



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee

At: Committee Room 5, Guildhall, Swansea

On: Tuesday, 22 October 2019

Time: 2.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Louise Gibbard

Membership:

Councillors: C Anderson, J A Hale, D W Helliwell, T J Hennegan, P K Jones, M Sherwood, P B Smith, L J Tyler-Lloyd and L V Walton

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 - 3
4 Climate Emergency Actions and Climate Charter.	4 - 7
5 Strategic Equality Plan Working Group. (Verbal)	
6 Workplan 2019/20.	8

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 26 November 2019 at 2.00 pm

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

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Monday, 14 October 2019

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel 01792 636923

Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee

Committee Room 5, Guildhall, Swansea

Tuesday, 24 September 2019 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor L S Gibbard (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)
P K Jones

Councillor(s)
L J Tyler-Lloyd

Councillor(s)
L V Walton

Also present
Councillor Erika Kirchner

Officer(s) Sally-Ann Evans	Senior Lawyer
Kate Jones	Democratic Services Officer
Rhian Millar	Consultation Co-ordinator
Joanne Portwood	Strategy and Policy Officer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): C Anderson, J A Hale, M Sherwood and P B Smith

5 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.

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

6 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee held on 27 August 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

7 Consultation and Engagement Strategy 2020-23.

The Consultation Co-ordinator presented the draft Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2020-23.

The current Consultation & Engagement Strategy dated back to 2005. Since the introduction of the Strategy in 2005 there had been further developments and there was a greater prominence on consultation and engagement nationwide.

The draft Strategy did not cover all scenarios rather key principles and was based on resources that could be provided and delivered.

The draft Strategy had been to the Corporate Management Team for approval and following the Committee it would proceed to Council where approval to go out to public consultation would be sought.

The Committee considered each part of the Strategy which included:-

- Background
- Purpose of the Strategy
- Consultation and Engagement - What is it?
- Consultation and Engagement – Why do it?
- Consultation and Engagement – What we want to deliver in Swansea
- What Do We Want to Consult On?
- How Do We Consult?
- Responsibilities for Implementation

Questions and discussions focussed on:-

- Potential for savings – getting things right first time
- Methods and language used in all aspects of the process needed to be appropriate
- Key Benefits – could include the added benefit of greater appreciation of the role of the Council through building positive relationships
- Managing expectations – clear communication to outline the scope of any consultation
- Planning – add avoid making assumptions on who would be interested / should be consulted
- Effect on areas with separate legal frameworks – once the Strategy was completed accessibility and clear information on the legal frameworks could be looked at.
- Decision Making, Review and Feedback – ensure that the feedback would be managed particularly when the answer could be not what was wanted.
- Timescales for consultations – dependant on complexity of issues
- Accessible / alternative formats of consultation documents i.e. easy read
- Scope of consulting – what was consulted on would be a Council decision, but broadly could be anything that impacts on people
- Importance of consulting only if decision had not already been made
- Internal toolkit for staff for consultations
- Low response to some consultations and encouraging better response rates
- Change of wording in Paragraph 8 of the attached draft strategy, to state that ward members should be consulted instead of briefed.

Resolved that

- 1) The suggested amendments be made to the draft strategy; and
- 2) An amended version of the Strategy be circulated to the Committee prior to progressing to Council.

8 Co-production Strategic Framework.

The Strategy and Policy Officer presented the Co-production Strategic Framework. The purpose was to provide a consistent approach across the Council. Some departments were more advanced than others in terms of using co-production. For example Social Services had used co-production in their commissioning reviews and the developments of new models of service delivery. The purpose of the framework was to provide a corporate strategic framework for the development of co-production across the Council.

It was highlighted that Co-production was only one tool of consultation and engagement and it would be important to assess whether that was the right tool to use in each circumstance or whether other tools would fit better. Co-production was an appropriate tool to consider when there was a relatively high level of discretion to review or change a policy or service.

The framework outlined outcomes and benefits from Co-production, these were largely benefits and outcomes which had been identified by Social Services and the use of their Co-production Strategy.

The framework set out key aims and key milestones to 2025.

Questions and discussions focussed on:-

- Ability of community groups to access grant funding otherwise not available to the Council
- Importance of providing assistance and support to community groups where necessary
- Add to the key aims – Sharing good practice
- Possibility of pilot projects
- Funding and costs of Co-production

Resolved that Strategy and Policy Officer share the views of the Committee with suggested amendments to the Chief Digital and Transformation Officer.

9 Workplan.

The Chair presented the Work Plan 2019/20 and noted the next meeting would be on the Energy Strategy and Climate Change Charter.

It was suggested that an update on the Key Milestones in the Co-production Strategic Framework could be provided at the next Committee meeting as some milestones were reaching their expected completion date.

Resolved that an update on the Co-production Strategic Framework, specifically Key Milestones be added to the Work Plan.

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm

Chair

Agenda Item 4



Report of the Director of Place

Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee - 22 October 2019

Response to Council Notice of Motion relating To Climate Change Emergency

1. Introduction

1.1 Swansea Council passed a Climate Change Emergency notice of Motion on the 27 June and called upon the UK and Welsh Government to do the same. In addition the Council committed to:

- Call upon the UK and Welsh governments to provide us with the necessary powers and resources to ensure Swansea becomes carbon neutral by 2030.
- Publicise climate emergency and promote a greater awareness of the truth of climate change amongst the local population.
- Work with relevant experts in research and development to:
 - a. Review our current strategies and action plans for addressing climate change;
 - b. Identify any further policy changes or actions which we could undertake, within the scope of our powers and resources;
 - c. Seek the help of local partners such as Swansea University and other research bodies to, within one year, produce a report to share with the community, explaining work to date, achievements and targets for the future.
- Update on further work undertaken by the Council in this area on an annual basis through the Council Annual Review of Performance Report section on corporate objective - *Maintaining and enhancing Swansea's natural resources and biodiversity.*

Part of the response was to designate one of its Policy Developments Committee (PDC) to become the Equalities and Future Generations PDC with specific remit to cover the response to Climate Change emergency.

2. Actions to Date

2.1 The Council has for some time recognised the crucial role it plays in tackling climate change and whilst there is no doubt further actions are required some of the progress already made are summarised below:

- The City & County of Swansea Pension Fund is one of the first Pension Fund's in the UK to adopt an Environmental, Social & Governance policy which commits the pension fund to reduce its already low exposure to carbon based fossil fuel investments by up to 50% over the next 4 years. In doing so, it accepts that investing in new green energy, infrastructure and socially responsible investments offers the best sustainable financial return for members of the pension fund over the long term. Progress is reported on an annual basis.
- Changing 21,053 streetlights to LED, reducing CO2 year on year by 198,608.49kg.
- Delivering insulation and energy efficiency measures to benefit tenants of our council housing.
- Promoting Welsh & UK Government campaigns and programmes to increase energy efficiency amongst private tenants and homeowners, reducing fuel poverty and reducing emissions.
- Campaigning for the electrification of the railway line from Swansea to London.
- Progressing work towards a world-leading Tidal Lagoon, supporting community-owned renewable energy schemes, like SCEES, to deliver clean energy and benefit local schools and community buildings.
- Working with others nationally to urge Welsh Government to develop electric car charging infrastructure.
- Being leaders of good practice in Wales through having Sustainable Development policies.
- Recently incorporating care for the natural environment into our corporate plan as a new priority.
- Building the first council housing in a generation here in Swansea to Passivhaus standard, and begun building new council housing to a super-energy-efficient "Swansea Standard" that will enable all components to be procured locally and reducing emissions.
- Using innovation in construction for flagship projects showcasing waste minimization and sustainability.
- Winning investment for innovative green technology, such as "Homes as Power Stations", as part of the City Region Deal.
- Continuing to seek opportunities to add to our corporate fleet of Electric Vehicles, which is already the largest in Wales.
- Continuing to deliver on our Carbon Reduction strategy: 42% reduction in emissions since our baseline year. (09/10)
- Securing funding for a vast increase in Active Travel (walking and cycling) routes throughout the county and supported Swansea University's community cycle scheme.
- Becoming an Anti-Fracking Local Authority in 2016, having passed a motion to "oppose any unconventional gas development (fracking)" which also committed us to working towards being a fossil fuel free local authority by 2025.
- Implementing agile working so that our workforce may reduce unnecessary travel.
- Developing local procurement practices to reduce our carbon footprint.
- In Education, we are early joiners of the international Eco Schools programmes which encourages schools to promote recycling and reduce energy and water consumption.
- Encourage our Foundation Phase learning pupils to learn outdoors ensuring a respect for nature, biodiversity and eco-systems.

- At KS4, developing partnerships with our Universities to establish STEM workshops including the impact of climate change.
- Development of its Green Infrastructure strategy shortly to be issued for public consultation.

3. Action Plan

- 3.1 In developing its action plan there are some initial areas which the input of the PDC is welcome.
- 3.2 The creation of a Climate Change Charter setting out headline commitments which the Council would seek to adopt and encourage a range all organisations within the Council area to also commit to. A draft charter has been included in Appendix A and comments are welcome.
- 3.3 Views of the PDC on further priority areas to inform the action plan are welcome.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Swansea Climate Change Charter

Appendix A

Swansea Climate Change Charter

We, the Signatories to Swansea Charter on Climate Action, affirm our commitment on behalf ofto work towards becoming nett carbon neutral by 2030 and in doing so commit to the following:

- Within 1 year of signing, review our organisations current strategies and action plans for addressing climate change and Identify any further policy changes or actions which we could undertake, within the scope of our powers and resources, to meet the challenge of climate emergency.
- Seek the help of local partners including public ,private and voluntary sectors to, produce our own response to share with the community, explaining work already underway and achievements already made, as well as targets for the future.
- Utilise our formal reporting mechanisms to place in the public domain how we are performing against our committed actions.
- Fully align our actions with our wellbeing and biodiversity obligations to ensure our actions and commitments meet the requirements of our future generations and the need to reverse the decline in biodiversity .
- Fully engage with our schools in line with the core principles of the UNCRC.
- Quantify, track and publicly report our carbon emissions, consistent with standards and best practices of measurement and transparency.
- Partner with experts, businesses, investors, environmental advocates and other stakeholders to develop and implement a decarbonisation strategy for the region, including by developing a work programme and tools and resources necessary to achieve the agreed emission reduction targets.
- Maximise the use of renewals , and the reduction of energy use and loss both within our own energy consumption and in relation to utilising our assets for renewable energy generation.
- Review our procurement methodologies/and criteria to align with our emerging principle of what constitutes “value for money” to ensure appropriate inclusion of climate change and biodiversity is an appropriate part of any award criteria. Above all communicate a shared vision and understanding through the development of a common strategy and messaging, including by championing climate action within our sectors through an enhanced and trust-building dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

Agenda Item 6



Report of the Chair

Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee

Workplan 2019/20

Meeting Date	Agenda items and Format
27 August 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work Plan 2019/20 (Discussion)
24 September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation and Engagement Strategy 2020/23• Co-production Strategic Framework
22 October 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation on Climate Emergency Actions and Climate Charter• Strategic Equality Plan Working Group
26 November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender Pay Gap• Workforce Diversity
17 December 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable Development Policy
28 January 2020	
25 February 2020	
24 March 2020	
28 April 2020	
To be arranged	Update on Co-production – Key Milestones