will schools be provided with guidance as to how they are to proceed in September with a view to Covid-19 restrictions?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Welsh Government Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles MS, issued a letter to all schools in Wales on Friday 9th July 2021. This outlined a holding position for schools for the start of the new academic year and updated guidance. Officers will ensure that schools are advised on any changes in the guidance.</p> <p>Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council has worked in close partnership with schools. This arrangement will continue from September 2021, with council officers continuing to work with schools to ensure that any changes to risk due to increasing or decreasing positivity rates are mirrored by appropriate mitigations in schools. The Educational Management Team has officers linked to every school in Cardiff and these link officers will also continue to be available and offer advice on implementation.</p>
W24	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>The Child Friendly Recovery Cabinet paper talked about the Council's Economic Development team and Child Friendly Cardiff team exploring the possibilities of utilising empty spaces across the city for pop up 'Innovation Spaces' designed for young people, established entrepreneurs and business mentors to collaborate and create. Would the Council consider the possibilities of using one of the empty units along Albany Road as an Innovation Space?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>One of the challenges of the model being adopted in the Innovation Spaces approach is finding landlords that agree to a temporary use of premises. The Child Friendly City team has a good rapport with city centre businesses, with some positive progress being made on the re-purposing of empty space, and would like to see other parts of Cardiff follow suit. The team will work with colleagues in the Council's Neighbourhood Regeneration and Economic Development teams to find out which empty units on Albany Road are viable for temporary re-purposing and would then look to engage with young people and partners to co-create and make use of the space.</p>

W25	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>Since March 2020, the local authority has distributed a large number of computers, Chromebooks and other devices to schools in the city for their pupils. Are schools being encouraged to leave these devices with learners for them to use or for them now to be returned?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As part of our strategic aim to eliminate digital deprivation amongst all pupils in the city, since March 2020, the Council has procured and distributed approximately 25,000 end user devices (mainly Chromebooks) to schools. Some 10,000 of these were subsequently given out to pupils who, during the initial and subsequent lockdowns, had been identified as not having access to a suitable device at home.</p> <p>We are continuing to encourage schools to ensure that all pupils have access to a suitable device at home to necessitate distance learning. We are also committed to ensuring that all pupils have access to devices in school, with the strategic commitment to eventually moving to a 1:1 deployment of Chromebooks for all pupils from Year 4 onwards.</p> <p>Schools have been given licence to organise the distributed kit in the way that best suits their needs. Some have opted to allow pupils to bring the devices back and forth to school, enabling them to use them both at home and in school, while others have chosen to allow digitally deprived pupils to keep the devices at home and use additional kit in school.</p> <p>We are continuing to invest in IT provision for all our pupils, with around £5.2 million being spent this financial year on infrastructure, devices, training and support.</p>
W26	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>What type of youth engagement programs will be in place for the youth in Cyncoed and Lakeside and northern parts of Cardiff?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Throughout the summer, there is a full programme operating across the city. A full calendar of activities can be found on the Cardiff Youth Services website. In the 'Get Involved' section of the website, young people from any area can also join and access support, advice,</p>

	<p>activities, and contribute or have their voice heard.</p> <p>Open access youth centres operate in targeted areas across the city. In addition to these, there are activities close to the Cyncoed and Lakeside areas with roadshows in Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn, as well as a variety of summer programmes operating out of the Powerhouse.</p> <p>The service is also supporting the Summer of Smiles activities and supporting young people, many of whom are North Cardiff residents or attend schools in these areas, as they transition into post-16 education, employment and training.</p> <p>The service has issued an open invitation to councillors and I know that several have contacted officers about holding 'pop-up' youth provision during July and August 2021. Where capacity permits, officers will co-facilitate events.</p> <p>The service also has a mobile detached youth work team, a post-16 team and a digital team who will be holding events in various parts of the city, including the city centre and at the Cardiff Bay Barrage.</p>
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FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE
(COUNCILLOR CHRIS WEAVER)

W27	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>When taxpayers receive letters from HMRC, advising them how much income tax they have paid, on the reverse of the letter is a pie chart, detailing how their money was spent. In Cardiff, Council Tax payers are being given inflation busting rises year after year. To improve transparency and accountability, will the Cabinet Member commit to exploring including a pie chart diagram on annual Council Tax statements, so residents are aware how their hard earned money is being spent by Cardiff Council?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>There is limited space available on the reverse of the annual Council Tax bill as it includes information on how it can be paid by residents. The Council does produce an annual Council Tax Newsletter, which contains a table on how the Council's budget is broken down across different areas. It also contains information on how the Council's</p>
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	<p>budget is funded, as well as prior year comparator information. The newsletter is fully accessible, available online and is a good example of using digital channels for communication. It replaces the previous practice of sending a paper copy of the newsletter with each bill, thus generating savings both in terms of production & printing costs and paper usage.</p>
W28	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>How much debt is owed by Cardiff Council to creditors, including the Public Works Loans Board, and what are the present annual repayments and costs of servicing the debt?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Draft Statement of Accounts 2020/21 indicates that the level of loans outstanding at 31 March 2021 is £810.7 million. This includes loans in respect of capital expenditure for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The Liquidity and Refinancing section on page 81 of the accounts also includes the repayment profile of those loans.</p> <p>The costs of servicing capital expenditure paid for by borrowing in 2020/21 is represented by charges to the revenue budget for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest on borrowing; and • Prudent and Voluntary Revenue Provision. <p>The policy on the latter is agreed by Council each year as part of the budget process.</p> <p>Interest payable on the loans was £34.020 million, of which £12.658 million was charged to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).</p> <p>The Prudent Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) was £37.1 million, of which £13.4 million was in respect to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).</p>
W29	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>Since the pandemic, many Council Officers have been required to work from home. For a number of Council Officers they support and welcome the change however others have reservations. Can the Cabinet Member provide assurances that no Council Officer will be mandated to work from home, should prior to the pandemic, they were based in a Council Office such as Wilcox House, City Hall or County Hall?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As has been made clear by the Leader at previous Council, Cabinet and other meetings, the Council is committed to a process of engagement with Trade Unions and staff to find out views and identify opportunities and challenges with the process of hybrid and specifically homeworking. A launch event for all staff involving the Leader and Chief Executive was held last month and this has been followed up this month with a staff survey and an information video showing what a future hybrid working model could look like. There will also be Directorate engagement events during the summer.</p> <p>In conjunction with the engagement events, Directorates are looking at the feasibility of their services being delivered on a hybrid / home working basis on a more permanent basis. It is envisaged that any changes for staff will take place on a mutually agreed basis, with services taking into account not only the service to citizens, but also the individual needs of employees.</p> <p>In addition, to support this process there will be a review of the Council's relevant employee policy requirements, including the Homeworking Policy and the associated Agile Working policies, to ensure that they support the shift to a 'hybrid working' model with details of the review being reported back to the Cabinet.</p>
W30	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>New Wales TUC research has revealed the rapid changes in work – particularly homeworking – brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic have led to a sharp rise in the level of surveillance of people's activities and performance – such as keystroke monitoring, toilet break monitoring, workers being monitored by laptop cameras or via wristbands. The Wales TUC/YouGov research shows that 25% of Welsh workers say that they have been subjected to closer surveillance since March 2020 and only 1 in 4 say that they feel comfortable objecting to such changes and more than half (56%) feel these technologies damage trust between workers and employers. Does Cardiff Council use any monitoring technologies and what are our policies regarding their use?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>During the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council has not bought in any monitoring technologies and has no plans to do so at this time.</p>

	<p>As part of the Council's development of hybrid working, employee engagement is being undertaken to help develop a shared approach from an accommodation, technology, employee and customer perspective. A key part of this work will include ensuring our performance management frameworks are fit for purpose and are based on managing outcomes and outputs from teams, not on surveillance activity or a focus on presenteeism.</p>
W31	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>What commitment does Cardiff council have to ensure any consultation process undertaken engages with communities and population demographics that will be impacted directly by decisions being taken, as a result of the consultation?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>All projects managed by Cardiff Research Centre, the Council's corporate consultation and engagement team, are promoted as widely as possible using a variety of methodologies, such as online surveys, paper surveys, face-to-face engagement and focus groups, depending upon the nature of the survey and the available budget and, more recently, the impact of the current Covid-19 restrictions on public events and availability of community spaces.</p> <p>Where the consultation relates to a specific service, users of that service are contacted directly and invited to give their views – this can include emails sent to service users who have provided contact details (e.g. library card holders) or residents living in a particular geography (e.g. catchment area for a school).</p> <p>The current consultation on the Arena has also seen flyers promoting the consultation and engagement programme being delivered to all residences and public-facing businesses within a half-mile radius of the proposed site of the Arena. In addition, for the Local Housing Market Assessment, letters have been sent to randomly-selected addresses in every ward of the city.</p> <p>All responses are analysed by demographic breakdowns, including postcode, age, sex, ethnicity, disability, and other factors relevant to the consultation (e.g. children in the household, reasons for using a service etc.) and these are monitored throughout the life of the survey. If the response rate from a particular group is lower than anticipated, targeted research is undertaken to boost the response from such a group (e.g. face-to-face engagement when allowed,</p>

targeted social media campaigns, and work with organisations such as the Youth Council, faith or community groups). Where appropriate, incentives are used to encourage responses to the survey. Responses from key groups, such as service users, are also included in the consultation report.

W32

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN

What was the total bill for agency staff over the past 12 months, with a service area breakdown?

Reply

Agency costs for General Fund Services during 2020/21 are set out in the table below:

	£000
Corporate Management	144
Economic Development	8,840
Education & Lifelong Learning (excl. Schools)	741
Governance & Legal Services	266
Housing & Communities	2,870
Performance & Partnerships	82
Planning, Transport & Environment	733
Resources	1,603
Social Services – Adults	2,393
Social Services – Children's	7,832
Total	25,504

Memorandum – Test, Trace, Protect (TTP)	4,576
Grand Total	30,080

It should be noted that some of the above costs are a direct result of responding to the Covid-19 pandemic – for example:

- Corporate Management expenditure reflects costs associated with PPE stores and distribution; and
- Housing & Communities includes £0.7m in relation to the homelessness response due to Covid-19.

The costs also include agency staff who support grant-funded activity.

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR COWAN

What is the Council's policy on home working post the pandemic?

Reply

The last 18 months have shown that, despite being one of the most challenging periods in memory for public services, the Council has continued to operate effectively with a substantial proportion of non-front line staff working from home, with services and corporate functions continuing to function well and, in many cases, significant service change designed and implemented at speed.

In support of the transition to this new way of working, the technology infrastructures, equipment and services needed to enable home working were rolled out rapidly and supported effectively by the Council's ICT team, and have been adopted by staff across the wide range of professional disciplines within the Council.

Feedback received from managers and staff indicates that overall arrangements have worked well, with discussions, meetings and productivity being maintained and in some cases enhanced. This has also required an accompanying adoption by managers of management by outcome over 'presenteeism.' Staff feedback has also suggested that home working provides a work/life balance for those who are able to do it, particularly those with caring responsibilities. Furthermore, sickness rates have reduced significantly in those departments who have adopted working from home at scale.

Whilst your question refers to our policy position 'post pandemic', we are still in a period of Covid-19 restrictions in Wales and, therefore, our approach will need to be phased. The Council is therefore proposing to adopt the following two-phase approach:

1. It is envisaged that over the short term, the current arrangements for home and agile working will be maintained for the remainder of the 2021 calendar year. This approach is in line with the Cabinet's pandemic management priorities of keeping staff and citizens safe and limiting the spread of Covid-19, and responds to the likelihood that the Workplace Regulations relating to physical distancing will be in place until at least autumn 2021.
2. Looking further ahead to a point when physical distancing will no longer be required, the Council does not intend to revert to

	<p>the pre-pandemic office footprint and ‘traditional’ staff office working patterns. Instead a new ‘hybrid’ model that seeks to maintain the benefits of increased home and flexible working arrangements experienced over the past year, whilst mitigating the risks identified above, will be developed. The development and implementation of this ‘hybrid’ model will combine a higher level of home working for those who are able with the option for some office working or attendance each week.</p> <p>I would also refer you to the answer provided in reply to the earlier Written Question (W29) from Councillor Williams about ongoing consultation and engagement with Trade Unions and staff regarding this proposed ‘hybrid working’ model.</p>
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HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES **(COUNCILLOR LYNDA THORNE)**

W34	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>Is Cardiff being put forward as a potential pilot location for UBI, given that Public Health Wales have published a report stating that UBI could improve health in Wales?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I think I covered this last month in my reply to your previous Written Question relating to this issue. The Leader has previously urged the Welsh Government to consider a UBI pilot in Cardiff, but the Council has heard nothing further on this since May’s Senedd elections, apart from the commitment in the Welsh Government’s Programme for Government 2021-2026 to <i>“pilot an approach to the Basic Income”</i>.</p>
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INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT **(COUNCILLOR RUSSELL GOODWAY)**

W35	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS</u></p> <p>Shortly before the global pandemic, Cardiff Council bought the Red Dragon Centre from the British Airways Pension Fund. How much did Cardiff Council pay for the Red Dragon Centre and how much income has the Council received from tenants in the past 12 months?</p>
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	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will be well aware that the information relating to the acquisition costs of the Red Dragon Centre is confidential and will remain confidential until the Council completes the regeneration proposals for the site.</p> <p>With regard to the income generated by the complex post-acquisition, I can confirm that the anticipated income for the 2020/21 financial year was £3,198,803. The total income recovered from tenants and the Hardship Fund over the same period was £1,931,665. Approximately £1m of the shortfall of £1,267,138 will be collected through agreed billing plans with the three major occupiers over the next 24 months. The remainder will be negotiated with smaller tenants and may also involve a further claim from the Welsh Government Hardship Fund.</p>
W36	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>Why was the relocation of the Maindy Velodrome not consulted on separately to proposals to amend the published admissions number for Cathays High?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will be aware that the proposal to relocate the Maindy cycle track is a direct result of the decision to build the replacement Cathays High School on the Maindy site. The relocation of the cycle track will not proceed in the event that the proposal for the new school is not progressed. As the need to relocate the cycle track is an intrinsic and necessary part of the plans for the new school, it is appropriate to consult on the closure of the track as part of the school consultation process.</p>
W37	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>When will a business plan for the new cycling facilities in Cardiff Bay be brought forward and how will this be consulted upon?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will be aware that the July Cabinet report asked for authority to complete a Full Business Case and it is now intended to present the Full Business Case to Cabinet early in 2022 when decisions relating to the school will be considered.</p>

	<p>The Full Business Case process will include engagement with local cycling clubs, governing bodies and the wider users of the existing facility at Maindy and will ensure that, as far as possible, the new facility captures the needs of all users.</p>
W38	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR TAYLOR</u></p> <p>What immediate and current support is the council providing to the business community in the Gabalfa area, including on Whitchurch Road, and other similar district shopping areas?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Councillor will be aware that Welsh Government, working with local authorities, has recently announced further support for businesses impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions, many of which are located in district centres. An eligibility checker is currently live on the Business Wales website.</p> <p>The Economic Resilience Fund for businesses with a normal turnover of over £85K is currently open for applications and will close at midday on Tuesday 27 July 2021. The Council will be administering the support for businesses with a normal trading turnover of less than £85,000, and will be open to applications from the week commencing 26 July 2021.</p>
W39	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUDSON</u></p> <p>Will the remaining Wedal Road Parks site owned by Council be going for sale or to auction?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>I can confirm that details of potential land and property disposals will be set out in the refreshed Corporate Property Strategy for 2021-26 and in the 2021/22 Annual Property Plan, which will be considered by Cabinet in the Autumn.</p>

LEADER
(COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS)

W40	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR SANDREY</u></p> <p>With cases of Covid-19 rapidly rising, what action is the council taking to reverse this worrying trend?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As has been the case throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the following three core principles continue to guide the Council's response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preventing the spread of infection;• Ensuring the health & safety of staff, service users and citizens; and• Prioritising key frontline services and support for vulnerable people. <p>This has demanded that service delivery is kept under constant review and that the Council is acting in accordance with the latest Covid regulations and health & safety guidance. The ongoing adaptations to council services reflect this approach.</p> <p>More recently, the rising case rates have, for example, demanded a more measured approach to the re-occupation of core offices, with the well-being of staff at the forefront of our thinking.</p> <p>More broadly, the Council continues to work closely with Public Health Wales and other regional partners – through the regional Test, Trace, Protect (TTP) arrangements covering Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan – to manage the spread of the virus by effectively delivering the Covid Response Plan.</p> <p>This work includes the rollout of the Mass Vaccination Programme at pace and scale. To support this programme, walk-in vaccinations are available at the Bayside vaccination centre with good attendance by groups including those not registered with a GP, BAME communities and asylum seekers. The work to ensure that 'nobody is left behind' is further supported through targeted communications and vaccination sessions with Seldom Heard Voices, such as within Cardiff Prison.</p> <p>Targeted local messaging focusing on students and young people, particularly given that case rates are currently at their highest</p>
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	<p>amongst the 18-25 age group, is also being undertaken. This is further supplemented by universal messaging about the ongoing need to act responsibly, behave in a Covid-secure way and access local test centres if anyone is displaying symptoms.</p> <p>The ongoing partnership with local Higher and Further Education also ensures proactive engagement with students. A Local Testing Site is in operation at Museum Avenue and a special sub-group of the Incident Management Team has been convened to specifically consider any Covid issues arising in relation to Higher Education and Further Education.</p> <p>Weekly testing also continues to be undertaken in care homes to ensure an ongoing focus on the city's most vulnerable residents.</p>
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SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
(COUNCILLOR SUSAN ELSMORE)

W41	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>The Westminster Parliament's Public Accounts Committee has concluded that social care "is not properly funded, lacks transparency and urgently needs reform." What representations has the administration made to the Welsh Government about social care reform in Wales?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has shown more clearly than ever how important social care is in meeting the needs of our citizens. Successive Labour administrations have demonstrated a continued commitment to investing in social services in Cardiff, with total net annual budget growth of over £57m since 2013, of which 60% has been in the last four years, with over a third of this growth in the last two years alone. Social Services has also received some fairly significant Specific Grant allocations from Welsh Government in recent years.</p> <p>Members will be aware that social care in Wales is devolved to the Welsh Government; however, given Westminster controls the overall funding arrangements this will impact on the ability of the Welsh Government to act independently.</p>
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	<p>As WLGA Deputy Spokesperson for Health and Social Care (Adults), I meet regularly with Welsh Ministers who are actively working on a solution to social care funding here in Wales. The Welsh Government is pursuing the matter with the UK Government in the hope that a joint approach can be taken.</p> <p>I am, of course, working to ensure that the impacts of the funding arrangements on these vital services and on Local Authorities are well understood. I would be happy to keep members updated of any future developments in this area as further information becomes available.</p>
W42	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DE'ATH</u></p> <p>According to the Centre for Health and the Public Interest's 2019 'Plugging the Leaks in the UK Care Home Industry' report, the UK's care home industry receives an annual income worth £15 billion, but £1.5 billion (10%) of the total 'leaks' out of the sector each year in the form of rent, dividend payments, interest payments, directors' fees and private profit. Salford Mayor Paul Dennett has committed to creating an Insourcing Commission that will specifically look at bringing social care in-house and Plymouth Council recently announced that it is creating its own in-house care company. What more can Cardiff Council do to develop in-house models of adult social care to help plug this financial leak?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Council does have its own domiciliary care team, which provides care in the individual's own home to help prevent hospital admission and facilitate timely hospital discharge. This service is currently undergoing a programme of change to modernise it and enhance service delivery. It is anticipated that this service will form part of the new locally based community wellbeing teams, alongside our Independent Living Service and a range of other health and third sector services.</p> <p>This change to locality working forms part of the Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership's Ageing Well agenda, which includes the 'At Home' project. This project focuses on supporting vulnerable people to stay independent at home for as long as possible. It is anticipated that this will reduce the reliance on residential care homes in the future.</p>

	<p>Another strand of this work is the development of good quality housing for older people as part of our council house development programme. This includes the planned development of a Wellbeing Village at Michaelston-super-Ely and a number of other older persons housing schemes across the city. This new accommodation will be flexible enough to be used as extra care accommodation or as community living/sheltered accommodation depending on the needs at the time.</p> <p>Extra care accommodation allows an older person to have their own individual flat, maintaining their independence, whilst also benefiting from on-site care and support. It is our intention to manage these new schemes in-house in order to provide best value for money and greatest flexibility to meet client need.</p> <p>There are no current plans to directly deliver registered care homes for older people; however, this is something that will be kept under review and may be a natural next step after the development of in-house extra care provision.</p>
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STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT **(COUNCILLOR CARO WILD)**

W43	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>How many fines have been issued to motorists since the establishment and enforcement of parking restrictions during the morning and afternoon at the school streets leading to Lakeside Primary?</p> <p>How does this compare with data from other school streets?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>In relation to the Lakeside Primary School Street scheme, the camera on Ontario Way has resulted in the issuing of 77 Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) and the camera on Winnipeg Drive has resulted in the issuing of 67 PCNs in the last three calendar months.</p> <p>In total, there are currently 17 similar locations close to schools (see table below) where the Council is undertaking enforcement activity using cameras and the average number of PCNs issued per camera over the same three month period is 152 PCNs.</p>
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Camera Attended Parking Locations	Number of PCNs Issued		
	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
Carter Place (Fairwater)	30	35	35
Cyntwell Avenue	36	48	40
Davis Terrace	46	50	36
Glan y Nant	120	163	122
Hendre Close	18	32	19
Norfolk Street	57	52	58
Blagdon Close	23	0	31
Browning Close	30	72	50
Letton Road	29	74	63
Ontario Way	25	28	24
Southey Street	18	37	48
Tregarth Court	7	27	23
Bulrush Close	27	39	42
Craiglee Drive	1	58	230
Newport Road Lane (Adamsdown)	10	84	107
Pentyrch Street	67	111	134
Winnipeg Drive	19	24	34
Total	563	934	1,096

As with all the School Street schemes, compliance takes time to improve as the PCNs are sent via the post and can take up to 21 days to arrive on the driver's doorstep. Therefore, until they receive the PCN, the driver may be unaware that they have breached a driving contravention.

W44

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS

How is the display of advertising boards by companies at roundabouts and other locations regulated?

What powers does the council have, and what action is taken, when organisations display advertising boards without permission?

Reply

For roundabouts and lamp post banners, the Council has contracts in place for the advertising space to be sold. The contractors ensure that the advertising is sold in line with the Council's advertising policy. The contractors also ensure that, where there is advertising in place, planning permission is secured and this is carried out in line with the Town and Country Planning Act for England and Wales.

	<p>The Council can remove any signage that is displayed without permission and fine the persons/companies under Section 132 of Highways Act 1980 (as inserted by Section 43 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003), which is carried out by the Highway Enforcement team on council land.</p> <p>Any advertising on private land is dealt with by the Planning Service. The initial letters for this are sent out by the Highway Enforcement team.</p>
W45	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>Can the cabinet member provide an update on current bus usage in Cyncoed and across the city and indicate how this compares with bus usage pre-pandemic?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Passenger data for individual routes is commercially confidential and, therefore, cannot be released into the public domain; however, across the whole network, bus usage is around 60% of pre-pandemic passenger numbers and this proportion continues to increase. It is uncertain as to when usage will return to full pre-pandemic numbers.</p>
W46	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HOPKINS</u></p> <p>What criteria does the council use when identifying and prioritising locations for the establishment of traffic calming and road safety schemes?</p> <p>How many bids for funding to support such schemes have been made to the Welsh Government since 2017 and how many of these bids have been successful?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>We receive around 600-700 road safety enquiries annually, with concerns raised across the whole city, either directly by members of the public or by elected representatives. We have developed an objective method of assessment in order to ensure that these are all reviewed in a fair and consistent manner. This evaluation is initially a 'desktop' exercise where we review our investigation database, assess any relevant investigations, concerns or recent changes in</p>

the highway environment, and examine the latest police personal injury-collision data. If the location meets the threshold for a detailed investigation, then the necessary survey and road safety assessment work is carried out.

We hold a future programme of road safety schemes where the priority of the schemes on the list is determined by an objective method of assessment, which takes into account traffic and pedestrian flows, injury collisions over five years, traffic speed, site layout and delay in implementation.

The current Welsh Government criteria for their Road Safety Capital grant is focused on collision reduction. When we consider schemes to be submitted for this grant, we have to focus on locations where there is a history of collisions. If we submit a scheme which does not have a significant collision record, then we are unlikely to be successful with our bid.

We submit a bid to the Welsh Government for the Road Safety Capital grant on an annual basis, which can consist of up to three schemes. The following table summarises the bids made for Road Safety Capital grant and the grant awarded over the last five years:

Financial Year	Bid Submitted	Grant Awarded
2017/18	£499,321	£506,231
2018/19	£562,271	£562,271
2019/20	£522,075	£522,075
2020/21	£776,497	£271,447
2021/22	£175,234 <i>(deliverability impacted by Covid)</i>	£175,234

W47

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON

How many new bus shelters have been installed in Cardiff over the last 12 months?

Can you breakdown how many were funded by different budget streams (e.g. S106, Capital Budget, Council's Revenue stream etc.)?

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Over the last 12 months, Covid-19 has clearly had a big impact on the delivery of schemes, particularly in the city centre, where two new bus shelters funded by the Council's Capital Budget have been installed – one in Castle Street and one in Wood Street.</p> <p>The Council is rolling out the installation of bee-friendly shelters with green roofs in the city centre. Preparatory work for bus shelter installation has also been undertaken in conjunction with city centre works.</p> <p>In addition, one new bus shelter has been provided in conjunction with the development of the North West Cardiff strategic housing site, funded by Section 106 developer contributions. A bus shelter has also been relocated in Radyr as part of this development.</p>
W48	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBSON</u></p> <p>I have previously raised many times the lack of a 4-way pedestrian crossing at the junction of Pantbach Road and Ty-Wern/Tyn y Parc Road. An improvement scheme is on the list. What is the current position of this scheme on the waiting list and how has it progressed over the past two years?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The proposed project for this junction is currently ranked 49 on the future programme of road safety schemes. The priority of schemes on this list is determined by an objective method of assessment, which takes into account traffic and pedestrian flows, personal injury collisions over a 5-year period, traffic speed, site layout and policy factors. It is not possible to predict when a scheme will be implemented due to many factors (such as the available budget) and the varying site conditions (such as road casualty figures).</p>
W49	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BOYLE</u></p> <p>Parking in the 'Minsters' is becoming increasingly fraught, especially though not exclusively at the weekends. Does the Council have any thoughts on how the problem could be alleviated?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>Officers are currently unaware of any specific parking issues in this area and have only four issues noted for further investigation, though none recently, with only one of these being parking related. If you are aware of any specific problems, then these should be notified to the service area through the Member Enquiry System. I should advise you that, if any observed problems relate generally to weekends only, then there is little mitigation that can be put in place.</p> <p>Internal investigation shows only one recorded concern related to parking in the 'areas of concern' list, which may be related to the rugby field and was noted as pavement parking. Pavement parking will be dealt with under new legislation that the Welsh Government is currently progressing as part of its published legislative programme. Pavement parking is currently dealt with by the police under obstruction of the footway legislation.</p> <p>I note that, historically, the Council has filled in the grass verges in the area as many residents are observed to park on the tarmacked pavement. As the main issue seems to be on weekends, it is likely that this relates to when junior rugby matches are being played. It may be helpful if the rugby club could advise home and away teams to park further away and walk to the ground wherever possible. This may help to alleviate the problem.</p> <p>As you will be aware, parking is now considered on an area basis to ensure that there is no incremental impact from dealing with single streets. Whilst the current focus is on managing parking in areas of high pressure, it may be necessary for appropriate measures to be considered in the future in order to protect the safety of, and access by, residents within the 'Minsters' area.</p>
W50	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WOOD</u></p> <p>Why is the construction of the Cycleway 1.2 commencing before the outcome of the consultation on, and possible implementation of, parking changes intended to mitigate the impact of the project on resident parking along the route?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The scheme has funding which needs to be spent during the current financial year and this has influenced the implementation timetable. Our intention is to deliver the cycleway and the parking scheme together and we believe that we can finish the parking scheme before we finish the cycleway. Any adjustments that need to be made to the scheme in light of the consultation on parking will be integrated within the scheme construction.</p>
W51	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>Could you give a breakdown of costs and an explanation as to why it will cost £6M to do 1 mile of cycle path?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The Cycleway 1.2 scheme is a full highway refit scheme, including the cost of fully reconstructing the whole route. In addition to the cycleway, there will also be new junctions, pavements, street lighting, sustainable drainage, bus infrastructure, pedestrian crossings, bus related infrastructure and zonal parking schemes.</p> <p>The main costs of this scheme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway and paving = £1.7m; • Sustainable drainage = £1.1m; • Service diversions and site clearance = £1m <i>(circa £400k of this will be claimed back from Welsh Government for facilitation of improved internet ducting);</i> • Junction and pedestrian crossings = £760k; • Project fees (e.g. quantity surveying, project management and site supervision) = £390k; • Cycleway infrastructure = £365k; and • Street lighting = £101k. <p>The remaining costs are for other highway and construction elements associated with the scheme, including construction fees & site set up; bus shelters; tactile paving; CCTV; signage; road markings and traffic management.</p>
W52	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MOLIK</u></p> <p>Are e-scooters and e-cycles permitted for use on public paths?</p>

	<p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>E-scooters are not allowed on any part of the public highway, including the footway. They are also not allowed on cycle tracks or public footpaths. Powers to take enforcement action against illegal use of e-scooters reside with the police.</p> <p>E-cycles are allowed on the highway, cycle tracks and paths that are formally designated as having shared use by cyclists and pedestrians.</p>
W53	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BERMAN</u></p> <p>Can you provide a timescale for the planned improvements to the junction of Penylan Road and Colchester Avenue now that a funding commitment has thankfully been secured from the Welsh Government to provide signal-controlled crossings on all three arms of the junction?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>There has been a minor delay with the detailed design of the junction, but this has now been sorted so we are progressing with the procurement and tender processes. It is currently anticipated that construction work will begin at the end of this year or in early 2022.</p>
W54	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>Following a press release of 11th June 2021 titled “North West Transport Corridor”, at bullet point 5 it says:</p> <p><i>Improving the ability to swap travel modes from car to bus and or train, and to walking or cycling at train stations, transport hubs and park and ride services;</i></p> <p>For the people who are using their car for part of their journey, when they swap travel mode, where are they going to park at the proposed Waungron Bus Interchange?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>The press release in question referred to a wide-ranging Welsh Government study into the North West Transport Corridor, which effectively runs from the city centre to RCT via Talbot Green, Llantrisant, Plasdŵr and Creigiau. The long list of bullet points included in the press release referred to the overall study. The proposed Waungron interchange is also an aspect of the wider study.</p>

	<p>The specific bullet point which you have quoted in your question covers the aspiration to support the use of active travel within the North West Transport Corridor by reducing use of the private car and encouraging people to make their journey in another more sustainable way. In short, the aspiration for people to be able to swap from their car to another mode of transport is an aim of the wider schemes, rather than an explanation of the aims of the proposed Waungron development.</p> <p>As was further indicated in bullet point 10 of the list provided in the press release, the proposed Waungron interchange is a proposal to provide an “<i>active travel/bus and rail interchange</i>”. It would provide a public transport interchange to facilitate cross-city bus route linkage with railway services, enabling passengers to change public transport modes to complete their journey, rather than providing a Park & Ride facility; therefore, it would not rely on car parking. As an interchange, it would also serve the local community who could walk or cycle to access bus and train services.</p>
W55	<p><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL</u></p> <p>Following a press release of 11th June 2021 titled “North West Transport Corridor”, there is no mention of the Bus Interchange at UHW that was granted planning permission some time ago. I realise a new Covid unit has now been put on part of the site, so what are the plans for the Bus Interchange and when will it open, or have you scrapped the plan?</p> <p><u>Reply</u></p> <p>As University Hospital Wales (UHW) is in the Heath ward, it is not classified as ‘North West’ Cardiff and, therefore, the transport interchange at UHW didn’t feature in the press release relating to that specific transport corridor.</p> <p>The provision of a transport interchange at UHW still forms part of the Council’s future transport plans; however, as you point out in your question, the construction of the Lakeside Wing, the temporary surge facility for Covid-19 patients, on the proposed site at UHW, together with the possible wider redevelopment/reconfiguration of the UHW site, means that any timeframe for the provision of an interchange at UHW is currently uncertain.</p>

W56

WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DRISCOLL

The Replacement LDP calls for developers to put forward “Candidate sites” they feel may be suitable for housing. Is it possible that individuals, resident associations and groups could suggest “Candidate sites” in their community to be set aside for areas of Biodiversity and, if so, what would be the criteria?

Reply

The call for candidate sites provides stakeholders with an opportunity to propose sites for a range of uses, including areas of biodiversity. Welsh Government guidance requires site promoters to submit robust evidence to enable the Council to assess the following:

- That the site is in a sustainable location and can be freed from all constraints;
- That the site is capable of being delivered and that the site promoter has a serious intention to develop the site and can do so within the timeframe for the plan; and
- That the site is viable.

Where the site promoter does not own the proposed site, they are required to provide evidence of any agreements undertaken with the landowner to prove the site is deliverable and can be considered for inclusion in the Replacement LDP.