

**COUNCIL: 21 OCTOBER 2021**

---

**CLEAN STREETS, RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT**

---

**Cardiff Northern Cemetery**

The new Cardiff Northern Cemetery is due to be formally opened on 20 October 2021, which will provide much needed future burial space in the north of the city for the next 15+ years. The cemetery includes lawn graves, traditional graves, cremated remains graves, as well as a natural burial area that will be managed to increase biodiversity within the site. The overall design of the site has been considerate to the environment and minimised the visual impact of the area. The only building is a toilet block for visitors, which has been installed with a living wildflower and grass roof. The site has been designed and landscaped with additional tree planting to provide a therapeutic and holistic experience for those who have lost friends and relatives.

**Remembrance Services**

The annual Remembrance Service in the War Graves section at Cathays Cemetery will be held on 9 November 2021 and will involve the Friends Group and local school children. In addition, a similar remembrance service has been arranged in the War Graves section at Western Cemetery in Ely on 12 November 2021, which will also include local school children. Both events will be led by the Lord Mayor and Members are invited to attend either event, both of which will start at 10:55am.

**Thornhill Crematorium**

The audio-visual equipment within the chapels at Thornhill Crematorium has recently been replaced and upgraded, with a new supplier having been awarded a contract to manage visual tributes and the webcasting of services. The camera technology has been improved and a faster, more reliable fibre internet connection is also being used to broadcast services. Larger video screens have been fitted and at a better angle for the congregation to view them, together with new, higher-quality speakers. During the pandemic, the use of webcasting increased exponentially, which was due largely to the restrictions on traveling, numbers allowed to attend funerals and the need for many family members and friends to self-isolate. The webcast service provided an essential additional service to families and, at the height of the pandemic, was provided to everyone free of charge. However, the increased usage of the equipment that was in place previously during this period highlighted several issues which have now been addressed with the installation of the new equipment.

## **RSPCA PawPrints Awards 2021**

Cardiff Dogs Home has achieved both a Gold Award for its Stray Dogs Service and a Silver Award for Kennelling in the RSPCA PawPrints Awards 2021. As we know, the last 18 months have been extremely challenging for all council services, but for those dealing with frontline animal welfare it has been particularly difficult due to the lack of assistance from volunteers because of the Covid restrictions that have been in place. The staff at Cardiff Dogs Home were remarkable in organising foster homes for the dogs and ensuring that they were all looked after and exercised at least twice per day. Winning the PawPrints Award this year, more than ever, is a great achievement for the team. In addition, a Special Recognition Award was given to our charity partners at The Rescue Hotel. They were the only winner of this award in Wales and one of only four across the whole of the UK. This is a remarkable achievement for a group that is still less than two years old.

## **Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles**

Cardiff has been awarded £1.2m in capital funding in 2021/22 for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs), which will allow us to procure a further six Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles (E-RCVs). This will increase the total number of E-RCVs to 12 within a fleet of 78 Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs). This will be the largest E-RCV fleet in Wales and supports the Council's One Planet Cardiff objectives. The Council recognises that these vehicles, owing to their size, hours worked and mileage accrued per annum will deliver significant improvements, both in terms of carbon reduction and wider air quality benefits. Lifecycle analysis of an E-RCV compared to a standard Euro VI diesel equivalent RCV demonstrates that in terms of kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq), a reduction of 85% can be achieved. In terms of air quality benefits, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions from an E-RCV are some 71% better than an equivalent Euro VI diesel RCV.

## **Garden Waste Collections**

As I confirmed last month, garden waste collections are now on a four-week collection cycle and will continue until 28 November 2021. This is an additional month to last year following concerns raised in relation to leaf fall. Further information on collections is available online on the Council's website at [Check my collection dates \(cardiff.gov.uk\)](https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/collections) or via the CardiffGov app. There will also be a collection of used real Christmas trees only from 4 January to 14 January 2022, including the provision of some drop-off points. Further details will be released prior to Christmas. The garden waste collection service will then recommence on 15 March 2022.

## **Reuse Shop at Lamby Way Recycling Centre**

I was pleased to officially open the reuse shop, known as 'The Cabin/Y Caban', at Lamby Way Recycling Centre on 13 October 2021. The Council is working in partnership with social enterprise and charity, Wastesavers, to operate the reuse shop, which is open 7 days a week to receive donated items and for people to purchase items to reuse. In the first month of opening, more than 4,200 unwanted household items have already been saved from the skips for reuse.

**Councillor Michael Michael**  
**Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment**  
**14 October 2021**