



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Economy & Infrastructure Policy Development Committee

At: Council Chamber - Guildhall, Swansea

On: Thursday, 15 November 2018

Time: 12.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Mandy Evans

Membership:

Councillors: P Downing, P R Hood-Williams, O G James, P K Jones, M A Langstone, W G Lewis, P Lloyd, P M Matthews and T M White

Agenda

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence. | |
| 2 | Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosureofinterests | |
| 3 | Minutes:
To approve and sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record. | 1 - 4 |
| 4 | Homes as Power Stations. | |
| 5 | Co-operative Housing. | 5 - 21 |
| 6 | Green Infrastructure Policy. | 22 - 24 |
| 7 | Workplan 2018/2019. | 25 |

Next Meeting: Thursday, 13 December 2018 at 2.00 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Huw Evans'.

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Friday, 9 November 2018

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel: 636923

Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Economy & Infrastructure Policy Development Committee**

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Thursday, 18 October 2018 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor V M Evans (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P Downing
P K Jones
P Lloyd

Councillor(s)

P R Hood-Williams
M A Langstone
P M Matthews

Councillor(s)

O G James
W G Lewis
T M White

Officer(s)

Caritas Adere
Mark Barrow
Martin Nicholls
Lisa Wells
Samantha Woon

Senior Lawyer
Fleet Manager
Director of Place
City Centre Manager
Democratic Services Officer

29 **Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

30 **Minutes:**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Economy and Infrastructure Policy Development & Delivery Committee held on 20 September, 2018, be approved as a correct record.

31 **Green Fleet.**

The Fleet Manager presented the revised draft Green Fleet Policy, Vehicle Specification, Fleet Renewals to March 2019 and Method Statements and Pricing Schedule.

The Fleet Manager referred to an addition within the draft Green Fleet Policy with regard broadening collaborative arrangements.

Members' asked questions of the Fleet Manager and Director of Place, who responded accordingly.

Resolved that the report be submitted to Cabinet on 20 December, 2018.

32 **Wind Street Pedestriansiation.**

The City Centre Manager provided an update in respect of the feedback from the consultation exercise.

She detailed the key principles and stated that the proposals were a physical regeneration scheme and it may be more appropriate to rename the item 'Wind Street Regeneration'.

She detailed the consultation process and reported that there was a strong consensus in support of the findings of previous surveys undertaken.

Members noted the emerging headlines from the consultation encompassed:

- Support for idea of a one way system from Castle Square through to Morgan's Hotel.
- Support for widening pavements.
- Al fresco dining encouraging outdoor seating.
- Business preferences is to cite the outdoor furniture on the same side as the building line.
- Clear support for special events and activities.
- Suggestions for access to Wind Street to be closed from either 3-4 pm to cater for the early evening trade or alternatively from 11 am after the majority of deliveries.
- 95% of businesses who responded were in agreement to revisions to the café licensing policy.

Other points that were raised included:

- Improving the reputation of Wind Street.
- Encouraging street vendors.
- Improving the management of Wind Street in respect of maintenance of trees to improve light and street begging.

The City Centre Manager stated that following the successful consultation, consideration would need to be given to the type of scheme (bronze, silver or gold). There were elements from the consultation exercise which could be implemented independently of the scheme i.e. streamlining café licences and the organisation of special events.

Members noted that the feasibility document would need to be designed to appeal to potential external funders as no budget was available to deliver the scheme. The Council's External Funding Manager had been engaged in identifying any suitable grants that may be appropriate for the scheme.

The next stage in the process was stated as follows:

- The drafting and finalisation of the Feasibility Study document.
- The formal reporting of the Study to Corporate Briefing and then Cabinet in the New Year.

In response to Member questions, the City Centre Manager stated that:

- No costings were currently available regarding the bronze, silver or gold schemes. It was noted these would need to be robust enough to provide an indication of the funding that is required however the final costs would be subject to further and more detailed design work.
- Unsure whether the consultation captured the demographics of the consultees.
- Colleagues in the commercial waste team have been engaged and provided detailed feedback on the current issues in Wind Street.
- The current café licensing system is perceived by the businesses as being overly bureaucratic and could be simplified by covering all outside equipment (tables, chairs, A-frames, canopies etc.) as opposed to applying separately for each licence.
- There are no statistics regarding rainfall in the area.
- There is no plan to reduce the amount of trees in Wind Street. However, the management of the trees could be improved to allow light and ensure CCTV are not compromised.
- Concerns raised as part of the consultation process had focussed around access issues for disabled people and access for staff. Feedback had been received from the Disability Awareness Group.
- The Police have been engaged regarding designing out crime and anti-terrorism issues.

The Director of Place stated that work was ongoing regarding charges in respect of the geographical citing of chairs with the City.

Resolved that

1. The City Centre Manager advise whether demographic information in respect of consultees had been captured during the consultation period;
2. The draft Wind Street Feasibility Study document be considered at the meeting on 13 December, 2018 and
3. The draft report on the Study to Corporate Briefing/Cabinet be considered at the meeting in January, 2019.

33 Workplan 2018/2019.

Resolved that the revisions to the work plan 2018-2019 be agreed as follows:

15/11/18	1. Homes as Power Stations (Cabinet Member for Homes and Energy to attend). 2. Co-operative Housing (Head of Property Services to attend). 3. Green Infrastructure Strategy.
13/12/18	1. Transportation Strategy. 2. Wind Street Feasibility Study – Draft Report. 3. Update on City Deal.
17/01/19	1. Wind Street Feasibility Study
21/02/19	

21/03/19	1. Positive/negative implications of Brexit.
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The meeting ended at 3.22 pm

Chair

Agenda Item 5



Report of the Head of Property Services

Economy & Infrastructure Policy Development Committee
15th November 2018

Co-Operative Housing

Purpose:	The report presents fact finding work carried out over the last year, looking at possible ventures and the drafting of a new policy.
Report Author:	Geoff Bacon
Finance Officer:	Jayne James/Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Catherine Window

For Information

1. Background

- 1.1 The 2016 Welsh Government has made a commitment to build 20,000 homes during the lifetime of the Government. It has made a housing pact with Community Housing Cymru, the trade body for housing associations in Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association about how to do this.

The pact includes potential development of co-operative housing. The Welsh Government provides some capital funding for the development of affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership products, and is further exploring its loan (as opposed to grant) funding programmes to enable available funding to go further.

What this means is that viable co-operative and community-led housing schemes of a variety of types and tenures are likely to receive Welsh Government support.

Swansea Council is committed to playing a role in supporting such developments within the county as per the current Corporate Plan and will ensure the implementation of the policy is in accordance with the

Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015. See **Appendix A** - Summary paper submitted to PDC on 8th March 2018.

2. Activity to Date

- 2.1 There has been a recent approach from a small public group who have expressed an interest in setting up a 'Grass Roots' community led scheme on Council owned land. Discussions are continuing.

3. Draft Policy

- 3.1 A policy has been drafted to set the parameters around how Swansea Council will offer support to Co-Operative proposals. See **Appendix B** - Draft Co-Operative Housing Policy.

4. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 4.2 An EIA has been carried out for this project (**Appendix C**). The impact has been determined as low priority. At this stage consideration is simply being given to formulating a policy via PDC – we will review this screening if this work is progressed, seeking advice from the Access to Services Team.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A – Co-Operative Housing Summary Paper
Appendix B – Draft Co-operative Housing Policy
Appendix C – EIA Screening Form



Report of the Director of Place

Economy & Infrastructure Policy Development and Delivery Committee –
8th March 2018

Swansea Council Co-Operative Housing

Purpose: The report provides a summary of information and opportunities on Co-Operative Housing.

Report Author: Geoff Bacon

Finance Officer: Jayne James

Legal Officer: Tracey Meredith

Access to
Services
Officer: Ann Smith

For Information

1. What is Co-Operative Housing?

Co-operative housing is about communities having democratic control over the decision-making of their homes, neighbourhoods and communities. There are many different forms of co-operative housing – that could apply to all forms of housing tenure (i.e. home ownership, shared ownership or rented housing – either at market or affordable rents). But in all forms of co-operative housing:

- There is a democratic community membership of a housing organisation where all members have an equal nominal share of usually £1 giving them the right to vote on matters affecting the co-op.
- The co-operative housing organisation has control over the homes in some way – and in some cases – collectively own and manage them.

2. Why do people live in Co-operative Housing?

Research has shown that where communities control their homes co-operatively, strong communities form and the members and residents in co-operative housing are usually more satisfied than in other forms of housing. They often make good common sense decisions, and they operate as strong community businesses.

Co-operative housing is for people who either want to live in a community and have a local community support network around them or for people who support a community ethos – i.e. that local communities should be able to take decisions about their homes. Co-operative housing is also about local people coming together to share their housing costs, usually making the housing more affordable for all.

- There are 7 key principles of Co-operative housing:
- Voluntary and open membership
- Member economic participation
- Democratic member control
- Autonomy and independence
- Education, training and information
- Co-operation amongst co-ops
- Concern for community

3. Who is it for?

Co-operative and Community-Led Housing can be for everyone:

- For people on different income levels
- For particular groups of people
- For different tenures (i.e. renting, owning or asset sharing)
- For building new homes or buying and adapting existing residential or other buildings.
- For managing existing homes, with the possibility of ownership.

Developing housing schemes take time. People involved may have to devote several years from when they have the initial idea of a scheme to when people move into new homes.

But the rewards are high. People who have been involved in developing new CCLH rarely regret it. There are fantastic new CCLH schemes being developed all over the country.

4. How are schemes developed?

There are three general ways that Co-operative schemes are developed, all three of which can produce strong outcomes:

4.1 Grass Roots

A group of people come together to make it happen.

- Some of the strongest co-operative and community-led housing organisations have been developed by grass roots communities coming together to make things happen.
- A community group taking the responsibility to tackle the challenges leads to bonds being formed in the group that can lead to a strong community.
- The community group taking the lead means that it will have more control over decisions about what homes are developed.
- But it can be very challenging doing things this way and it relies on there being some particularly driven individuals being involved.
- It can take a long time to make it happen and a number of challenges will need to be overcome. However, various support is available.
- A community group developing a CCLH scheme will usually want to get local authority support.
- A community group developing a CCLH scheme could make things easier by working with a housing association or some other developer. However, this might bring challenges around who has overall control of the homes developed.
- A community group that wants to take the responsibility for developing a CCLH scheme may find guidance produced by locality particularly useful. They may also be able to get advice from other national support organisations and from existing CCLH organisations.

Examples of grass roots:

- Lilac, Leeds
- Ashley Vale, Bristol
- Cohousing, Lancaster

4.2 Existing Community Organisations

An existing housing co-operative, development trust or another community organisation develops a CCLH scheme:

- An existing community organisation may decide it wants to develop CCLH. A housing co-op or a tenant management organisation may want to increase the number of homes available. A development trust or another community organisation may want to extend what it does for its local community and create a stable rental income.
- Existing community organisations may employ staff who will be able to assist in progressing a CCLH scheme. Housing co-

ops or TMOs who buy services from service providers may be able to get assistance through them.

- An existing community organisation developing a CCLH scheme can extend their community-led ethos to the new homes. They will also have a track record of community-led governance and potentially assets that can be used.
- An existing community organisation developing a CCLH scheme will usually want to get local authority support.
- An existing community organisation developing a CCLH scheme may choose to work with a housing association or some other developer, but this might bring different challenges.
- Existing Community Organisations that want to take the responsibility for developing a CCLH scheme will find this guidance and guidance produced by locality particularly useful.

Examples of existing community organisation:

- Bushbury Arms, Wolverhampton
- Marlfield, Redditch
- Langrove Co-op, Merseyside

4.3 Top Down meets Bottom Up

A local authority, housing association or other organisation decide to set up a CCLH scheme and recruit the founder members as homes are developed:

- A local authority, housing association, another organisation, and/or a combination of these organisations may decide that it wishes to set up a CCLH scheme.
- The partners involved can decide that a housing scheme it is developing will be CCLH. This is how most of the UK's CCLH schemes were developed.
- This approach means that the initiating organisation has to recruit and develop founder members to form a CCLH group during the development period.
- It also means that the organisation needs to be prepared to enable the CCLH group to take power over decision-making about how the housing will be managed.
- If done right, this method of developing CCLH can lead to value for money management as well as provide considerable benefits for the community housed.
- This approach leads to individuals participating who otherwise might not get to hear about or be interested in CCLH options.

Examples of top down meets bottom up:

- Old Oak Housing Co-op, Carmarthen
- Overton Road Group, Preston

It is the latter of the three options that appeals to Swansea Council as an entry opportunity into Co-operative Housing and a site has been identified that is of relatively low value, not in the HRA and is able to provide the opportunity for considerable community development.

5. What Support is Available to Swansea Council?

The Welsh Government elected in 2016 has made a commitment to build 20,000 homes during the lifetime of the Government. It has made a housing pact with Community Housing Cymru, the trade body for housing associations in Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association about how to do this. The pact includes potential development of co-operative housing. The Welsh Government provides some capital funding for the development of affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership products, and is further exploring its loan (as opposed to grant) funding programmes to enable available funding go further.

The Welsh Government introduced a co-operative housing programme in 2012 which supported the development of a number of schemes and have renewed their support for the programme under the 2016 Government. This programme has provided flexible revenue funding to develop co-operative and community-led housing schemes through the Wales Co-operative Centre and capital funding through its mainstream programmes.

What this means is that viable co-operative and community-led housing schemes of a variety of types and tenures are likely to receive Welsh Government support.

Local Authorities can play a particularly important role in supporting CCLH and some have developed specific strategies to do so. The Co-operative Council's Innovation Network is currently implementing a Housing Commission to explore how local authority support could be more widely available to CCLH. So it may be possible to get some resource and other national, regional or Local Government support in the UK for co-operative and community-led housing, but getting support may be dependent on a number of local or other factors.

Associations currently supporting interested parties in Wales through the process include:

- Confederation of Co-operative Housing: The UK organisation for housing co-operatives, tenant-controlled housing organisations and regional federations. www.cch.coop.

- Wales Co-operative Centre: a co-operative development agency working across Wales to promote social, financial and digital inclusion through a range of projects. www.walescooperative.org.

6. What can Swansea Council offer to its Citizens?

As an entry point, the model of most interest to Swansea is Top Down, Bottom Up, working with a social landlord to gain their experience along the way. Swansea Council has explored a recent venture with Pobl and Carmarthenshire Council and Pobl has been extremely helpful, providing the team with lots of useful knowledge and experience.

This would be a great learning path, utilising experts who have already delivered a housing co-operative. Staff from Swansea Council could shadow such a process, bringing skills in house for future projects.

Working at grass roots level provides a more bespoke offering, and each proposal would have to be given specific consideration depending on the concept presented.

The opportunity to set up co-operative via existing community organisations is attractive and could be considered at a later date once expertise has been gained working with a third party. This model could be used to encourage better community engagement in existing Council tenant communities.

For any option to progress the proposal would have to affiliate itself with the Council manifesto commitments, the Corporate Plan and well-being objectives.

The Wales Co-operative Centre and the Confederation of Co-operative Housing offer great expertise and have already visited Swansea Council for an initial information sharing meeting.

Both could support any initial proposal to introduce Co-operative Housing to Swansea by means of previous experience; getting started, the policy context, making a visible scheme, developing a sustainable community group, developing the vision, creating policies and procedures, supporting new developments, helping with management and legal structures.

Other areas of support they can provide include:

- Access to expertise and advice about co-operative housing
- Skills development and training opportunities for members of co-operative housing schemes.
- Supplying networking opportunities and sharing good practice.

- Producing research that can inform the development of co-operative housing schemes.
- Developing guidance for future co-operative schemes.

7. Next Stages

- Gain internal opinion on first pilot approach – ‘top down bottom up’ – decide on registered social landlord partner and location.
- Create a Council policy on co-operative housing.

8. Equality and Engagement Implications

An initial EIA screening form was completed (**Appendix A**). There is no requirement for a full EIA form to be completed at this stage as no policy has yet been formulated and any likely implications are unknown.

9. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

10. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

For Information

Background papers: None

Appendix A:



Appendix A -
EIA.doc



Co-Operative Housing Policy

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Definition
3. Policy Statement
4. Scope
5. Review & Monitoring
6. References

1. Introduction

The 2016 Welsh Government made a commitment to build 20,000 homes during the lifetime of the Government.

It has made a housing pact with Community Housing Cymru, the trade body for housing associations in Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association about how to do this.

The pact includes potential development of co-operative housing. The Welsh Government provides some capital funding for the development of affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership products, and is further exploring its loan (as opposed to grant) funding programmes to enable available funding to go further.

What this means is that viable co-operative and community-led housing schemes of a variety of types and tenures are likely to receive Welsh Government support.

Swansea Council is committed to playing a role in supporting such developments within the area and ensuring the implementation of the policy is in accordance with the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

2. Definition

A Co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

Cooperative Values

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

The 7 Co-operative principles are guidelines by which Co-operatives put their values into practice.

1. Voluntary & Open Membership
Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.
2. Democratic Member Control
Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.
3. Member Economic Participation
Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4. Autonomy & Independence
Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter to agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.
5. Education, Training & Information
Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders – about the nature and benefits of co-operation.
6. Co-operation amongst co-operatives
Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.
7. Concern for Community
Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

3. Policy Statement

Swansea Council will consider supporting Co-operative housing proposals on individual merit. Proposals must demonstrate the values stated above and must affiliate with the corporate plan and well-being objectives.

In particular this policy supports the commitment to a key step in the delivery of the 'Transforming our Economy & Infrastructure' wellbeing objective within the 2017/22 Corporate Plan.

'Progress strategic housing and mixed development sites to meet housing need and provide employment'

Co-operative and Community-Led Housing proposals can be for everyone:

- For people on different income levels
- For particular groups of people
- For different tenures (ie renting, owning or asset sharing)
- For building new homes or buying and adapting existing residential or other buildings

- For managing existing homes, with the possibility of ownership

Swansea is an urban area with high housing demand. Swansea Council retains its housing stock and is actively building new council homes.

The top three local housing market challenges are:

- Rising house prices and rents
- Reduction in numbers of affordable homes being built
- Affordability for first time home buyers

Swansea council is eager to address some of these challenges through this policy.

4. Scope

Community led housing gives local residents the opportunity to get involved in addressing the housing needs in their area and assisting the council to bring forward new market and affordable housing schemes.

Swansea Council believes that decent affordable homes are the foundation of a successful city and the most effective way of addressing inequalities in the city. The Corporate Plan commits to 'Progress strategic housing and mixed development sites to meet housing need and provide employment.

One of the measures to achieve this is to support CLTs, Community Development Trusts, local builders and self-builders on identified Council and private sites, to build more homes appropriate to the neighbourhood, creating more mixed and balanced communities.

There are three general ways that Cooperative schemes can be developed, all three of which can produce strong outcomes:

Grass Roots

Where a group of people come together to make it happen.

Existing Community Organisations

Where an existing housing co-operative, development trust or another community organisation develops a CCLH scheme.

Top Down meets Bottom Up

A local authority, housing association or other organisation decide to set up a CCLH scheme and recruit the founder members as homes are developed.

Swansea Council welcomes proposals for any of these options.

Proposals need to be put in writing to:

Head of Property Services
Swansea Council
Oystermouth Road
Swansea
SA1 3SN

5. Review & Monitoring

The Council will monitor the application of this policy and has discretion to review it at any time through the appropriate consultation mechanisms.

Responsibility for the implementation, monitoring and development of this policy lies with the Head of Corporate Property Services. Day to day operation of the policy is the responsibility of nominated officers who will ensure that this policy is adhered to.

6. Reference

Confederation of Co-operative Housing: The UK organisation for housing co-operatives, tenant-controlled housing organisations and regional federations. www.cch.coop

Wales Co-operative Centre: a co-operative development agency working across Wales to promote social, financial and digital inclusion through a range of projects. www.walescooperative.org

Swansea Council Corporate Plan & Well-being Objectives:
<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/corporateimprovementplan>

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact your directorate support officer or the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: Property

Directorate: Place

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) Please name and describe below

Consideration of creating and publishing a Swansea Council Co-operative Housing Policy. This would set parameters for the public to express an interest in setting up a Housing Co-operative requiring support from Swansea Council

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line
service delivery

Indirect front line
service delivery

Indirect back room
service delivery

(H)

(M)

(L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they
need to

Because they
want to

Because it is
automatically provided to
everyone in Swansea

On an internal
basis
i.e. Staff

(H)

(M)

(M)

(L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group (18+) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form

Q4 HAVE YOU / WILL YOU UNDERTAKE ANY PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT RELATING TO THE INITIATIVE?

- YES NO (If NO, you need to consider whether you should be undertaking consultation and engagement – please see the guidance)

If yes, please provide details below

At this stage, we don't know what form this will take. Premature to consider.

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility
 (H)

Medium visibility
 (M)

Low visibility
 (L)

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION?
(Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk
 (H)

Medium risk
 (M)

Low risk
 (L)

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

- Yes No **If yes, please provide details below**

Potentially will link into Housing but they will be involved in the process if matters proceed

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?
Please tick the relevant box

MOSTLY H and/or M → HIGH PRIORITY → EIA to be completed
Please go to Section 2

MOSTLY L → LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT → Do not complete EIA
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for a full EIA report, you must provide adequate explanation below. In relation to the Council's commitment to the UNCRC, your explanation must demonstrate that the initiative is designed / planned in the best interests of children (0-18 years). For Welsh language, we must maximise positive and minimise adverse effects on the language and its use. Your explanation must also show this where appropriate.

At this stage consideration is simply being given to formulating a policy via PDDC – we will review this screening if this work is progressed, seeking advice from the Access to Services Team.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form

Name: Geoff Bacon
Job title: Head of Property
Date: 22/2/18
Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Geoff Bacon
Position: Head of Property
Date: 22/2/18

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Agenda Item 6

Swansea Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy Briefing Note

Key Principles

Green Infrastructure refers to all natural features which make life possible. It is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. Green Infrastructure includes established green spaces and new sites and should thread through and surround the built environment and connect the urban area to its wider rural hinterland i.e. woodlands, wetlands, open and running water, river banks, parks and gardens, allotments, churchyards, recreational space, green roofs.

Why do we need to consider enhancing our Green Infrastructure?

- Our environment underpins our social and economic well-being. Our future survival and quality of life is dependent on a healthy resilient natural environment through the multiple benefits it provides to society.
- Swansea is one of the most ecologically rich and diverse counties in the UK. Its unique variety of habitats and species and wonderful range of parks, greenspaces, nature reserves, beaches and landscapes needs to be maintained, enhanced and sustainably managed for the benefit of everyone now and into the future.
- Our natural environment and biodiversity is under threat and in decline due to unsustainable human activities. Habitats and species are being lost at an alarming and unsustainable rate.
- We urgently need to tackle climate change by reducing our use of carbon and by maintaining and enhancing resilient ecosystems and a strong GI network to help us mitigate for and adapt to the pressures of climate change.
- Increasingly land use planning is using GI to identify networks of healthy ecosystems to resilient cost effective alternative to traditional grey infrastructure.
- GI stretches far beyond parks and gardens and provides multiple benefits to our environment, society and the local economy by:-
 - improving local air quality,
 - creating green corridors to support biodiversity,
 - build resilience to safeguard against extreme weather events like flooding and over-heating,
 - improving building performance and reduced carbon emissions,
 - providing aesthetic amenities and destinations,
 - increasing community cohesion,
 - reducing the effects of poverty and health inequality,
 - creating a sense of place which celebrates Swansea's unique selling point - its fantastic natural environment,
 - providing spaces to relax, socialise and enjoy nature.

Legislation

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 - Enhancing and improving the variety and quality of GI in Swansea contributes to the Council's duty to improve well-being as required by the Act. The benefits of GI contribute to all of the 7 well-being goals, and improving GI is one of the steps of the Council draft Resilience well-being objective, and the Public Service Board's 'Working with Nature' Well-being Objective.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 - The Council has a legal duty under the Act to protect and enhance biodiversity and maintain resilient ecosystems, and to report our progress to Welsh Government. Enhancing and improving the variety and quality of GI in Swansea is a key component to meeting this duty.

Planning (Wales) Act 2015 – the Act links how land is managed in Wales with how natural resources are managed to ensure the right development occurs in the right places. Draft Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 states in para 5.68 that ‘*green infrastructure plays a fundamental role in shaping our places and our sense of wellbeing, and are intrinsic to the quality of the spaces we live, work and play in*’, and states that the ‘*planning system should protect and enhance green infrastructure assets and networks because of these multi-functional roles*’.

Swansea Council’s Corporate Plan – states that Swansea faces a number of challenges in the years ahead, one of which is climate change – risks from flooding, air and water quality dangers to ecosystem and biodiversity and energy security. Appropriate, good quality GI helps mitigate these challenges and reduce associated costs.

In addition to these key pieces of legislation improving the quality and variety of GI in the County will contribute to compliance with a raft of legislation around, air and water quality, climate change, surface water run-off, resilience planning, biodiversity, health and wellbeing – including mental and physical health, and helping alleviate social exclusion through improving access to good quality green space.

The Proposal

The Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Section is working in partnership with NRW to produce a suite of documents designed to enable the Council to take an informed and joined up approach to maximising the benefits GI can offer the County. This suite is made up of the following 3 documents:

1. City Centre GI Strategy - The Swansea Central Area Regeneration Framework (SCARF) states that Swansea Central is not meeting its potential. That the city centre is perceived as tired and outdated, with a lack of attractions to make it a destination all set in a poor quality environment. Incorporating innovative high quality new, and enhanced existing, GI will significantly improve environmental credentials of the city centre.

The overall regeneration programme is being delivered through a number of different phases and projects, and funded via different sources, to date GI has been addressed on a project by project basis. Having an evidenced and clear overall plan for public realm / green space zones, which function individually and collectively, physically and visually, enabling a joined up approach to GI would ensure we maximise the city centre’s potential and its environmental resilience. Because of the scale and advanced stage of the city centre development it has become clear that to realise this ‘once in a generation’ opportunity for the city centre to benefit from strategically planned GI enhancements, the development of a specific City Centre GI Strategy / Planning tool would be beneficial.

The Service is therefore investing £15,000 to be matched by NRW to employ a leading expert with a proven track record in the GI industry to develop this Strategy and Planning tool.

Timeline: Please note the project needs to be completed within this financial year.

September 2018	Draw up and agree a tender brief
October 2018	Advertise on Sell 2 Wales
November/December 2018	Appoint a consultant. Design and develop a strategy, to include internal stakeholder workshop, external stakeholder and community events.
December 2018/January 2019	Agree final draft and obtain sign off to consult
January / February 2019	6 week consultation

February / March 2019	Post consultation redraft.
April 2019	Strategy adoption and publication

2. Countywide GI Strategy – The Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Section is working in partnership with NRW to produce a County-wide GI Strategy. This Strategy will be used to inform all land use planning and developments in the future and is required to support emerging LDP Policy. This Strategy will be informed by, but be more generic than, the City Centre GI Strategy.

Timeline: Development of the County wide GI Strategy will start in early 2019. Stakeholder engagement will be significant and the aim is for adoption by Autumn 2019.

3. GI Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)- Swansea's (LDP contains a specific policy relating to Green infrastructure - *Policy ER 2 Strategic Green Infrastructure Network*. This Policy (as amended with matters arising changes following the LDP examination) seeks to protect and enhance the overall GI network and requires development to maintain and enhance the extent, quality and connectivity of the multi-functional GI network.

Development proposals are required to be designed to take into account the ecosystem services provided through GI and this aspect of the development proposal will form part of its assessment in the determination of planning applications. This approach to GI provision as part of new development is evident in the master plans for the LDP Strategic Development Areas, all of which are designed to include extensive GI provision.

The GI Strategy is required in order to assist in the GI assessment process and the planning related components of the Strategy will be adopted as SPG.

Timeline: the SPG will follow a similar timeline as development and adoption of the County-wide Strategy.

Regional and County-wide GI mapping project

The Nature Conservation Team have been collaborating with NRW, PHW and Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend Councils through a multi-PSB GI Working Group (linked to steps in Swansea's Local Well-being Plan Working with Nature objective) to procure a map of multiple benefits / opportunities for GI across the three Counties. This project, funded by the Welsh Government's GI Capital Grant, NRW and PHW, has three phases. The first phase (now complete) resulted in the creation of regional and County-wide GI maps which show where there is demand for a service i.e. flooding or air quality, the existing GI / greenspace stock and the opportunity to enhance provision and reduce risk. Phases 2 and 3 (currently ongoing) seek to use the evidence gathered to deliver GI improvements to a pilot area(s). The improvements will be designed with input from local and corporate stakeholders and partners and will be developed alongside existing activities over the Autumn of 2018. Swansea's pilot area is Castle ward (excluding the city centre). The aim is to deliver some targeted improvements which will improve health and well-being across the ward. The project needs to be completed by Feb 2019.

The evidence gathered from this regional project, will benefit the development of the suite of GI documents maximising the opportunities for using GI to build local environmental reliance.

Agenda Item 7



Economy & Infrastructure PDC - Work Plan for 2018-2019

Meeting Date	Agenda items and Format
21/06/18	1. Work Plan Discussion.
19/07/18	1. River Corridor – work shop terms of reference. (Director of Place) 2. Wind Street Pedestrianisation. (City Centre Manager)
16/08/18	1. Green Fleet. 2. Transportation Strategy
20/09/18	1. Feedback from site visit to River Corridor. 2. Green Fleet.
18/10/18	1. Green Fleet. 2. Wind Street Pedestrianisation – Feedback from Consultation on 14/09/18. (City Centre Manager to attend)
15/11/18	1. Homes as Power Stations (Cabinet Member for Homes and Energy to attend). 2. Co-operative Housing (Head of Property Services to attend). 3. Green Infrastructure Strategy.
13/12/18	1. Transportation Strategy. 2. Wind Street Feasibility Study – Draft Report. 3. Update on City Deal.
17/01/19	1. Wind Street Feasibility Study.
21/02/19	
21/03/19	1. Positive/negative implications of Brexit.
18/04/19	End of Year Report.
To be scheduled	