
TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

Transport Projects

The Transport Programme Team is continuing works on site as part of the Central Square, Tudor Street, City Centre East, Saunders Road and Cycleway 1 schemes, which amount to over £25million of infrastructure being delivered on the ground. Works on the Central Square and Tudor Street schemes are due to be completed this month. The Dock Feeder canal in the City Centre East Scheme is also now fully exposed and work is now focusing on building the supporting structures and public realm improvements.

Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE)

The Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) Team continues to undertake patrols across the city, issuing 16,609 Penalty Charge Notices last month via officer foot patrols, mobile enforcement vehicles, and both static and attended cameras. This is essential to managing the highway network to ensure the expeditious movement of traffic and improving road safety. Additional support has been provided during events in the city, to support with congestion around schools at the start of the new term, and as new controlled parking zones have gone live.

The CPE Team continues to work closely with colleagues across the Planning, Transport & Environment directorate to provide enforcement for new active travel schemes, including camera enforcement for School Streets using automatic moving traffic cameras. The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a School Street scheme at St Pauls Primary School in Grangetown has been sealed and we are hopeful of sealing the TRO for a School Street for Kitchener Primary School in Riverside very shortly. These schemes will be implemented over the coming months with support from the Active Travel Schools Team, which continues to engage with schools across the city and support them with implementation of their Active Travel Plans.

Highways Asset Management

This year, the Asset Management Team has already delivered reconstruction, resurfacing or associated treatment works to 122 streets in the city, reflecting investment of over £2.7million in highways assets. Work will continue to be delivered throughout the 2022/23 financial year, with another 16 streets included within the programme representing further investment of approximately £900,000. In addition, highway repairs and localised resurfacing works have been – and continue to be – delivered to roads and pavements throughout the city.

Electric Bus Scheme

The Council has received £8m of grant funding from the Welsh Government to support the transition to the use of electric buses on the Cardiff network. Consultation with bus operators on the scheme is being undertaken this month to inform how it will be implemented to achieve best value.

RSPCA PawPrints Awards 2022

I am pleased to announce that Cardiff Dogs Home has received two RSPCA PawPrints Awards – a Gold award in the Stray Dogs category and a Silver award in the Kennelled Dogs category. The awards have been made in recognition of the fact the standard of kennelling provided by Cardiff Dogs Home, and the way that staff look after stray dogs, exceeds basic and statutory service requirements. The service is supported by the Rescue Hotel charity, which raises funds to provide additional services such as qualified behaviourists for dogs awaiting rehoming.

PawPrints is the only award scheme across England and Wales to recognise and celebrate good practice, which drives forward higher animal welfare standards. The award scheme is also supported by the Local Government Association (LGA), Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI), among others.

Cardiff Dogs Home

I visited Cardiff Dogs Home on 7 October 2022 and met with staff and representatives of the Rescue Hotel charity who support the service, as well as some of our ever-reliable volunteers. The team at the Dogs Home provide a superb service and it was good to meet with the staff and discuss the work that they do and plans for the future of the service and how we would like to develop it in partnership with the Rescue Hotel. The Rescue Hotel charity has done sterling work and generated £270,000 in just 18 months to refurbish the kennels at the Dogs Home and has secured help from Capital Construction to assist with the development work. Whilst at the dogs' home I had the opportunity to meet with a number of the residents including a Lurcher mum 'Melanie' and her litter of seven pups and I picked up my Cardiff Dogs Home Calendar, which is available for purchase via the Rescue Hotel website or directly at the Dogs Home for £10, with all revenue received going directly to benefit the dogs in our care.

Cemetery of the Year 2022

After last month's great news that Cardiff Bereavement Services were successful in winning the APSE Cemetery & Crematorium Service Team of the Year Award, I am delighted to announce that Thornhill Cemetery was named Cemetery of the Year 2022 in the Large Burial Ground category. This is a wonderful and well-deserved achievement for the service and, once again, reinforces the high standards of service provided by the Council to Cardiff residents. I am sure that members will join me in passing on congratulations to all of the Bereavement Services Team on receiving the two most prestigious awards in their industry within the same year.

Memorial Services

Further to my Council Statement last month, I would like to remind members that the second of two special Covid-19 memorial services will be held at the Wenallt Chapel at Thornhill Crematorium on 26 October 2022 at 6.30pm. The service, which anyone is welcome to attend, will provide an opportunity for those who lost somebody close during the Covid-19 pandemic to remember loved ones and reflect on their passing.

In addition, the annual Christmas Memorial Service will be held at the Wenallt Chapel at Thornhill Crematorium on 11 December 2022 starting at 2:00pm and anyone is welcome to attend. Memorial Tags will be available for purchase for a suggested donation of £2, which can be hung on the memorial Christmas trees outside the Chapel. All proceeds will go to this year's supported charity, City Hospice.

Registration Services

Registration Services remain very busy with marriages and civil partnerships. In the current year of 2022, officers have had to deal post-pandemic with legal notices and ceremonies from 2020, 2021 and 2022. Looking forward, new ceremony bookings for 2023 and 2024 have increased as Cardiff continues to grow, not only in population, but also as a very desirable city in which to hold a ceremony. A number of bookings for 2025 have also been taken within the last few weeks.

Planning a wedding or civil partnership ceremony will hopefully become easier in the future. A small project team of Registration Services staff is currently developing a new online marriage portal for couples looking to have their marriage or civil partnership in Cardiff. This will enable 24/7 access for customers to choose their vows, make amendments, make payments, book appointments, ask questions etc. From an office administration perspective, it will instantly produce ceremony scripts, allow immediate resource allocation for ceremonies, cut down enormously on paperwork and unnecessary phone calls, and improve response times. This will provide the Ceremonies Team with time to deal with the more technical side of marriage and offer more one-to-one time with those couples who require more assistance.

It is now possible to register deaths every day at the Thornhill Cemetery offices, which customers have been very positive about. It provides the opportunity for them to speak to Bereavement Services staff after their registration appointment to get more information on cremation and burial offerings and discuss funeral arrangements in one visit.

Councillor Dan De'Ath
Cabinet Member for Transport & Strategic Planning
21 October 2022