

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 24 October 2019 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 18 October 2019.

Present: County Councillor (Lord Mayor)

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

86 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Asghar Ali, Thomas Parkhill and Emma Sandrey.

Councillor McEvoy had advised that he would be late in attending the meeting.

87 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct:

COUNCILLOR	ITEM	INTEREST
Councillor Gavin Hill-John	17	Personal Interest - Vice Chair, Cardiff Bus
Councillor Owen Jones	17	Personal Interest - Non-Executive Director, Cardiff Bus
Councillor Chris Lay	17	Personal Interest - Chair, Cardiff Bus
Councillor Singh	17	Personal Interest - Non-Executive Director, Cardiff Bus
Councillor Williams	17	Pecuniary Interest- Involved in an ongoing legal dispute with Cardiff Bus.

88 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

#### 89 : WHITCHURCH & TONGWYNLAIS BY-ELECTION

A warm welcome was extended to Councillor Mia Rees to her first meeting of the Council as the newly elected Member for the Whitchurch and Tongwynlais following the by-election on 3 October 2019. Councillor Rees was invited to speak.

Councillor Rees paid tribute to the late Councillor Tim Davies and his dedication to citizens of the area over many years in Whitchurch and Tongwynlais.

Councillor Rees thanked the Returning Officer and his team for the effective and efficiently run election and count, and thanked all the other candidates for their courtesy and professional approach to the campaign.

Councillor Rees was grateful for the trust given to him by the residents of Whitchurch and Tongwynlais; and the privilege to be their Councillor and an Elected Member of Cardiff Council. Councillor Rees underlined the importance to her of acting with integrity and respect and undertook to work hard to represent the interests of every individual in the ward as well as the interests of the citizens of Cardiff as a whole.

#### 90 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

##### Public Question – *Madhu Khanna-Davies*

The loss of the No. 28 bus service along Lake Road West has left the residents of a section of Cyncoed cut off and isolated, abandoned by a public service that no longer serves them. I ask the Council will they stand by the residents of Cyncoed and insist that Cardiff Bus reroute a service along Lake Road West?

##### Reply – *Councillor Wild*

The vast majority of bus services in Cardiff are provided commercially. Continuing pressures on the Council's budget due to austerity has seriously reduced our ability to subsidise non-commercial or socially necessary bus services and regrettably, this has meant that some services, which have been withdrawn as they were loss making have not been replaced.

The No. 28 bus service was re-routed as part of changes to services connected with the withdrawal of a number of bus services in January this year. This service still does serve Cyncoed, but now runs along Lake Road East instead of serving Lake Road West and Celyn Avenue as it did previously due to previous low passenger numbers.

##### Supplementary Question – *Madhu Khanna-Davies*

From the loss of the service along Lake Road West it is clear that Cardiff Bus does not consider the Cyncoed routes as profitable. We have lost other services under the same reasoning. The No. 54, historically the No. 29, and a reduced No. 51 and 53

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service. Going forward the question still remains - how is the Council and Cardiff Bus going to inclusively integrate and properly service Cyncoed as a whole, offering residents a viable, affordable and environmentally sound commuting option which at present is lacking? What plans do you have?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

We've made no bones about admitting that public transport in the City needs a lot of improvement. I would reiterate that Cardiff Bus operates as a commercial entity at arm's length from the Council. It is very difficult for us to insist exactly where they are running routes, however, we are very impressed with the recent work that Cardiff Bus has made recently, including work from people in this Chamber to improve that business and to serve more parts of Cardiff. And I'm happy to have ongoing negotiations with them to see how we can improve matters.

#### 91 : PETITIONS

The following petition was received:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>No of Signatures</b>	<b>Request</b>
Councillor Naughton	20	Calling on the Council to request the necessary powers from Welsh Government to introduce anti-idling zones outside schools to clean up the air children breath.

#### 92 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor spoke of the untimely and tragic passing away of Nick Beckley at the age of 35 after completing the Cardiff Half Marathon. Nick was a Senior Planner within the Planning Service. He was an immense talent in performing his role, a meticulous, passionate and hard-working Officer, indeed, a model public servant and rising star within the Council. Moreover, Nick was a hugely popular figure, a true gentleman and beacon of decency and moderation. On behalf of the Council the Lord Mayor offered sincere condolences to Nick's family and friends and would be writing to the family.

The Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor Stephen Cunnah and his partner Hannah on the birth of their daughter Megan Rose, born on the 14 October weighing in at 7lb 5oz.

#### 93 : NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Council was notified of the notice of vacancy for the Office of Councillor in the Electoral Division for Llanishen and the arrangements for an election to fill the vacancy.

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the vacancy for the Office of Councillor in the Electoral Division of Llanishen and the arrangements for an election to fill the vacancy.

94 : POLLING STATION REVIEW

Councillor Huw Thomas, Leader of the Council proposed the report.

Councillor Mick Jones-Pritchard seconded the report.

RESOLVED: That the Council:

- i) Approved the amalgamation of polling district 28B with 28A as noted in paragraph 11 (b)
- ii) Noted that the Electoral Registration Officer will implement any consequential changes to the register of electors.
- iii) Designates each polling place as within the general vicinity of each location utilised for polling station purposes.
- iv) Makes no other changes to the polling districts.
- v) Noted the Returning Officer shall confirm the polling stations within each district prior to elections, having regards to the proposals set out in paragraph 11 above and any other relevant factors pertaining at that time.

95 : CARDIFF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport proposed the report, which outlined the purpose of the Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) process and to seek the endorsement of the third Cardiff LDP AMR for submission to the Welsh Government by 31 October 2019. This was the third AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the plan and was based on the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2019.

The report was seconded by Councillor Keith Jones.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the item during which the following comments and observations were made.

Infrastructure to support large developments, public transport improvements, schools, hospital and other public services. Quality of design, along with parking spaces. Increased traffic into the city. Cycle improvements in Cardiff North and impact on the Future Generations and Wellbeing Act.

Councillor Joel Williams proposed a reference back on the report.

The reference back was seconded by Councillor Philippa Hill-John.

A recorded vote was requested on the reference back and the results were as follows:

For – Councillors G. Thomas, L Morgan, O Owen, M Rees, J Williams, S Driscoll, S Jenkins, K Kelloway, M Jones-Pritchard, J Lancaster, A Robson, J Cowan, M Phillips, D Rees, M Rees, D Walker, R McKerlich, L Hudson, P Hill-John, G Hill-John, F Bowden, A Gibson, L Ford, N McEvoy, K Parry.

Against – Councillors A Ahmed, H Joyce, R Goodway, A Lister, L Thorne, H Thomas, E Stubbs, B Derbyshire, R Patel, O Owen-Jones, M Michael, L Bridgeman, B Bowen-Thompson, J Burke-Davies, J Parry, K Singh, G Hinchey, C Weaver, J Henshaw, M McGarry, F Jacobsen, A Sattar, S Elsmore, S Goddard, S Cunnah, N Mackie, I Gordon, D Ali, S Ebrahim, E Simmons, C Lay, C Wild, S Merry, P Bradbury, K Jones, P Wong, S Lent, B Molik, J Boyle, R Hopkins, J Carter, R Berman, A Wood, D Naughton, N Howells.

The reference back LOST.

A recorded vote was requested on the recommendations as outlined in the report:

For - Councillors A Ahmed, H Joyce, R Goodway, A Lister, L Thorne, H Thomas, E Stubbs, B Derbyshire, R Patel, O Owen-Jones, M Michael, L Bridgeman, B Bowen-Thompson, J Burke-Davies, J Parry, K Singh, G Hinchey, C Weaver, J Henshaw, M McGarry, F Jacobsen, A Sattar, S Elsmore, S Goddard, S Cunnah, N Mackie, I Gordon, D Ali, S Ebrahim, E Simmons, C Lay, C Wild, S Merry, P Bradbury, K Jones, P Wong, S Lent.

Abstain – F Bowden.

Against - Councillors G. Thomas, L Morgan, M Rees, J Williams, S Driscoll, S Jenkins, K Kelloway, O Owen, M Jones-Pritchard, J Lancaster, A Robson, J Cowan, M Phillips, D Rees, M Rees, D Walker, R McKerlich, L Hudson, P Hill-John, G Hill-John, A Gibson, L Ford, K Parry, B Molik, J Boyle, R Hopkins, J Carter, R Berman, A Wood, D Naughton, N Howells.

RESOLVED: The report was CARRIED.

## 96 : STREET NAMING POLICY

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, Councillor Caro Wild proposed the report and recommended the Street Naming Policy. The Council had statutory responsibilities and powers, within the context of adoptive legislation, for the naming of streets, alteration of street names and indication of street names. The also had additional discretionary powers to provide a number or name to a property. Street naming and numbering had a number of important functions, for example, wayfinding, efficient delivery of mail and ensuring the emergency services could locate properties quickly.

The report was seconded by Councillor Huw Thomas, Leader of the Council.

The Lord Mayor invite debate on the item during which the following comments and observations were made.

The history of Cardiff street names and the story they told, should be accessible for everyone regardless of language preference. Clarity within the report on whether English street naming would be blocked. Would the Council have a mandate to enforce the policy on new developments.

Councillor Shaun Jenkins proposed a reference back on the report.

The reference back was seconded by Councillor Joel Williams.

A recorded vote was requested on the reference back and the results were as follows:

For – Councillors G. Thomas, L Morgan, M Rees, J Williams, S Driscoll, S Jenkins, K Kelloway, M Jones-Pritchard, J Lancaster, A Robson, J Cowan, M Phillips, D Rees, D Walker, R McKerlich, L Hudson, P Hill-John, G Hill-John.

Abstain - O Owen.

Against – Councillors A Ahmed, H Joyce, R Goodway, A Lister, L Thorne, H Thomas, E Stubbs, B Derbyshire, R Patel, O Owen-Jones, M Michael, L Bridgeman, B Bowen-Thompson, J Burke-Davies, J Parry, K Singh, G Hinchey, C Weaver, J Henshaw, M McGarry, F Jacobsen, A Sattar, S Elsmore, S Goddard, S Cunnah, N Mackie, I Gordon, D Ali, S Ebrahim, E Simmons, C Lay, C Wild, S Merry, P Bradbury, K Jones, P Wong, S Lent, B Molik, J Boyle, R Hopkins, J Carter, R Berman, A Wood, D Naughton, N Howells, F Bowden, A Gibson, L Ford, K Parry.

Reference Back was LOST

A recorded vote was requested on the Substantive report and the results were as follows:

Against – Councillors G Thomas, J Williams, S Jenkins, D Walker, R McKerlich.

Abstain – Councillors L Morgan, M Rees, K Kelloway, J Lancaster, M Phillips, D Rees, P Hill-John, G Hill-John.

For – Councillors O Owen, S Driscoll, M Jones-Pritchard, A Robson, J Cowan, L Hudson, F Bowden, A Gibson, L Ford, K Parry, A Ahmed, H Joyce, R Goodway, A Lister, L Thorne, H Thomas, E Stubbs, B Derbyshire, R Patel, O Owen-Jones, M Michael, L Bridgeman, B Bowen-Thompson, J Burke-Davies, J Parry, K Singh, G Hinchey, C Weaver, J Henshaw, M McGarry, F Jacobsen, A Sattar, S Elsmore, S Goddard, S Cunnah, N Mackie, I Gordon, D Ali, S Ebrahim, E Simmons, C Lay, C Wild, S Merry, P Bradbury, K Jones, P Wong, S Lent, B Molik, J Boyle, R Hopkins, J Carter, R Berman, A Wood, D Naughton, N Howells.

RESOLVED: The report was CARRIED.

## 97 : LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER STATEMENTS

The following statements were received and questions were invited from Members on matters within the statement.

### [The Leader's Statement](#)

The Leader responded to questions in relation to:

- Operation Yellowhammer and whether there had been any impact or actions for Cardiff;
- The Global Climate Strike and the findings of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors findings that energy used in existing buildings have the most significant impact in the built environment;
- What Cardiff Council has done specifically since declaring a Climate Emergency;
- The Council's preparedness for a General Election in terms of availability of Polling stations and the use of Registers;

### [Cabinet Member, Strategic Planning & Transport Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions relating to:

- Whether a Cycle Super Highway would be diverted away from Nant Fawr woodlands;
- An update on Next Bike Provision in Pentwyn and Llanedeyrn;
- An update on the infrastructure such as Bus Lanes to support a Park and Ride site at Nantgarw.

### [Cabinet Member, Investment & Development Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions relating to:

- The Indoor Arena and the provision of a car park in relation to modal split;
- Assurances around stations for Cardiff Parkway in Splott and Adamsdown;
- Transport Infrastructure to support the Cardiff East Industrial Strategy;
- Assurances about Green and Community Spaces being included in development plans.

### [Cabinet Member, Culture & Leisure Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions relating to:

- The reduction in the hours and days for free swimming for the over 60's;
- The future provision of the New Theatre and assurances for Staff;

### [Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member , Education, Employment & Skills Statement](#)

The Deputy Leader responded to questions in relation to:

- School Uniform, donation schemes and affordability.
- Rights Respecting Schools.
- Cardiff 2030 and Welsh Language provision.

[Cabinet Member, Finance Modernisation & Performance Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions relating to:

- The Mobile App and its development going forward in relation to users having confirmation texts and whether problem parking may be reported via the App;
- The concerns from Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee on the projected overspend.

[Cabinet Member, Housing & Communities Statement](#)

The Cabinet Member responded to questions relating to:

- The support provided in the Hubs for Concessionary Bus Pass applications, and support that may be provided after the application stage;
- Provision of services such as cafes in the Hubs;
- The Summer Reading Challenge;
- Request for information such as trends/number of users in relation to libraries;
- Assurance that the timescales in relation to Tudor Street can be met.

98 : MOTION 1

The Lord Mayor advised that the notice of motion proposed by Councillor Rhys Taylor and seconded by Councillor Joe Boyle had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. One amendment had been received.

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

This Council:

1. Welcomes the fact that the current administration declared a climate emergency in March 2019, noting the evidence that shows the impact of human-induced climate change.
2. Accepts the findings of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' 2017 'Whole life carbon assessment for the built environment' professionalism statement that the energy used in the operation of existing buildings represents the most significant carbon impact from the built environment contributing 30% of the UK total emissions in 2017.
3. Recognises that, in the words of the UK Green Building Council (UK GBC) the UK building industry currently rarely measures or reports on embodied carbon impacts for the maintenance repair, refurbishment and end-of life stages of a buildings lifecycle.
4. Believes that local authorities have a key role to play in ensuring that major construction projects, in which they have a stake, must be accounted for and offset all carbon impacts emerging from those projects.
5. Refuses, in light of its declared Climate emergency, to justify, endorse or progress major construction projects that cannot prove they will be net zero carbon in terms of both construction and operational energy use

This Council will therefore:

- Adopt the UK Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings* framework definition, in its current and future iterations, appending the framework to the Council's development plan, key policies and planning guidance, as appropriate.
- Require all major construction projects to demonstrate achievement of net zero carbon status, through application of the UKGBC *Net Zero Carbon Buildings* framework, before receiving cabinet approval.
- Sign up to the World Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment*, which 'challenges signatory companies, cities, states and regions to reach net zero carbon for operational energy in their portfolios by 2030, and to advocate for all buildings to be net zero in operation by 2050.'

The motion was seconded by Councillor Joe Boyle.

The Lord Mayor invited the proposer of the amendment Councillor Russell Goodway to table the amendment:

1. ***First line of paragraph 2 replace Accept with Notes.***
2. ***First line of paragraph 2 replace Accept with Notes***
3. ***First line of paragraph 3 replace Recognises with Notes***
4. ***Delete paragraph's 4 and 5.***

***Amend sentence to read:***

***The Council asks Cabinet to ensure that the future LDP review considers the impact of the following:***

***Amend paragraph to read***

- ***Adopting*** the UK Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings* framework definition, in its current and future iterations, appending the framework to the Council's development plan, key policies and planning guidance, as appropriate.
- ***Delete 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph***

***Amend paragraph to read***

- **Signing** up to the World Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment*, which 'challenges signatory companies, cities, states and regions to reach net zero carbon for operational energy in their portfolios by 2030, and to advocate for all buildings to be net zero in operation by 2050.'

**Additional Paragraph to read:**

Furthermore, the Council welcomes the Cabinet's already stated intention to publish, early next year, a comprehensive strategy in response to the Climate Emergency Declaration and requests that the strategy gives full consideration to how a net zero carbon position can be achieved.

Amended Motion read:

The Council:

1. Welcomes the fact that the current administration declared a climate emergency in March 2019, noting the evidence that shows the impact of human-induced climate change.
2. Notes the findings of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' 2017 '*Whole life carbon assessment for the built environment*' professional statement that the energy used in the operation of existing buildings represents the most significant carbon impact from the built environment, contributing 30% of the UK's total emissions in 2017.

Notes that, in the words of the UK Green Building Council [UK GBC], 'the UK building industry currently rarely measures or reports on embodied carbon impacts for the maintenance, repair, refurbishment and Th Council asks Cabinet to ensure that the future LDP review considers the impact of the following: :

- Adopting the UK Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings* framework definition, in its current and future iterations, appending the framework to the Council's development plan, key policies and planning guidance, as appropriate.
- Signing up to the World Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment*, which 'challenges signatory companies, cities, states and regions to reach net zero carbon for operational energy in their portfolios by 2030, and to advocate for all buildings to be net zero in operation by 2050.'

Furthermore, the Council welcomes the Cabinet's already stated intention to publish, early next year, a comprehensive strategy in response to the Climate Emergency Declaration and requests that the strategy gives full consideration to how a net zero carbon position can be achieved.

Councillor Michael seconded the amendment.

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The Lord Mayor invited debate, the Lord Mayor invited Councillor Taylor to respond to items raised during the debate. Councillor Taylor did not accept the amendment.

The Lord Mayor moved to vote on the Amendment proposed by Councillor Goodway.

The Amendment was CARRIED.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Goodway as the proposer of the Substantive Motion to the right of reply.

The Lord Mayor moved to the vote on the Substantive Motion

The Substantive Motion was CARRIED as follows.

The Council:

Welcomes the fact that the current administration declared a climate emergency in March 2019, noting the evidence that shows the impact of human-induced climate change.

Notes the findings of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' 2017 '*Whole life carbon assessment for the built environment*' professional statement that the energy used in the operation of existing buildings represents the most significant carbon impact from the built environment, contributing 30% of the UK's total emissions in 2017.

Notes that, in the words of the UK Green Building Council [UK GBC], 'the UK building industry currently rarely measures or reports on embodied carbon impacts for the maintenance, repair, refurbishment and Th Council asks Cabinet to ensure that the future LDP review considers the impact of the following: :

- Adopting the UK Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings* framework definition, in its current and future iterations, appending the framework to the Council's development plan, key policies and planning guidance, as appropriate.
- Signing up to the World Green Building Council's *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment*, which 'challenges signatory companies, cities, states and regions to reach net zero carbon for operational energy in their portfolios by 2030, and to advocate for all buildings to be net zero in operation by 2050.'

Furthermore, the Council welcomes the Cabinet's already stated intention to publish, early next year, a comprehensive strategy in response to the Climate Emergency Declaration and requests that the strategy gives full consideration to how a net zero carbon position can be achieved.

99 : MOTION 2

The Lord Mayor advised that the notice of motion proposed by Councillor John Lancaster and seconded by Councillor Shaun Jenkins had been received for consideration and was included on the Summons for the meeting. Two amendments had been received to the motion.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Lancaster to propose the motion as follows.

According to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (December 2018), the essential difference between a green wedge and a Green Belt is, "...that land within a Green Belt should be protected for a longer period than the relevant current development plan period, whereas green wedge policies should be reviewed as part of the development plan review process."

This Council notes:

- The current Local Development Plan will expire in 2026.
- That the green wedge protection to the North of Cardiff, stretching from Creigiau to St Mellons will be reviewed as part of the next LDP.
- That the National Development Framework Consultation Draft states: "The Welsh Government supports the use of green belts in the South East region in managing and planning urban growth. Planning Policy Wales sets out the policy context for them. The Strategic Development Plan must identify a green belt that includes the area to the north of the M4 from the Severn Crossings to North Cardiff."

We therefore call on this Council to work with neighbouring Local Authorities to reaffirm and enhance the protection by designating the current green wedge land as a Green Belt in order to afford greater long term protection to the City region's green assets.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Jenkins.

The Lord Mayor took each of the amendments in order.

Amendment 1: Proposed by Councillor Rodney Berman and seconded by Councillor Nigel Howells.

The amendment was as follows:

- *Remove full stop after "green assets" at end of motion and add:*

*“; and in order to ensure that this does not adversely impact on the ability to address future housing need, lobby the Welsh Government to introduce greater flexibility in the planning framework and relevant Welsh planning policies to enable such need to be addressed and met on a more regional*

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*basis across local authorities in the wider region with less reliance on individual local authorities having to assess and plan for future housing need in isolation within their own boundaries.”*

Amended Motion would read as follows:

According to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (December 2018), the essential difference between a green wedge and a Green Belt is, “...that land within a Green Belt should be protected for a longer period than the relevant current development plan period, whereas green wedge policies should be reviewed as part of the development plan review process.”

This Council notes:

- The current Local Development Plan will expire in 2026.
- That the green wedge protection to the North of Cardiff, stretching from Creigiau to St Mellons will be reviewed as part of the next LDP.
- That the National Development Framework Consultation Draft states: *“The Welsh Government supports the use of green belts in the South East region in managing and planning urban growth. Planning Policy Wales sets out the policy context for them. The Strategic Development Plan must identify a green belt that includes the area to the north of the M4 from the Severn Crossings to North Cardiff.”*

We therefore call on this Council to work with neighbouring Local Authorities to reaffirm and enhance the protection by designating the current green wedge land as a Green Belt in order to afford greater long term protection to the City region’s green assets and in order to ensure that this does not adversely impact on the ability to address future housing need, lobby the Welsh Government to introduce greater flexibility in the planning framework and relevant Welsh planning policies to enable such need to be addressed and met on a more regional basis across local authorities in the wider region with less reliance on individual local authorities having to assess and plan for future housing need in isolation within their own boundaries.”

Amendment 2: Proposed by Councillor Caro Wild and seconded by Councillor Bob Derbyshire.

The amendment was as follows:

According to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (December 2018), the essential difference between a green wedge and a Green Belt is, “...that land within a Green Belt should be protected for a longer period than the relevant current development plan period, whereas green wedge policies should be reviewed as part of the development plan review process.”

This Council notes:

- Adds. That the Council applied for Green Belt designation for our current LDP, but were refused by the independent planning inspectorate.
- The current Local Development Plan will expire in 2026.

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- That the green wedge protection to the North of Cardiff, stretching from Creigiau to St Mellons will be reviewed as part of the next LDP.  
Adds. This administration's continued commitment to protecting the green belt area.
- That the National Development Framework Consultation Draft states:  
*"The Welsh Government supports the use of green belts in the South East region in managing and planning urban growth. Planning Policy Wales sets out the policy context for them. The Strategic Development Plan must identify a green belt that includes the area to the north of the M4 from the Severn Crossings to North Cardiff."*

We therefore call on this Council to work with neighbouring Local Authorities

ADD and the Welsh Government to reaffirm and enhance the protection

~~DELETE by designating the current green wedge land as a Green Belt in order to afford greater long term protection to the City region's green assets.~~

ADD for this site and green spaces across the whole City as part of our next LDP review, and via any forthcoming consultations around a possible Regional SDP.

Amended Motion would read:

According to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (December 2018), the essential difference between a green wedge and a Green Belt is, "...that land within a Green Belt should be protected for a longer period than the relevant current development plan period, whereas green wedge policies should be reviewed as part of the development plan review process."

This Council notes:

- That the Council applied for Green Belt designation for our current LDP, but were refused by the independent planning inspectorate.
- The current Local Development Plan will expire in 2026.
- That the green wedge protection to the North of Cardiff, stretching from Creigiau to St Mellons will be reviewed as part of the next LDP.
- This administration's continued commitment to protecting the green belt area.
- That the National Development Framework Consultation Draft states:  
*"The Welsh Government supports the use of green belts in the South East region in managing and planning urban growth. Planning Policy Wales sets out the policy context for them. The Strategic Development Plan must identify a green belt that includes the area to the north of the M4 from the Severn Crossings to North Cardiff."*

We therefore call on this Council to work with neighbouring Local Authorities and the Welsh Government to reaffirm and enhance the protection for this site and green spaces across the whole City as part of our next LDP review, and via any forthcoming consultations around a possible Regional SDP.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the motion.

At the conclusion of the debate the Lord Mayor invited Councillor John Lancaster to respond. In summing up Councillor Lancaster confirmed that he accepted Amendment 1 as the substantive motion.

The Lord Mayor moved to vote on Amendment 2 as proposed by Councillor Caro Wild.

The vote on Amendment 2 was CARRIED.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Wild as proposer of the Substantive motion the right of reply.

The Lord Mayor moved to the vote on the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was CARRIED as follows.

According to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (December 2018), the essential difference between a green wedge and a Green Belt is, "...that land within a Green Belt should be protected for a longer period than the relevant current development plan period, whereas green wedge policies should be reviewed as part of the development plan review process."

This Council notes:

- That the Council applied for Green Belt designation for our current LDP, but were refused by the independent planning inspectorate.
- The current Local Development Plan will expire in 2026.
- That the green wedge protection to the North of Cardiff, stretching from Creigiau to St Mellons will be reviewed as part of the next LDP.
- This administration's continued commitment to protecting the green belt area.
- That the National Development Framework Consultation Draft states:  
*"The Welsh Government supports the use of green belts in the South East region in managing and planning urban growth. Planning Policy Wales sets out the policy context for them. The Strategic Development Plan must identify a green belt that includes the area to the north of the M4 from the Severn Crossings to North Cardiff."*

We therefore call on this Council to work with neighbouring Local Authorities and the Welsh Government to reaffirm and enhance the protection for this site and green spaces across the whole City as part of our next LDP review, and via any forthcoming consultations around a possible Regional SDP.

100 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question – *Councillor Robson*

Between 2014/15 - 2018/19 £26.4m was spent on redundancy payments for 1,246 staff yet the Council's total overall headcount fell by less than 300. What actions will you take to ensure that future budget savings are achievable and that newly created posts are under tight control throughout the whole Council?

Reply – *Councillor Weaver*

To be clear all redundancies must evidence a net financial benefit to the Council over a 5-year period. It is important to remember of course that redundancy costs are a one-off, and that the saving is of course ongoing. Your question though as to the headcount hasn't reduced at quite the same rate as redundancies, that is exactly as we would expect. Services have not all reduced at the same rate. So savings from in redundancies in some areas have helped to close that budget gap each year which we have to do in order to create new posts in those areas of growth and demand in Schools and Social Services in particular. So, for example, non-school jobs in this Council have reduced over the last 5 years but the net number of jobs in schools has increased, we have had increased pupil numbers, we have increased school places and so we have had a net headcount increase. It's also worth noting that over the years we have successfully attracted various bits of grant funding for a number of projects in various service areas, and of course sometimes we will use our grant funding to recruit to posts and bring new people in that way, but of course that is not an additional burden to the Council.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Robson*

Sorry Councillor I missed the first part of your answer because of the noise but I take the point about things like grant funding where it is not a cost to the Council to increase the headcount however when you look at what are bare figures like this, it does seem that we have lost, unfortunately, a number of staff and yet the headcount hadn't fallen a lot, so whereas I think I expected the gap between the reduction in headcount and the payments on redundancies to be a lot wider, that is my concern, it's about the budgeting process and making sure that when we do decide to take that difficult decision to make redundancies, that actually it is meaningful for the

Council in terms of savings and that we're not just, it had happened in certain departments, bringing consultants back in to fill a gap that was perhaps unforeseen.

Reply – *Councillor Weaver*

No I understand that, I think this might help explain it perhaps if you look at non-school services we've had just over 800 redundancies over that period with a net headcount reduction of 768 so it actually very closely correlated. It's actually in schools where, even though they have been redundancies in an individual school because each school sets its budget, has its own power set its budget, across the city we actually had a net headcount increase of nearly 400 staff in schools that just reflect our growing pupil numbers and the increased number of places we've offered in schools in the city. I can I can write to you about the first part of my answer is obviously can have the full answer.

Question – *Councillor Berman*

Following the recent publication of the Welsh Government's finalised obesity strategy, '*Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales*', will the council:

- a) now take action to work with the city's schools on initiatives aimed at tackling obesity amongst children;
- b) work with local businesses to promote greater provision of nutritional information to give customers the ability to make better informed choices when eating out;
- c) look into the possibility of imposing a ban on junk food advertising on all council-controlled advertising sites;
- d) work towards increased provision of water re-fill stations;
- e) ensure action aimed at preventing and tackling obesity is co-ordinated across council policies; and
- f) explore the development of planning policies with a view to placing limits on the establishment of new hot food takeaways around schools and communities?

Reply – *Councillor Huw Thomas*

I was struck by some of your suggestions, they did strike me as possibly a bit illiberal, some of the ideas, but I welcome your move towards the conversion towards a centralised planned economy. This is an agenda that we take very seriously in Cardiff as you will be aware and we had some discussion in the Chamber tonight about needing to read various documents well can I urge you to familiarise yourself with the Cardiff Healthy Schools Twitter account, so not too much reading, but you will see there, very simply, excellent examples of actually exactly how we are working with the city's schools on initiatives aimed at tackling obesity amongst children. Can I take the opportunity of congratulating three schools who, just within the last week, have achieved awards, Hywel Dda Primary achieved Phase 4 of the Healthy School Programme, Coryton Primary who achieved Phase 6, of the Healthy School Programme and Glyncoed Primary were in fact were awarded a national award for their work on healthy eating. I could go through each of your suggestions in terms of

various ways we are responding to it but I'm sure you want to cover that in the supplementary

Supplementary Question - *Councillor Berman*

The points that are in the question are all points that were picking up on issues in the motion we put forward that your amendment removed but subsequently but then subsequently have made it in similar format to the Welsh government statutory so really I'm hoping to see that the Council is going to now embrace taking some of these issues forward hopefully more than just putting out a few tweets as you referred to so could we perhaps have a report come to Council in the near future that demonstrates how the Council is going to take a lot of these issues forward.

Reply – *Councillor Huw Thomas*

I don't want to dwell on the tweeting but that tweeting represents a programme that is 20 years old and has delivered significant events including, I would imagine, when you were Leader. On other fronts, in relation to the questions you are asking, Councillor Michael will give you chapter and verse, at some length I'm sure, about our refill stations strategy, our award-winning food strategy which is about to be refreshed next month but I will congratulate the Councillor for helping shape Welsh Government Policy as well, certainly as the Public Services Board in Cardiff we will be, next week in fact, considering a city-wide response to delivering then Welsh Government Strategy. You will be aware that the aware that the Cardiff Public Health Team have launched the Move More, Eat Well Action plan – that's got specific actions for all public authorities and certainly as a Council we will be looking to play our full part in delivering them.

Question – *Councillor McGarry*

Now that there are lots of new cycling lanes to encourage cycling in the city, what are the plans to inspect and repair, if necessary, all the old cycling lanes?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Our plans to develop cycle routes across the city are not limited to developing new routes. We are also working on upgrading and improving existing routes, for example our recent upgrade of the poor quality cycle lane through the North Road car park.

We are also currently seeking the views of cyclists through an online survey as to which cycle routes would benefit most from resurfacing. The results of this survey will be taken into account when we prioritise our resurfacing programme..

Supplementary Question – *Councillor McGarry*

I just wondered, when they do the survey, are they people on bicycles cycling those routes so that they can see where the edges of the roads on the cycle ways, they are often very uneven, not just potholes, but very uneven so that you actually have to cycle up on the pavement to get by so I hope they are people on bicycles that do these surveys.

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

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Exactly that, I think surveys when they have done traditional engineering has focused mainly on the overall surface rather than the bit to the left which is exactly why we have cyclists for their views and they have told us. Broadly speaking we have actually resurfaced most of the ones they have listed as the worse but the deadline for that conversation for tomorrow if you want to get that in.

Question – *Councillor Cowan*

During the last financial year:

How many children were placed in out of county placements, which is the furthest location from Cardiff, which was the most expensive placement and associated costs and the total cost of all placements?

Reply – *Councillor Hinchey*

I would be happy to meet with you because the question is a little bit vague in terms of the question. Placements cover a wide range of services and options that we do for children looked after. I would be happy to meet with you to discuss in more detail the question that you have put forward but you probably need to be a little bit more specific about the type of placement you are referring to and the related costs could be then worked out. For example – Residential, Fostering, Kinship Care, Supported Lodging, Special Guardianship, When I'm Ready placements, and the list goes on. I would be more than happy to work with you, in fact last night I think some Members in the Chamber were here and we went through some of the detail of the various placements of what they actually mean rather than come up with the headline figure that may be good for leaflets I'm more interested in the right type of placement for that right child. We heard some really good stories last night about one particular young person, in fact the Regional Partnership Board had the video the day before about an external placement – placed that girl up in Scotland. We've talked about some of these distances it doesn't mean to say it's wrong. Actually the story, which I am more than happy to share with you, it was a very very successful story in terms of repatriating that young person back to back to their family and a really successful life so in terms of the detail I know you would like some headline figures but I think firstly you need to understand, perhaps if you could come to the next Children's Services briefing, you would understand the different types, I think you would probably understand because the feedback across the Chamber, I see people nodding even in your own party, was really helpful because it is sort of identified the different types of placements and what they are so more than happy to work with you.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Cowan*

I have to say Lord Mayor I have sat here quietly all night because I am absolutely raging I have to say. The Councillor here is alleging that we want to use this information for election purposes for newsletters, that's not the point – I have asked this question previously and I have to say your lack of action in relation to how we

have been treated tonight has been nothing short of disgraceful I have to say. I will write to you.

*Question – Councillor Berman*

Is the cabinet member satisfied that the Month 4 Budget Monitoring Report presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 26 September showed that the council is projected to fail to achieve £6.290 million in savings out of the £19.157 million of savings agreed in the 2019-20 budget, representing just under a third of planned savings this year and demonstrating that budget control in this authority seems to be completely lacking once again?

*Reply – Councillor Weaver*

As you will know from the report I am not satisfied with our position in Month 4 even though I am confident that overall we will reach a balanced position by end of year. We are all aware that it is increasingly difficult to continue to deliver savings on a scale required to balance the budget each year and there's no escaping that. A number of the savings proposals we passed in February though had an achievability risk of red or red amber. In order to reflect this risk we included a contingency budget of three million pounds, this contingency, along with the other measures were taking as part of in-year budget control and mitigating the impact on the bottom line.

However looking forward to next year's budget, I'm going to continue to push for an even greater focus and making sure our saving proposals are in a state of detailed planning and for implementation to begin as early as possible to increase our confidence we will be able to deliver both transformational and efficiency savings. We will of course also be reviewing the pressures building in certain service areas to ensure that our base budget position reflects that.

*Supplementary Question – Councillor Berman*

It is quite frankly embarrassing that such a high proportion of the savings that are agreed in this year's budget are projected not to be met by the end of the year, I mean, a third is quite ridiculous. And when we looked at this at scrutiny we looked at a couple of service areas, one of the areas which is overspending, facilities management, where there is a projected overspend of about half a million. When I questioned how we come to that it became quite clear that we appear to have set an unrealistic budget for the ongoing servers and yet the council has carried on spending despite the fact that we should had known beforehand that there wasn't enough funding allocated for what was being provided.

So I suppose my question to you is what steps are you now going to take to make sure that not just savings proposals but underlying budget are given the appropriate level of challenge to ensure that we are not in a repeat of this position yet again next year?

Reply – *Councillor Weaver*

I have already said that is exactly what we are doing in terms of reviewing our base budget, but I tell you what is embarrassing is the ten years of cut that local government has suffered in this country.

If you look at the savings that we have now achieved 4 million of those in social services, particularly Children Services, we know the pressures that are coming there, they are national. We do not get given the budget we deserve to put into that service.

So yes, we do ask service areas to push forward challenging savings and they are difficult to make, but that is why we have a consolidated budget so that we can take those risks, we can push for transformation rather than just simply shutting the doors on the services we need. But that gives us the financial stability to do that. Now yes I want many more savings achieved than we have done so far this year and we will continue to push them out. But I will make no apology that the fact that we will seek to protect services wherever we can, we will put forward challenging services and we will make sure that this Council is in a financial position that we can take those risks.

Question – *Councillor Dilwar Ali*

Can the Cabinet Member make a statement about the next rollout in Cardiff North of the Next bikes?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Thanks to Councillor Ali for taking me there. As you may be aware, officers are currently involved in the installation of additional Next bike stations in the city, I can see them popping up around the place following there was a bit of a pause because of the significant vandalism.

Additional locations are scheduled to be installed this autumn in the North Cardiff area, including Llandaff North, at the train station, and I know that we are working with Transport Wales, a little bit frustrating that we haven't got that in already, but I'm told that it's still planned to be in this round.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Ali*

Thank you for the update about the Llandaff North stations. Do you have any timeframe when we can have the Next Bike in Llandaff North?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Soon as I can make it happen.

*Question – Councillor Williams*

The Conference and Events Team at City Hall do a tremendous job and last year generated over £1m in revenue for the Council. I'm sure you'll wish to join me and acknowledge and thank the Conference and Events Team for all they do for our Council and our City. It is important that all our Officers based at City Hall are kept fully briefed and updated on any plans the administration has for City Hall – it is disappointing that in recent times Officers have not been kept informed and have relied on press reports for information. This is unacceptable. Can you update Full Council on your plans for the future of City Hall?

*Reply – Councillor Goodway*

I am sure that my colleague, Councillor Bradbury, the Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure will welcome Councillor William's kind remarks regarding the performance of the Council's City Hall Conference & Events Team and no doubt he will convey the sentiments you express to the team leader.

I can inform the Councillor that the Council has no extant plans for City Hall, and therefore, there are no plans on which I can base an update to Council or which could be shared with members of staff located in the building.

*Supplementary Question – Councillor Williams*

Just to confirm the Conference & Events Team at City Hall do a fantastic job, and they deserve our praise, and I think that's great that it's across the party chamber.

Councillor Goodway can you give an update to staff at City Hall because staff are rightfully anxious about the future of City Hall. We are after an undertaking that throughout the course of your administration, Councillor Thomas' administration, two and a half years left, there will be no attempt to palm of City Hall to a third-party to lease it out. Can you give us that undertaking this evening?

*Reply – Councillor Goodway*

The illustration position in relation to the development of the protection of our heritage buildings is on the public record. It has been the matter of a cabinet report which I refer the Councillor to. He will be well informed and then he won't have to mislead the staff at City Hall.

*Question – Councillor Taylor*

What does the council consider to be safe levels of air pollution outside our schools?

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

I would refer you to the answer provided to your Written Question on this same subject.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Taylor*

Thank you for your response to my written question, you may be aware that more than half of GPs in Cardiff are in places where PM 2.5 is above World Health Organisation averages. I was wondering whether you would adopt better practices in reporting on World Health Organisation's levels for PM 2.5 as a matter of best practice to make sure that we are driving the best health outcomes for people in this city.

Reply – *Councillor Michael*

There is no safe safe level in air pollution, it is a legal level in which we express that what we have done is monitored is below that level. In schools for instance we monitor regularly, we've actually doubled the monitoring we are doing. What we will continue to do is be within that low level and continue to do the best we can to get the air quality of this city as low as we can possible.

Question – *Councillor Keith Jones*

Can the Cabinet Member give an update on the Capital Ambition statement on restoring sailing on the Llanishen reservoir?

Reply – *Councillor Bradbury*

I can confirm that the Council, through the Parks service, is part of a stakeholder group that is actively involved in a project led by Welsh Water that is aimed at bringing the site back into use for recreational purposes.

I understand that the recruitment process for the Partnership Manager for the project will conclude shortly and Welsh Water are in the process of preparing for the pre-application planning stage, which will involve consultation with local communities. This is a key commitment as part of Capital Ambition document and good progress is being made on it.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Jones*

As the members will know I have also been a keen sailor all my life. I welcome the response, obviously as Cllr Williams has said before, he's raised questions we are councillors for the entire city. So this is good news for the people of Llanishen but also Llanrumney and everybody across the city.

I've been going for the last 23 years, I have had the good fortunes of going to Banbury where Mrs Jones hails from, and they have a wonderful reservoir which is

just a few minutes from that lovely English market town and there it's used for recreation sailing, lots of activities for the families.

Do you have any idea with the further work the Labour Council can do to ensure that I can reciprocate to the in-laws what they've showed me for 23 years? They have a wonderful reservoir, I can show them Cardiff's wonderful reservoir.

*Reply – Councillor Bradbury*

I note your long-standing interest in sailing and that the timing of this question is purely coincidental. I also always wanted to make sure that you are pleasing your in-laws so I will leave you with this, that Welsh Water have started the refilling of Llanishen reservoir naturally using a combination of rain water and local streams that will feed into it. That process will take two years and that is something that all members of this Chamber can be delighted about, particularly those who fought so hard against the reservoir being drained in the first place.

*Question – Councillor Jones-Pritchard*

With regard to Cardiff's policy on the housing of young people leaving our care, how many are successfully placed in safe and secure long term assured housing and what are the outcomes for those who are not?

Will you please provide a breakdown of the various outcomes and the numbers/percentages of care leavers applicable to each outcome, including any for whom no provision is able to be made?

*Reply – Councillor Thorne*

Children's Services and Housing & Communities work closely to ensure that young people who are leaving care move on successfully into permanent housing.

A high priority for social housing is given to young people leaving care or who have become homeless at a young age and training and support is provided to help them move on into independence.

Tenancy training is offered to young people moving into independent living to ensure that they have the skills necessary to maintain a tenancy. 192 young people have received this training to date, of whom around 50% are young people leaving care.

Housing related support is available for 6 months after the young person has moved into independent living. 154 people have received this support and, again, around 50% were from leaving care. Only 2 tenancies have failed.

Where tenancies do fail, young people can return into supported housing and will be considered for another tenancy when their support needs have been addressed. We have no record of any care leavers not being able to secure accommodation.

*Supplementary Question – Councillor Pritchard*

I'm sure we agree the importance of keeping our care for our children, for whom we are corporate parents, extends beyond the time of which they cease to be of an age when they have to be looked after by other adults.

Reply – *Councillor*

It is crucial. They have been through some traumatic experiences more often than not throughout their lives, and they are young lives. And it is important that we provide that support and enable them actually to live fulfilled lives. That's what we try to do.

Question – *Councillor Wood*

Many areas of the city cannot easily access the services provided by the community hubs due to distance or poor public transport links. Does the council have any plans for additional community hubs?

Reply – *Councillor Thorne*

I recall when we rolled out plans to develop new community hubs in the city back in 2012/13 that they were met with criticism from opposition members. Now it seems everybody wants one!

The success of our hubs programme is testament to our commitment to keeping services operating within our local communities and to protecting and enhancing our library services.

We have already fully developed 12 hubs which offer a wide range of services and activities and they are very much valued by their communities.

Our first Youth Hub at Butetown Pavilion is also currently undergoing refurbishment. We are also now further developing our existing library buildings. We have plans for the redevelopment of two of these buildings – Rhydypennau and Whitchurch – and funding bids have been submitted. We will continue to develop plans to raise the standard of the remaining buildings.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Wood*

I just want it to be clear that I wasn't criticising how things are - actually very welcome.

Many of the residents in my ward, particularly the Mynachdy estate, have expressed difficulty reaching existing hubs. I admit there might be difficulties in trying to build new hubs because of the costs, but maybe the Council - would be willing to look at ways of alternative delivery of some of those services in the communities that need them, that might be further away from the existing hubs.

Reply – *Councillor Thorne*

Other services are available that reach out into the community – including a mobile library and housebound service; our Independent Living Service which provides

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

advice over the phone or in the home where needed; and our Advice Line which provides money advice with home visits available as needed and I've personally arranged home visits particularly for money advice for constituents that have contacted me and I really think that we need to promote that. The other thing I'd like to have but very often people believe that money advice is only available to those people who are on benefits. It is not, it is available for people who are working staff.

Question – *Councillor Gordon*

What is the Council's policy on the design of cycle parking stands?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Cycle parking stands should comply with Welsh Government's Active Travel Design Guidance and, in the case of new development, the Council's SPG on Managing Transportation Impacts.

Sheffield-type stands are considered to be appropriate for short stay cycle parking in most situations. Alternatives would be considered as long as they provide at least the same level of service as a Sheffield stand.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Gordon*

It's great and there are definitely - as well as lot of people on Next bikes around our city, there are also, as a cyclist, I see on a daily basis more and more cyclists out and about even though the weather is getting a bit cooler now. But locking up your bike safely is absolutely essential to being able to know if you can take your bike out and the Sheffield-type stands which you mentioned are good ones because you can lean your bike up against a stand without it falling over and then lock your bike up. So where there are stands, which has been installed even though recently, which don't comply to that standard, will you be able to replace them with the ones that are recommend by the Active Travel guidance?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I'll look into that. It is really good to see all these stands full. I looked around Central Square the other day and I've been noticing five or six stands including a lot of the new ones full to the brim with bikes, and we know we put in and doubled the amount of cycle parking over the last couple of years. That's really good to see. I mean bikes come in different shapes and sizes now so I think, I wouldn't want to say we'll remove old ones but able to make sure we put in other suitable new ones cos bikes of different shapes and sizes may well be suitable for different stands. If there is a particular problem with a type then obviously we'll need to look at that and consider removing it.

Question – *Councillor Williams*

How many employees have been dismissed from the employment of the Council for gross misconduct in the last three years?

Please provide a breakdown of annual numbers and the broad subject of the misconduct which resulted in the dismissal.

Reply – *Councillor Weaver*

Across the Council, including schools, there have been 33 dismissals for gross misconduct between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019.

There were:

- 14 dismissals in 2016/17;
- 10 dismissals in 2017/18;
- 4 dismissals in 2018/19; and
- 5 so far this financial year to date.

The broad categories for the dismissals include:

- Breach of trust;
- Conduct and/or behaviour outside of work;
- Fraud or dishonesty;
- Safeguarding;
- Unacceptable behaviour within work;
- Breaches of Council policies; and
- Frustration of contract.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Williams*

Thank you for the response, obviously some very concerning revelations in his answer to my question specifically turning to the waste department. It is public knowledge that there is an ongoing investigation by South Wales Police. When that concludes Councillor Weaver, would you agree with me that it is entirely proper to instruct an independent investigation, so someone independent from the council can come in and investigate the waste department, and the allegations that are there after it has concluded so this council can best learn and learn from the recommendations?

Reply – *Councillor Weaver*

The council has thorough and utterly valid investigation processes, the rights of our members of staff are clear, our procedures are clear. I'm not going to comment on an investigation that's ongoing of course - like any large organisation, including the government, there will be issues where members of staff do misbehave and it is right that it is dealt with in the appropriate manner which is outside of this Chamber.

Question – *Councillor Boyle*

Does the cabinet member believe the Zenith student accommodation block is of sufficient architectural merit for a building of such prominence?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

My own personal view on the architectural merits of the building in question are pretty irrelevant as I was not involved in the planning decision that was taken by the Council's Planning Committee. So it's fairly irrelevant for me to comment and slightly unbecoming to comment on homes that people are now living in.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Boyle*

I think it is very disappointing. I think we have a privilege position as elected representatives to start calling out low quality architecture and to send a message to architects, developers and planners that we won't accept lazy, brutal and anachronistic design and we are entitled to have an opinion and I would had thought that you and your cabinet position would have a particular position to that. So perhaps you can tell the Council how you use your role to promote good quality architectural design?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

Councillor Boyle, again, we are entitled to our opinion and you are entitled to your opinion and the other people who are entitled to their opinion was the planning committee. And I don't know if you got involved at the planning committee stage to look into the architectural merits. That's when the conversation happens and it happens next to SPGs which talk very in depth about architectural qualities of tall buildings. That's the time to do it. It's easy to come in afterwards and you don't like something. The time to actually make the comment is before. And actually when I walk down that street, East Tindall Street, it use to be car parks, it use to be wasteland and I see a thriving community down there now. It is thriving, people are living there and it's opened up the canal, opened up jobs and I'm proud when I walk down that street in terms of the development that's happened in that area

Question – *Councillor Robson*

Does the Leader believe that pedestrians and road traffic should be separated as much as possible?

Reply – *Councillor Huw Thomas*

I am grateful to the leader of the opposition for his slightly cryptic questions about separation of road traffic and pedestrians. I think I can best answer it by referring to a quote from Welsh Labour's very own Aneurin Bevan 'we know what happens to people who stay in the middle of the road. They get knocked over'.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Robson*

Thank you for that enlightening reply. The question referred to the suggestion's that have emerged about filling in the underpass opposite City Hall. My opinion certainly is that if you fill in the underpass pedestrians will have to go over the road. I understand that's an issue at the minute. But please can you advise, in writing if necessary, what an anticipated cost would be for filling in the underpass, which I think in my view is money not well spent and also what more can be done to improve

safety so that pedestrians can who decide to take their chicken run can be dissuaded from doing so?

Reply – *Councillor Huw Thomas*

The plans that made the public domain last week around the underpass are at a very early stage and I have mixed views about them.

Clearly when you look at, for example the grass verges, around that area you can see they are actually muddy verges. You can see that there are people walking across a particular crossing on the side next to the Council, so there is reasonable argument I think for opening that area to make it more accessible from the City Centre proper with City Hall.

Whether closing the underpass, as well, requires doing remains to be seen. I can certainly see the argument why you want to avoid conflict between cyclists in particular and motorists, and keep that flow of both cyclists and traffic going as smooth as possible.

So the ideas are in a very very early stage, certainly there no costs attached to it and it was quite refreshing to see a quite mature debate on social media around the pros and cons of that scheme

Question – *Councillor Hopkins*

What meetings has the cabinet member had with Cardiff Bus to explore the reasons for the decline in bus usage, the reductions in services and how to prevent further reductions over the year ahead?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

I have met with representatives from Cardiff Bus on numerous occasions to discuss matters relating to the company's provision of bus services in the city.

Officers also meet regularly with Cardiff Bus to discuss both operational and strategic matters. I must say I am indebted to my fellow Members across the Chamber from different political parties who serve on the Board of Cardiff Bus and I must commend them for their recent work in terms of their positive messages we are getting from that company.

Supplementary Question – *Councillor Hopkins*

Whether a declining bus usage is unique to Cardiff there are particular circumstances in the city that have contributed to this decline. Several of them are set out in the LDP monitoring report and will be well known to members across the chamber here, relating to the delay in the transport hub for a lack of investment in bus infrastructure, the withdrawal of some bus routes and reduction in service frequency in others which are being referred to early in the meeting this evening.

The lack of connection across the city as opposed to journeys into the centre, fare increases and the current temporary arrangement on Westgate Street that are causing delays in many services.

I'm sure no of us will be surprised at the result of this has been to erode resident's faith in public transport and to increase the isolation of elderly people in particular. This is at a time when we should be doing all we can to meet the objectives of the Local transport plan.

So the real worry Councillor Wild must be that the sustainability of the bus services in the future will be compromised in the year ahead and in the future. So can you assure us that every effort will be made to avoid that?

Reply – *Councillor Wild*

It's worth noting that bus figures in the city based on our most recent report are actually faring relatively well and as you've mentioned other cities are hitting even more of a dip, and that's despite some of the challenges we all recognise. And I will happily accept the challenge that the city's public transport structure is not as good as it should be.

We will be coming forward with plans, a white paper, very shortly that will include trying to make sure that the bus service is prioritised and we get more people on our buses across Cardiff.

101 : URGENT BUSINESS

None

102 : CARDIFF BUS, APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Council considered the appointment of a new Executive Director to Cardiff Bus, who would also be the new Managing Director of the Company.

RESOLVED: The Council APPROVED the appointment of the names individual in Confidential Appendix 1 to this report as an Executive Director of Cardiff Bus.

103 : COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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

RESOLVED: The Council agreed to appoint to the vacancies on Committee in accordance with the approved allocation of seats and Party Group wishes as set out on the Amendment Sheet.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Nomination Received</b>
Audit Committee	1 vacancy	1 X Labour	

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Nomination Received</b>
Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee	1 vacancies	1 x Conservative	
Planning Committee	1 vacancy	1 x Labour	.Cllr Ed Stubbs
Public Protection	3 vacancies	1 x Conservative 1 x Cardiff West Independent 1 x Labour	
Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny	2 vacancies	1 x Labour 1 x Cardiff West Independent	
Licensing Committee	1 vacancy	1 x Conservative	
Community and Adult Services Committee	1 vacancy	1 x Labour	

104 : APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive nomination and make appointments of Council representatives to statutory and non-statutory outside bodies.

RESOLVED: The Council noted there were no nominations.

105 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In accordance with the Council Procedure Rule 17 (f) [Written Questions](#) received for consideration and response had been published.

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