

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 22 July 2021 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 16 July 2021.

Present: County Councillor McKerlich (Lord Mayor)

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

39 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors: Bowden, Boyle, Carter, Gibson, Linda Morgan, Phillips and Graham Thomas

40 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest were received in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Cllr Henshaw	7	Personal Interest – Family Member employed by Cardiff Council
Cllr Hopkins	7	Personal Interest – Member of Better Leisure Ltd
Cllr Naughton	7	Personal Interest – Member of Better Leisure Ltd
Cllr Naughton	7	Personal Interest– Family Member employed by the Council
Cllr Williams	7	Personal Interest – Family Members employed by Cardiff Council.

41 : MINUTES

The minutes of the 24 May 2021 were approved and signed as a correct record.

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42 : PETITIONS

A petition containing 40 signatures was received from Councillor Ashley Wood calling on the Council to introduce and enforce 'double yellow line' parking restrictions along the access road to Maelog Place to prevent blocking access by inconsiderate parking.

43 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Peter Hudson asked the following question:

With reference to Welsh Government's proposed ban on pavement parking. Whilst it is right that pedestrians should have free access to the pavement especially with pushchairs & wheelchairs, what is the council's response with regards to streets such as Crystal Avenue, residents of which have no choice but to park on pavements to allow access to residents, emergency services, and utility vehicles?

Reply – Cllr Wild

As you may be aware, the report of the Welsh Government's Welsh Pavement Parking Task Force Group was published in October last year. The Task Force's recommendations were accepted by the Welsh Government, including proposals to give councils additional civil enforcement powers to fine problem parkers, target hot spots and vary their approaches depending on local circumstances. We would obviously take a common-sense approach to situations like the one you have described.

Supplementary Question – Mr Peter Hudson

Will residents in narrow streets such as Crystal Avenue, Hampton Grove and Heathwood Road be consulted on this proposal to give assurance that residents won't be compromised for parking in the narrow streets?

Reply – Cllr Wild

As you know the Council is morally and duty bound to consult with people when we make changes that impact their lives so we always do and I'm sure we will in this instance as well.

44 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A teacher from Willows High School has been honoured with a Silver Award in The Pearson National Teaching Award for Outstanding New Teacher of the Year.

Selected from thousands of nominations from across the UK, Joe Gill received the accolade for his outstanding commitment to changing the lives of the children he works with every day.

Joe's excellent work has enabled vulnerable pupils to continue learning despite the pandemic. He has also created and led an integration programme so that children

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with little or no English, many of whom having experienced trauma in their own countries, can be supported before entering mainstream education.

Since joining the school in September 2020, Joe has brought learning to life and brings in tools such as construction equipment and gardening utensils in a bid to keep pupils engaged. He also uses his break and lunch times to encourage pupils to play sport, purposefully encouraging different ethnic backgrounds to interact and collaborate.

Joseph has now been shortlisted to win one of just 15 Gold Awards later in the year, in a programme which will be broadcast on the BBC and celebrates the exceptional school staff who have worked wonders during an incredibly challenging time for educators across the country.

The Lord Mayor hosted an inauguration event on 28th June at Cardiff Castle for Professor Keshav Singhal, MBE, FLSW as the new Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland to Wales. The Lord Mayor also welcomed His Excellency Arkady Józef Rzegocki, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the UK at the event which culminated in the Ambassadorial party laying wreaths at the Polish War Memorial, City Hall.

The Lord Mayor attended the opening of the 'Dear Mum' garden at Western Cemetery, Ely on Wednesday 14th July. The new memorial garden is a unique community asset which will provide a therapeutic support service for bereaved families. It is the first of its kind in the UK.

Congratulations to the Leader, Cllr Huw Thomas and his wife Charlie on the birth of their second child. Baby Bethan was born on Monday 12th July weighing in at a healthy 8lb 10oz.

45 : BUDGET STRATEGY

The Budget Strategy Report was presented to Council to provide an update in relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan; to consolidate and update the financial strategy of the Council in readiness for the preparation of the 2022/23 revenue and capital budgets; to outline the timetable that the budget process will follow in order to present the 2022/23 Budget to Council in Spring 2022; and to provide an update in relation to the Council's financial resilience.

The Council debated the report.

Councillor Gavin Hill-John moved a reference back

Councillor Parkhill seconded the reference back.

The Lord Mayor called for a vote on the reference back.

The vote on the reference back was LOST.

The vote on the recommendations in the report was CARRIED:

RESOLVED:

The Council AGREED that the Budget Timetable Framework set out in Appendix 2 be adopted, and that the work outlined is progressed with a view to informing budget preparation.

46 : ANNUAL WELLBEING PLAN

This report was the Council's annual performance report, providing an assessment of the progress made in the delivery of the administration's Capital Ambition priorities as expressed within the Corporate Plan 2020-23. The report also enabled the Council to discharge a number of statutory obligations, such as the publication of a statutory Annual Well-Being Report, as required by the Well-Being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

RESOLVED:

The Council AGREED to approve the Annual Wellbeing Report.

47 : LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

The purpose of this report was for Cabinet and Council to receive the 12th Annual Report of Local Authority Social Services (Appendix 1) as required under Part 8 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWB Act).

RESOLVED:

The Council AGREED to approve the Local Authority's Social Services Annual Report for 2020/21.

48 : LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER STATEMENTS

1. [Leaders Statement – Councillor Huw Thomas](#)

The Leader responded to questions in relation to:

- COVID-19 Update
- Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB)
- Living Wage Buildings

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

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- COVID-19 Update for Schools
- Pearson National Teaching Awards 2021 – Mr Joseph Gill, Willows High School
- Mandatory face masks in high schools.
- Summer of Smiles

3. [Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport – Councillor Wild](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:

- Consultation on Active Travel Network Map
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- Low emission buses
 - Private car use
 - Cycleway 1.2 Update
4. [Cabinet Member for Investment & Development – Councillor Goodway](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Atlantic Wharf Regeneration & Indoor Arena
 - Indoor Arena Car Park
 - International Sports Village Velodrome
5. [Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure – Councillor Bradbury](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- COVID-19 Impact on Culture & Leisure
 - Coed Caerdydd Project
 - Outdoor Sports
6. [Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation & Performance – Councillor Weaver](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Mobile App
 - BOBI (Chatbot)
 - Website
7. [Cabinet Member for Housing & Communities – Councillor Thorne](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Rough Sleepers
 - First Homes Cardiff
 - New Wellbeing Support Service
 - Community Safety Partnership
8. [Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment – Councillor Michael](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Cardiff Coastal Defence Scheme
9. [Cabinet Member for Children & Families – Councillor Hinchey](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Young People’s Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing – Starting Well Partnership
10. [Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing – Councillor Elsmore](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions in relation to:
- Independent Living Services – Pink Army

Pen Pal Scheme.

49 : NOTICE OF MOTION

The Lord Mayor advised that a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor Lancaster had been received for consideration. Two Amendments had been received from Propel and Liberal Democrat Groups.

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

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This Council remains bitterly disappointed that waste problems continue throughout many wards on a regular basis. We are no further forward on finding a much promised and needed replacement site in Cardiff North for the much-missed Wedal Road and Waungron Road Household Recycling Centres.

This Council notes the principle that the Cabinet operates under collective responsibility, but feels that the Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment needs to be accountable for overseeing these regular and sustained failings.

Therefore, this Council has no confidence in the Cabinet.

Further, this Council calls upon the next Cabinet Member overseeing Waste Services to report back to full Council with a review and progress report in three months. They will need to update members on how the service has been turned around and is working effectively and efficiently for Cardiff residents.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Lancaster.

Amendment 1 – Propel

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

Add at the start of the motion add the following:

This Council remains bitterly disappointed that waste problems continue throughout many wards on a regular basis. We are no further forward on finding a much promised and needed replacement site in Cardiff North for the much-missed Wedal Road and Waungron Road Household Recycling Centres.

"We therefore call on the Cabinet to re-open the site at Waungron Road as a recycling centre."

The Amended Motion will read as follows:

This Council remains bitterly disappointed that waste problems continue throughout many wards on a regular basis. We are no further forward on finding a much promised and needed replacement site in Cardiff North for the much-missed Wedal Road and Waungron Road Household Recycling Centres.

"We therefore call on the Cabinet to re-open the site at Waungron Road as a recycling centre."

This Council notes the principle that the Cabinet operates under collective responsibility, but feels that the Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment needs to be accountable for overseeing these regular and sustained failings.

Therefore, this Council has no confidence in the Cabinet.

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Further, this Council calls upon the next Cabinet Member overseeing Waste Services to report back to full Council with a review and progress report in three months. They will need to update members on how the service has been turned around and is working effectively and efficiently for Cardiff residents.

The first amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Keith Parry.

Amendment 2 – Liberal Democrat

The Lord Mayor called on Councillor Taylor to move the Second Amendment as follows:

Insert new sentence at the beginning

This Council puts on record its thanks and appreciation to council staff for their contribution to the city's efforts to ensure that essential services continued to operate throughout the pandemic.

Insert new sentences after "...on a regular basis."

That since the new 4-day collection model was introduced in February this year there have been 9,430 missed collection reports of which 1,817 were recycling, 2,721 were food waste, 2,601 were residual household, 1,907 were garden waste, and 384 hygiene waste. This will not capture those residents who did not or were unable to raise a report.

Insert "Furthermore," at the start of the sentence "We are no further forward..."

The Amended Motion will read as follows

This Council puts on record its thanks and appreciation to council staff for their contribution to the city's efforts to ensure that essential services continued to operate throughout the pandemic.

This Council remains bitterly disappointed that waste problems continue throughout many wards on a regular basis. That since the new 4-day collection model was introduced in February this year there have been 9,430 missed collection reports of which 1,817 were recycling, 2,721 were food waste, 2,601 were residual household, 1,907 were garden waste, and 384 hygiene waste. This will not capture those residents who did not or were unable to raise a report. Furthermore, we are no further forward on finding a much promised and needed replacement site in Cardiff North for the much-missed Wedal Road and Waungron Road Household Recycling Centres.

This Council notes the principle that the Cabinet operates under collective responsibility, but feels that the Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment needs to be accountable for overseeing these regular and sustained failings.

Therefore, this Council has no confidence in the Cabinet.

Further, this Council calls upon the next Cabinet Member overseeing Waste Services to report back to full Council with a review and progress report in three months. They will need to update members on how the service has been turned around and is working effectively and efficiently for Cardiff residents.

The second amendment was formally seconded by Councillor Wood.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion and the amendments.

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

Councillor Cowan responded to the issues raised and confirmed that both Amendment One and Amendment Two had been accepted.

The Lord Mayor called for a vote on the Substantive Motion as Amended by Councillor Cowan.

The vote on the Substantive Motion was LOST.

50 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question – Cllr Cowan

How many sites are currently looking to be disposed of by the Council, with a ward by ward breakdown?

Reply – Cllr Goodway

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.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Cowan

Can you confirm if the Greenhill special school site and is earmarked for closure and what the site would be used for?

Reply – Cllr Goodway

I understand that the school services is looking for an alternative site for the school as of yet the schools service has not declared that the site is surplus to its requirements so no work is being done on any plans at this stage in respect of the future of the site.

Question – Cllr Berman

Do you agree with the views of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) which were recently reported in the media that in view of the carbon emissions involved, including from embodied carbon, we should be seeking to reduce the extent to which we demolish and rebuild buildings and should give greater consideration instead to retrofitting and refurbishing buildings as part of our commitment to tackle climate change?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

The Council would agree with the basic premise of the RIBA views and continues to rollout retrofitting and refurbishment programmes both in its own operational estate and for mixed tenure housing in the city.

Our work on estate rationalisation also looks closely at extending the life of existing buildings wherever possible.

The One Planet Cardiff strategy, which is due to be finalised in September, makes further commitments in this respect, especially with regard to energy efficiency retrofit.

Further to this, where new build is deemed to be necessary – and in cases where, due to building quality or structural issues, demolition is unavoidably the best course of action – we are taking considerable steps to ensure that we design and build to high energy efficiency and carbon responsive targets.

This includes endeavouring to re-use as much waste material from the demolition as possible. These ambitions will also be consolidated within the One Planet Cardiff Strategy.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Berman

This Council is currently looking at knocking down and rebuilding the Velodrome, knocking down and replacing the city's arena, knocking down and replacing the Red Dragon Centre and knocking down and rebuilding County Hall, list goes on. Is this approach really compatible with the Council having declared a climate emergency and isn't it time the Council therefore considered the overall carbon impact of its strategy and re-examined its approach to development in the city?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

I'm surprised to hear that critique of from a member who during his time as Leader of the Council oversaw widespread demolition of buildings including council buildings in the city centre. When we take the Atlantic Wharf development for example the ambition is that development which includes the Red Dragon Centre and the Indoor Arena, is for that development to be carbon neutral. In terms of the velodrome you understand Councillor the centrality of moving the velodrome for the delivery of Cathays High School and I presume that you're not suggesting that you would oppose building the new Cathays High school I think you should make that clear.

Question – Cllr Keith Parry

When will the new Central bus station open?

Reply – Cllr Wild

As you will be aware, the Council is not responsible for the development of the new bus station in Cardiff, which is being taken forward by Transport for Wales who are giving 2023 as the anticipated date for the start of operations at the new bus station.

I visited Central Square recently and was encouraged by the progress being made both on the station, but also on the highways works on Wood Street, which will enable the bus station to operate efficiently and will make the whole area a better place to move around.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Keith Parry

Yet again last week when there was a rugby match at the Principality Stadium there was considerable disruption to city buses where services from the west of the city are transferred to Tudor Road and services from other parts of the city transferred to different bus stops. Will this disruption cease when the new bus station opens?

Reply – Cllr Wild

There are all sorts of work going on around the city centre to make it better for buses to come in, come out and move around the city centre. The timescales for the projects are 9-18 months or so around the whole of the city centre so the timing of that I think would probably work in time for when the Bus Station opens. I was down on Wood Street the other day to see the changes which are absolutely brilliant, how that whole area has changed how a lot of traffic has been removed and you can see really well how the buses, bikes and people walking around are going to get around in a much more efficient manner.

Question – Cllr Dilwar Ali

Can the Cabinet Member make a statement on 20MPH roll out and when Llandaff North inner streets will be included?

Reply – Cllr Wild

As you are aware, an area covering the Llandaff North, Whitchurch & Tongwynlais, Rhiwbina and Heath wards in Cardiff has been chosen as one of the Welsh Government pilot areas for its pre-legislative process to test the approach to implementing a default 20mph speed limit in Wales over the next 2 years.

Funding for the project has been allocated by Welsh Government and the design and TRO processes are well advanced.

Officers are currently working to a tight timescale imposed by Welsh Government to ensure that implementation is enabled for late summer this year. So all being well, all of the appropriate streets in Llandaff North will become 20mph later on this summer.

Question – Cllr Robson

Since 2017 Cardiff's Council Tax rise has been above inflation. This year the budget strategy suggests another inflation busting 4% Council tax rise and 4% rise each year until 2025/26. This shows a lack of consideration for Cardiff's residents, especially the low-paid and retired who are on fixed incomes and who have gone through tough financial times due to the pandemic. Will you commit to capping the next Council Tax rise to a maximum of 1% or lower?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

As you will be aware, the majority of our budget is spent on running schools and social services. Without council tax income, many of the other important public services that we deliver could either be lost or face severe cuts.

Last summer, we also modelled a proposed 4% increase in council tax, but were able to bring that down to 3.5% by the time we proposed our budget for 2021/22 earlier this year.

It's also worth bearing in mind that the annual rate of consumer price inflation in the UK was 2.5% in June, with forecasters expecting this to rise to 3% or even 4% this year.

We will strive to do everything we can to keep any increase in council tax low in the next financial year, whilst recognising that we also need to maintain and invest in the services our citizens rely on as we plan for a better future.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Robson

Would you agree that council tax could follow inflation broadly and note that inflation at the moment is nowhere near before percent that has been talked about in the budget strategy, assumed modelling strategy which is for both the next budget and for the next three or four according to the report, do you think that is perhaps financially irresponsible?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

I don't accept that that is financially irresponsible because there are services that I would say are vital that need to continue to be delivered. I'll reiterate the point made in the earlier debate that all these figures are for modelling purposes and the Administration will be bringing forward our Council tax proposals in early in 2022 but what I would say is if the member is seeking that inflation capped council tax rises then he needs to join with me in calling on the UK government to provide local authorities across the UK sufficient such that they are able to deliver these vital

services and not pass on the level of Council Tax to the residents that he's concerned about.

Question – Cllr Hopkins

The Leader's recent statement updating councillors on the current public health situation struck a note of caution and highlighted the need to remain vigilant in light of the increasing Covid-19 infection rates. What representations has the Leader made to the Welsh Government about policy concerning the pandemic in the period ahead and has the leader any insight into whether the UK Government consulted with the Welsh Government before announcing it would be removing restrictions in England?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

As the First Minister himself said recently, the four nations of the UK are moving in "broadly" the same direction, whilst making clear that Covid restrictions will not be abandoned "wholesale" in Wales following the latest review.

You'll be aware that nearly all restrictions in England were lifted on Monday of this week, but I am not persuaded that this was the right moment to abandon restrictions at such scale, particularly with the rising rates of infection linked to the Delta variant. The First Minister has continued to engage regularly with Local Authority Leaders across Wales and earlier this month I met with Welsh Ministers to set out Cardiff's position.

Given the transmissibility of the Delta variant, I am pleased that the First Minister, as ever, acted in accordance with the latest scientific and Public Health advice, as well as the recommendations of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan TTP function.

With Wales a global leader in the rapid rollout of vaccinations, as well as the ongoing need to ensure that increasing case rates do not translate into the NHS being overwhelmed, I very much welcome the considered approach that is being taken in Wales.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Hopkins

Over the course of the pandemic I think we've learned a collective effort and absolute clarity about expectations are essential and the decision to remove virtually all restrictions at the same time leaving it to the individual and for example retail and transport to decide whether to retain mask-wearing and social distancing, I think the Leader seems to agree with me that that looks like a recipe for confusion. What's been the particular effect of this on decision making in Cardiff when it's not always made clear in briefings from Downing Street that their announcements apply to England only?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

I share both your assessment of the situation and the concern in the confusion that it causes and I've seen for myself personally in interactions I've had with residents and

in local businesses as some of that confusion creeping in through the mixed messaging particularly coming through the office of the Prime Minister, so those concerns are being escalated through the Cardiff and Vale Leadership board, I think the need for absolute clarity of communication through public Health Wales and the Welsh Government for our residents is made clear but recognising that we are living in a context where the news from Whitehall often has as much prevalence if not greater than what we have here in Cardiff.

Question – Cllr Keith Parry

When will finance be available to restore twenty-four hour bus services to outer suburbs?

Reply – Cllr Wild

Commercial decisions are a matter for the bus companies – not the Council. The overnight bus services were withdrawn some time before the Covid-19 pandemic began because they were not an economic proposition and any future reintroduction of these services will be a matter for bus operators to judge.

We urgently want to see more bus routes, operating more regular, and longer services. This is why we have brought forward a draft bus strategy, setting out the improvements and how we think they can be achieved. I would encourage all members to help us get the views of the public, especially bus users, when the consultation comes out in the near future.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Keith Parry

I think that's a disappointing reply because such bus services are unlikely to be viable on a financial basis particularly until the night-time economy of the city centre is restored and now you have a chicken and egg situation where how do workers get to the city centre for the night time economy if there's no buses. I'd also raised the point that I was told recently of young ladies in the city centre trying to get home to the outer suburbs and being quoted ridiculous prices by taxi drivers who were unwilling to do short journeys and journeys within the city but were looking for fares of a longer distance, you know that this is quite dangerous really there should be buses running around the clock within the city.

Reply – Cllr Wild

I commend the Councillor for lots of good discussions around bus services and I know your heart is absolutely in the right place on this and in a similar place to us actually. In terms of the frustration the bus industry has faced over the last two or three decades you know actually Cardiff buses are reasonably viable running profitable routes and it wouldn't take that much to get more services and I know that the bus industry looking to put more services on. As you know we just produced our draft bus strategy and I know you and other Members are really hoping you can help us get good feedback on that from bus users so we can look to see the

improvements that we all want to see, so once again I commend the Member for his work on this and we are doing what we can to try and improve bus services and I agree completely about the night-time economy and trying to get more people on the on buses its certainly something I would like to see back in this city and something we're going to try and influence with every lever we have.

Question – Cllr Mackie

Could the Cabinet Member update us on the progress of the new park in Cathays Park and the refurbishment of Gelligaer Street Park and Cogan Park?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

The timeline for the Cathays Park project is being influenced by the Sustainable Drainage Scheme in the vicinity, which is being delivered by Cardiff University. This scheme is scheduled for completion in October this year.

The tender documents for the Council's scheme will be despatched next month, with the appointment of a contractor in October. I anticipate works on site commencing in November with completion in January next year.

Tender documents for the Gelligaer Park scheme will also be despatched next month. The contractor appointment will be made in September, with works commencing on site in October and completion in November.

The Cogan Gardens scheme is at the design stage and I anticipate consultation with local ward members on detailed proposals taking place next month.

Question – Cllr Driscoll

The proposed development on Waungron Road Bus Interchange will include 44 flats, 22 of which will be to house some residents with complex needs, some of who may have mental health issues as well as addictions. Were the local Health Board or Local Surgeries consulted as part of the consultation and, if not, why not?

Reply – Cllr Thorne

Due to technical issues, this question will receive a written response.

Question – Cllr Taylor

Is the administration content that its engagement processes are sufficiently robust and representative?

Reply – Cllr Weaver

The Cardiff Research Centre consistently delivers a high quality engagement and consultation function for the Council.

Demographic data, including equalities monitoring data and postcode data, is collected as standard as part of all of the Council's corporate consultation work and this data is actively reviewed throughout the consultation window to allow for a responsive engagement strategy.

The approach is rightly 'digital by default', which includes targeted advertisements, social media and promotion through the Citizen's Panel.

To ensure that residents' voices are heard, this is supplemented with face-to-face engagement methods, such as focus groups with key demographics and service users, which are recruited and designed to improve accessibility and representation.

The team is working to diversify the Citizen's Panel as a key consultation asset for the city and to improve representation from residents from ethnic minority backgrounds, young people and residents from the Southern Arc. The administration welcomes the support of all members in helping to achieve this.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Taylor

I would you agree with you that as much as we do we can always be doing more and you'll be aware that Blaenau Gwent Council in partnership with the lateral reform society ran Wales's first local authority run Citizens' Assembly, I was wondering whether you'd had any conversations with Blaenau Gwent following on from the motion from our Group this time last year?

Reply – Cllr Weaver

No I haven't I will look to see the outcome of the Citizens' Assembly absolutely.

Question – Cllr Lister

Many cities across the UK are installing "rainbow crossings" in their City Centres as a permanent feature of visibility for the LGBTQ+ community. In 2019, I wrote to ask the Council to consider installing a rainbow crossing in a prominent location here in Cardiff, to show solidarity with the community. Can you please provide an update on plans to install a rainbow crossing in Cardiff?

Reply – Cllr Wild

I am pleased to let you know that we have identified a high profile city centre location for a rainbow crossing.

Installation will be on a trial basis later this summer, and will be subject to some further feasibility checks and an Equality Impact Assessment.

Question – Cllr Jones-Pritchard

With the large underspend in parks expenditure this year and the drive to both reduce carbon and sequester it with tree planting, has the council considered

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planting a pilot “tiny forest”, perhaps through the proposed tree nursery in Fforest Farm, working with local community groups?

Tiny forests are the size of a tennis court, and are reported to grow 10 times faster, absorb 30 times more carbon per acre and cost just £25K. If they are being considered, have locations been proposed and, if not, will you look at the possibility of planting one, or more? I’m sure we can suggest some locations.

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

We have already created Wales’ first Tiny Forest here in Cardiff, which was established along the Bay Edge Walkway in February this year.

This was one of five Tiny Forest sites chosen in Wales that are funded by Welsh Government as part of the National Forest for Wales.

We worked in partnership with Keep Wales Tidy, Coed Cadw, Earthwatch and Welsh Government to plant 1,000 native woodland trees made up of 25 different species.

The benefits derived extend beyond those that you highlighted in your question and the Tiny Forest will also enhance biodiversity and provide educational opportunities, utilising an outdoor classroom created within the overall site footprint.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Jones-Pritchard

If it’s successful on the tiny forest can we see these perhaps moved out to other areas of the City in due course?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

Yes it is something we are looking to do Councillor and I’ll be willing to work with you and other members who are interested in this concept to see if it is possible.

Question – Cllr De’Ath

Could you provide an update on the reopening of the renovated Roath Park House building in Roath Pleasure Gardens?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

As local ward members will be aware, it is the Council’s intention for the building to operate as a café. Owing to the challenges of trading during the Covid-19 pandemic, I’m not able to provide a date for the opening of the property for this purpose. Officers are also exploring options for funding the internal fit-out following the completion of external works. We are looking to move this project forward as soon as possible and will continue to update you and your ward colleagues on progress.

Supplementary Question – Cllr De’Ath

This building is a really important part of Cardiff's heritage and a really important part of the story of Roath Park and when it does eventually open would you agree to some kind of official opening to mark the occasion and if possible could you find time in your diary to come along yourself and cut the ribbon?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

Yes I'm very happy to do that and I'm always happy to open up a new facility which has been driven by local councillors like yourself and your ward colleagues.

Question – Cllr Dianne Rees

Cardiff is currently seeing some of the highest rates of Covid-19 infection in the country. Cathays South and Bute Park have the highest rates in Wales, with a seven day average of 465.9 per 100,000 followed by Cathays North of 275.7 per 100,000. What action is being taken to understand the causes of such high rates of infection and what action is being taken to prevent the spread of such high rates to other wards of the City?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

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 understand and manage the spread of the virus.

As part of these arrangements, which includes the Consultant in Communicable Diseases, Executive Director of Public Health and Director of Public Protection, all cases in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan are regularly reviewed.

To give you assurance, the review considers all variants of concern or variants under investigation, which have been sequenced for residents of the Cardiff and Vale region.

Whilst the emergence of the Delta Variant has led to an increase in case numbers across the UK, local and national measures remain in place and it is why I welcome the First Minister's decision at this time to retain a number of Covid restrictions, which have been abandoned in England.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Dianne Rees

Is there a specific target being held by Cardiff council and the immunisation programme to target those young people in the area and those who are hard to reach for vaccination because that would certainly assist the numbers coming down? I go on to say that on page 166 of the Annual Wellbeing report you refer to a remote scrutiny covid panel established at the end of the first lockdown to test time critical decisions and to explore the council's response to the pandemic, will there be an annual report on the work of the remote scrutiny panel with particular reference to the Council's response to the pandemic as it's over a year now?

Reply – Cllr Huw Thomas

There is no end of specific comms channels trying to target those hard to reach groups, you will appreciate that with the younger generation these are the people at the tail end of the vaccination process but clearly we know that there are programmes and measures for example the walk up to without booking clinics put in place to get people from all demographics and backgrounds to get vaccinated. The reference to the scrutiny committee referred to the special Scrutiny committee convened back in June/ July, consisting of the five chairs of scrutiny that met for a period of time at the end of the first lockdown to give a scrutiny oversight to decisions the cabinet was taking in an emergency setting, essentially those arrangements have now been superseded with a return to the standard standing scrutiny committees.

Question - Cllr Cunnah

Can the Cabinet Member outline the expected benefits of the Neighbourhood Renewal Scheme on Cowbridge Road East?

Reply – Cllr Thorne

Due to technical issues, this question will receive a written response.

Question – Cllr Hudson

Will Council consider kerbside sorting of waste to reduce the co-mingling problem that contributed to nearly a third of our recycling going to the incinerator?

Reply – Cllr Michael

The development of a new collection model for recycling is currently taking place to support improving recycling performance and to ensure that collections are effective and efficient.

This work includes reviewing the kerbside separation of metal & plastic containers, paper & card and glass to reduce contamination of co-mingled recycling and improve Cardiff's recycling performance.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Hudson

Does this mean at the kerbside then please?

Reply – Cllr Michael

The new recycling strategy will be unveiled in the autumn and I would suggest you wait until then and you will see it.

Question – Cllr Lister

Following the Council's recent investment in play areas across the City, including in Grange Gardens, what further plans are there for investment across Cardiff?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

This administration is committed to investment in outdoor play facilities and has committed circa £2.63Million for the life of the Capital Programme up until 2025/26. This investment also contributes to our Child Friendly City agenda.

Within the programme, there are 28 provisional schemes city-wide. Our plans also involve the development of a Skate Park Strategy in consultation with user groups, with the ambition of creating destination sites in the city.

Within the £2.63Million, an allocation of £300k has been made available for investment in a Multi-Use Games Area at Llanrumney Hall and 3G facilities at Splott Park.

I was also delighted to see the positive response to the investment in the new play facility in Grange Gardens in your ward, which I am sure, will be enjoyed by current and future generations.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Lister

Thank you very much Councillor Bradbury for continuing to support myself and my colleagues when we raised issues around parks and I can honestly say the response that the new play area in Grange Gardens has been fantastic and we're looking forward to further investment. Linda, Abdul and myself have also raised queries about further improvements to Seven Oaks Park and the Mal play area, not to be greedy but could we please ensure that officers draw up plans for when funding does become available?

Reply – Cllr Bradbury

As I always say to all local Members we have to try to be equitable right across the city, I do understand issues particularly on the Mal but I will meet with you and your ward colleagues and with officers to see what can be done to try and achieve the ambition that you have to stated here in your question.

Question – Cllr Cowan

Going forward, will the Council put in place clauses which incur penalty charges if schemes of work are not delivered on time (unless there are extenuating circumstances)?

Reply – Cllr Weaver

The majority of works contracts are already let by the Council using standard Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT) or New Engineering Contracts (NEC) contractual terms, which already allow for the provision of delayed damages.

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

It should be noted that the industry is experiencing materials supply chain and resourcing issues, which are having a real impact on the delivery of works schemes in Cardiff and across the UK.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Cowan

Councillor Weaver unfortunately I didn't hear the first section of your answer so I apologise if I am repeating something you have already said I'm just seeking clarification that the council have in place contracts which would allow for these clauses to be put in place for any contract which the Council offers up to contractors to bid for?

Reply – Cllr Weaver

We do have them in place already in the majority of cases but I don't believe it is all cases and so I think that certainly whenever we look at renewing contracts there's always something we can review, but you know if there's a specific contract you have in mind if you want to get in touch I can look to see whether that clause was in place for that particular arrangement.

Question – Cllr Jacobsen

Schools across Cardiff have run engaging and exciting school holiday programmes for years, as part of the Welsh Government's School Holiday Enrichment Programme. Can the Deputy Leader advise us of the plans for this summer?

Reply – Cllr Merry

Complementing our 'Summer of Smiles' programme of activities for young people, Cardiff's multi-award winning School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP), known as 'Food and Fun', continues to expand with 29 schools delivering the programme this summer.

This year, SHEP has been extended to include communities beyond the traditionally Welsh Government funded targeted areas.

This will be the sixth year of delivering the SHEP Food and Fun programme.

Since it was developed by the Cardiff SHEP Team in 2015, it was adopted by Welsh Government in 2016 and then rolled out across Wales in 2017. It has also been used as an example of best practice across the UK.

Partner organisations will be providing a range of enrichment activities in addition to each child being able to enjoy at least one hour of physical activity, a healthy breakfast and lunch, and nutrition and food sessions each day, all delivered in a fun, safe and familiar environment.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Jacobsen

Will be the Deputy Leader be visiting any schools in my ward during these plans?

Reply – Cllr Merry

I'd be delighted to and would you like to come with me?

Question – Cllr Driscoll

Due to the development by Redrow at Plasdwr which has caused the council some highways issues. One of our well used areas of parkland in Danescourt is being utilised as an overflow attenuation pond to stem the flow of storm water from Llantrisant Road. Our priority should absolutely be to protect property and life from flooding. However, will this mean the long term loss of amenity space for residents of Danescourt and Radyr who use this area for leisure, and if so how do the council propose to mitigate this loss or replace it for residents?

Reply – Cllr Michael

The Council is working collaboratively across Directorates and with developers to identify appropriate solutions to the impact of Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) legislation across the city.

A workable solution that will have a low impact on the parkland has been identified and I can confirm that it will not result in a long-term loss of the park.

The design of the proposed scheme will comprise of a dry area, which will only be wet when a flood or heavy rainfall occurs.

The proposed scheme will increase biodiversity in the park, as well as providing the drainage function. The drainage feature is to be located within an area of amenity grassland, with the existing trees and vegetation around it being retained.

I understand that officers from the Parks Service have sent you a detailed landscaping proposal and that you are due to meet on site tomorrow (Friday) with relevant officers.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Driscoll

I would just like to say this has caused quite some concern in the community, residents and Councillors would like to be informed with a bit more notice but as you know we have had a number of meetings with residents in the last week or so and I'm grateful to you and the Cabinet Member for Parks also for making officers available to attend another 2 hour meeting which was this morning actually, which was really appreciated by the residents. Do you agree we now need to do more to inform the wider community of these plans and give the community more information and some reassurances that this area will be improved for them?

Reply – Cllr Michael

Yes I do, SUD's is a new legislation and requires that when laying a path to mitigate the scheme, you could make all kinds of adjustments from wet areas to ponds in this case. It will allow some mitigation of water, I think one of the things is that it's difficult to explain it to some residents who see this work changing and fear for the worse. I think in this case this is a really good scheme, designed to take water off Llantrisant Road, it has to go before a SUD board for approval and I'm happy to meet you on site with residents and for Officers to carry on explaining the benefits of this kind of drainage.

Question – Cllr Ahmed

Many residents in my area, and in the whole of Cardiff, are in need of good quality, affordable housing. How is the Council progressing against its ambitious target to build 2,000 new Council homes?

Reply – Cllr Thorne

The Council's house building programme continues to deliver at pace and scale. To date, over 570 new council homes have been delivered through a range of delivery routes.

Our development programme has a pipeline of sites that will deliver over 2,500 new council homes in total and around 4,000 new homes, including affordable homes for sale to our local communities.

We are embracing innovative and modern methods of construction in order to speed up delivery and deliver the right homes in the right places, as well as moving to a low carbon standard.

Our programme represents the largest council led house building programme in Wales totalling around £1 billion pounds of capital investment. It is delivering affordable homes within our local communities and a significant range of wider community benefits.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Ahmed

What partnership working is involved?

Reply – Cllr Thorne

There are a large number of partnerships, we have package deals with developers, partnership deals with housing associations and clearly we've got the Cardiff living programme which is a partnership with Waites and the Council so there are a number partnerships and going forward I believe there will be even more who really want to work with us and that will help us deliver quicker because it means that we can share the resource in terms of the development and drawing up the plans

and going out to tenders so I am open to partnerships with other organisations as it will actually help to speed up the delivery of the programme.

Question – Cllr Gordon

In Pontcanna we could decrease the picnic litter problem and encourage recycling if Council changed the type of litter bins provided. In Llandaff Fields, in response to residents' requests for more bins, Council provided two large metal wheelie bins. Thank you for these, but they are difficult to reach up to put litter in and look unsightly in a Grade II park. The nearby cafe sells pizzas and take away drinks so there is a large amount of recyclable waste generated. Please could Neighbourhood Services look into this issue and provide better looking bins that are easier to use, and if possible 2 separate bins for food waste and aluminium cans / glass / plastic and a lined event bin for the bulky pizza boxes. These bins would not only look better in this beautiful park, but would reinforce our message to our citizens about the importance of reducing waste and recycling what can be recycled.

Reply – Cllr Michael

Following discussions with education and enforcement officers, the café owners are engaging with the trade waste team to provide a food and cardboard bin to support recycling.

The large recycling event bins will provide ongoing support for the recycling of glass and cans, whilst the large general waste event bin will manage any items that are not able to be recycled.

The large event bins are required to support the increase in demand in the spring, summer and autumn months.

Supplementary Question – Cllr Gordon

When do you think these new arrangements will happen because we need them now in this hot summer weather?

Reply – Cllr Michael

As soon as possible Councillor.

51 : URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business

52 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

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

RESOLVED:

The Council AGREED to appoint to the vacancies on Committees in accordance with the approved allocation of seats and Party Group wishes, as set out on the Amendment Sheet.

53 : PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

To approve the programme of Full Council meetings for the period July 2021 to August 2022 and note the provisional programme of Cabinet and Committees for the period July 2021 to August 2022, to be finalised in consultation with Chairs of Committees and in line with Forward Work Plans.

RESOLVED:

1. The Council is recommended to
 - (1) approve the programme of Council and Committee meeting dates for July 2021 – August 2022.
 - (2) Note the provisional dates of Cabinet meetings during the period July 2021 – August 2022; and
 - (3) delegate authority to the Director of Governance and Legal Services to make any necessary alterations to the programme of Committee meetings which may be required.

54 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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