

**Providing Council with Written Responses to
Questions at Council – 14 June 2012**

**1. Councillor AM Day to Cabinet Member for Learning & Skills
Questions**

- (a) Does the Cabinet Member agree with the Estyn Report?
- (b) How much of a priority is tackling surplus places?

Responses

- (a) Yes, and the Council will continue to take any opportunity to remove surplus places, consistent with our strategic vision, to make the best possible use of the available resources for the education of our pupils.
- (b) This will be apparent by the actions of the Council which will seek to ensure that the figures are reduced over the next few years.

**2. Councillor AM Day to Cabinet Member for Learning & Skills
Questions**

- (a) Can the Cabinet Member tell Council what are the other “highest priorities”?
- (b) Can he confirm that his answer to this question means that he welcomes the figures on NEETs in Question 5 and that NEETs will continue to be a priority?
- (c) Will the Cabinet Member confirm that the Labour Manifesto constitutes a promise of delivery to the people of Swansea?
- (d) Can the Cabinet Member confirm that the QEd 2020 programme will continue?

Responses

- (a) The Labour Administration priorities and commitments are clearly illustrated in our Manifesto “Standing up for Swansea”.
- (b) Yes I can confirm that NEETs at age 16 will continue to be a priority together with tackling the significant increase in NEETs aged 18 to 24.
- (c) The Labour Manifesto is a pledge to the people of Swansea of our aims and objectives which we intend to deliver over the next 5 years.
- (d) I have already provided a clear statement in response to this question and also Question 8. The strong case made under the 21st Century Schools Programme has been supported in principle by the Welsh Government and the Council will continue to press the case for the earliest possible release of the capital investment required.