



Report of the Cabinet Member for Culture, Human Rights & Equalities

Cabinet – 18 July 2024

Guildhall Illumination Policy

Purpose:	This report is intended to inform discussion and seek approval from Cabinet as to the adoption of a formal Guildhall Illumination Policy.
Policy Framework:	Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 Delivering a Successful and Sustainable Swansea Corporate Plan 2024/28
Consultation:	Strategic Equalities and Future Generations Board, Organisational Transformation CDC, Access to Services, Finance, Legal, CMT
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Cabinet: 1) Considers the report and approves the Policy. 2) Grants delegated authority to the Cabinet Member, to make decisions, in consultation with the sub-group, on any matter relating to the implementation of the Policy including the approval of all applications made under the Policy. The Cabinet Member may authorise an officer of his choosing to exercise the delegated responsibility on his behalf, in consultation with the members of the sub-group. 3) Approves that in relation to urgent requests, the Cabinet Member may act unilaterally or may authorise an officer to act unilaterally in his absence.
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 A policy document has been developed in response to a general increase in the number of requests to illuminate the external façade of Swansea's Guildhall to promote awareness of a charity, highlight a socially important topic or mark an event / anniversary of significance.
- 1.2 The Brangwyn Hall and other digital assets under the management of Swansea Council are excluded from this policy.

2. The Policy

- 2.1 The policy seeks to outline a transparent route for managing and approving requests to illuminate the external façade of The Guildhall.
- 2.2 The policy aims to put in place measures that will enable effective management of an illumination programme and to ensure that requests are dealt with in a consistent and fair manner.

3. Key Points for consideration and endorsement

- 3.1 A notice period of four (4) weeks is required for all requests.
- 3.2 The illumination will occur on the agreed date from dusk, or an appropriate time, taking into account daylight hours and available resources.
- 3.3 One colour, as opposed to multi colours, should be specified for requested illumination events in order to give best effect. This will not affect current illuminations (such as Swansea Pride) but will apply to new external requests. This is based on officer advice about the current operating equipment and technology.
- 3.4 A sub-group will be convened by the chair of the Strategic Equalities and Future Generations Board, to oversee, manage and approve new requests. The sub-group will also have oversight of any procedural guidelines that may develop under the over-arching policy. The relevant Cabinet Member, or an officer authorised by the Cabinet Member, acting in consultation with the sub-group, will have delegated authority to make all decisions relating to the implementation of this policy.
- 3.5 Where a request does not meet the eligibility criteria, it may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, 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 Acts.
- 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.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

4.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the ‘well-being goals’.

4.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

4.2 The policy aims to provide clarity around Guildhall Illuminations and to ensure that an illumination programme reflects the diversity across the City & County of Swansea and is inclusive of all, in line with the council’s Strategic Equality Plan.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 In accordance with paragraph 3.4 applications made under this policy will be considered and approved by a sub-group of the Strategic Equalities and Future Generations Board. As this sub-group is not recognised under the Council’s constitution as a decision-making body, then delegated authority needs to be granted to the relevant Cabinet Member to make these decisions, in conjunction with the other members of the sub-group. In the event that the Cabinet Member is unable to exercise the delegated authority, he may authorise an officer of his choosing to exercise the authority on his behalf.

6. Financial Implications

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

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A – Draft Guildhall Illumination Policy

Appendix B – IIA Screening Form