
CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT

Cleansing in the City Centre

The months of June and July have been a busy period for the Cleansing Services Team in the city centre. The team has worked hard to support, as well as clean up after, the recent events that have taken place at a number of city centre venues, including the Principality Stadium (Ed Sheeran, Stereophonics & Tom Jones and Rammstein), Bute Park (Inside Out Festival, Jubilee Picnic in the Park) and Cardiff Castle (Depot in the Castle).

Love When You Leave

The Cleansing Services Team, along with other supporting teams, has been managing the end of the academic year when thousands of students leave their accommodation within the Cathays and Plasnewydd areas of the city over a period of a few weeks around the end of June and start of July. The Education & Enforcement Team knocked on the doors of 2,177 properties and spoke face-to-face with 773 people, as well as posting information to other households. A joint letter was also sent by the Council and the city's universities, including a 'move out' booklet, to over 3,000 properties.

These efforts have been supported by additional recycling services, which have also taken place this year with the aim of increasing and promoting recycling. These have included the pop-up recycling centre at the Cardiff University campus on Maindy Road, which had 180 visitors, as well as our '#justrecycle big student takeaway' van clearance of bulky waste items, which collected 578kg of items. To date, the teams have removed 26 tonnes of waste and recycling showing the scale of the short-term demand on our services.

One Planet Schools Launch Event

The Council's One Planet Cardiff strategy recognises the need for the city's children and young people, as well as future generations, to have a very clear voice in how we tackle the climate emergency. In recognition of this, a launch event for our One Planet Schools initiative took place last month to raise awareness and stimulate discussion around the One Planet Cardiff strategy and our carbon neutral targets. The event was the first in a series of school engagement activities that will encourage each school in Cardiff to develop its own One Planet School plan, helping to influence good climate-responsive pupil behaviour at school and at home, and capturing the imagination of children and young people so that they can be the ambassadors of change that we need to respond to the climate emergency. In addition, the work will help schools to understand and reduce the carbon emissions from their heating, power and travel activities, and will also provide strong areas of focus for the new curriculum in Wales, which is looking to integrate real world problems and solutions into the everyday learning experience.

Sustainable Production and Supply of Food Challenge

A £2.6 million challenge fund to encourage innovation in the production and supply of locally grown food has been launched within the city-region. The project, which is a partnership between Cardiff Council, Monmouthshire Council, Cardiff Capital Region, Welsh Government and the SBRI Centre of Excellence, aims to identify and support projects that can harness the potential of land, technology and people to increase the sustainable production and supply of locally grown food in the Cardiff Capital Region. The partners recognise that the way we produce, supply and consume food in the future will play a major part in determining how successful we are in responding to the unprecedented challenges that we face in terms of the climate emergency, nature emergency and biodiversity loss, as well as diet-related illness. Shifting our food and farming system to capitalise on our local assets presents enormous opportunities for the health of our economy, people and the planet.

The Sustainable Production & Supply of Food Challenge requires applicants to clearly demonstrate how their innovative solutions will:

- increase the sustainable production of food in the region and generate positive economic, social and environmental impacts; and
- supply nutritious locally grown food, whilst ensuring a fair price for producers and the wellbeing of future generations.

The competition, which is funded by the CCR Challenge Fund and Welsh Government, and hosted by Cardiff Council, will run in three phases and is due to commence in October 2022, with success to be evaluated by 2025. Organisations interested in applying for the challenge funding can register their interest at: <https://sdi.click/spsf>

Cardiff Coastal Protection Scheme

I can confirm that the Marine Licence has now been granted by Natural Resources Wales for the proposed flood defences on the River Rhymney and coastal areas within the city's Rumney and Splott wards. The scheme involves the provision of rock armour revetments, concrete erosion protection mats, earth bunds, a flood gate and sheet piling in order to reduce the risk of failing coastal flood defences and the release of contaminated landfill material into the Severn Estuary from the former Lamby Way Tip and the Rover Way Frag Tip, both in the immediate future and over the next 100 years. The scheme will also reduce and manage the flood risk to approximately 2,326 residential and approximately 204 commercial properties over the same period.

The scheme is currently awaiting planning approval and work is continuing to finalise the additional governing body related permissions to allow commencement of the scheme. Detailed assessment is also ongoing in relation to future tender, budgetary, contractual and organisational requirements to enable agreement and, ultimately, commencement of scheme delivery.

Councillor Caro Wild
Cabinet Member for Climate Change
15 July 2022