

COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS
PART A - SUPPLEMENTARIES

1.	<p>Councillors E W Fitzgerald, D G Sullivan, L James, S M Jones, K M Marsh, I M Richard & G D Walker</p> <p>The Labour Manifesto states that '<i>Swansea Labour is the party of the local community: it shares the values and hopes of our local communities</i>'.</p> <p>Could the Leader illustrate how this commitment is being put into practice.</p> <p>Response of the Leader</p> <p>I am gratified that the questioners have read Swansea Labour's Manifesto, which I am sure they found a thorough and considered plan of action.</p> <p>Our intentions were made clear in this document and our election, with an overwhelming majority, is proof that the people of Swansea, 'our local communities', agreed that we shared their 'values and hopes', indeed our aspirations for the city and its future and rejected the failed policies and actions of the administration of which many of the questioners were a leading part.</p> <p>The many reports to Council on the delivery of the commitments of our Manifesto, indeed those before Council today, show how this specific commitment is being put into practice.</p>																
2.	<p>Councillors E W Fitzgerald, D G Sullivan, L James, S M Jones, K M Marsh, I M Richard & G D Walker</p> <p>The Council is one of the creditors of MEWN which has gone into liquidation. Could the Cabinet Member inform members what monies are owed to the Authority for payroll services. What additional funding did the Council provide to MEWN for the financial years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources</p> <p>The Council is one of the creditors of MEWN which has gone into liquidation. Could the Cabinet Member inform members what monies are owed to the Authority for payroll services. What additional funding did the Council provide to MEWN for the financial years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13.</p> <p>The payroll costs owed by MEWN at date of administration:-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;">£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Payroll February 2014 (Part)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14,494.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payroll March 2014</td> <td style="text-align: right;">22,498.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payroll April 2014</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25,366.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payroll June 2014</td> <td style="text-align: right;">23,620.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">85,980.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less: monies retained by CCS for services delivered by MEWN used as offset</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-24,086.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CCS creditor per Administrators Statement</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">61,894.14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		£	Payroll February 2014 (Part)	14,494.48	Payroll March 2014	22,498.69	Payroll April 2014	25,366.79	Payroll June 2014	23,620.58	Total payroll	85,980.54	Less: monies retained by CCS for services delivered by MEWN used as offset	-24,086.40	CCS creditor per Administrators Statement	61,894.14
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Due to the nature of the funding of the Organisation re-imburement to CCS has generally been up to two months in arrears. In July 2012 additional monitoring arrangements were put in place following a period where payment was received for periods in excess of five months in arrears.

The suspension of funding to MEWN in April 2014 by its main funders was not notified to this Council. Internal monitoring arrangements picked up on non payment of invoices and allowed action to be taken to suspend payments from CCS for contractual sums due to MEWN by way of offset.

The following payments were made to MEWN for the periods 2011/12 to 2012/13:-

<u>2010/11</u>	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
73,715	84,966	58,779

These amounts primarily comprise:

	<u>£</u>
Families First payments	123,750
Domestic abuse Co-ordinator role	72,607
Swansea Change Fund – premises rental	9,000
Various	12,103

In addition to the above MEWN has been in receipt of Mandatory and Discretionary Rate relief for its premises on Mansel Street, Swansea, as follows:-

	<u>2010/11</u>	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Total Relief Granted	4,805.75	5,029.00	5,311.00
CCS Element (cost to CCS)	720.86	754.35	796.65

3. **Councillors E W Fitzgerald, D G Sullivan, L James, S M Jones, K M Marsh, I M Richard & G D Walker**

What reasons were given by Hammersons for its withdrawal from the city centre development. What alternative plans are in place to ensure the city centre development moves forward.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Hammerson plc, as an organisation, changed its focus over the period of time after their appointment by the Council. Their focus moved to large UK shopping centre developments in Leeds and London and they moved away from mixed use schemes to purely retail. It became clear that Hammerson were no longer the right development partner for Swansea and it was agreed between the Council and Hammerson to allow their cooperation agreement for a city centre retail development to lapse.

The Council has recently secured Vibrant & Viable Places funding and is

	<p>currently in the process of developing an EU structural funding bid to support a programme of regeneration within the city centre. The programme, entitled Realising the Potential, will span seven years and aims to deliver over £300m of investment and 2000 jobs created within the city. The breadth of projects will include housing, culture, leisure, offices and retail, and will be delivered in partnership with a range of organisations. A detailed review of the City Centre Framework is also underway, with consultation and a major conference to take place later in the year. The review will lead to a new city centre strategy which will be launched to developers, investors and occupiers in the New Year with the aim of inspiring confidence and attracting investment to stimulate regeneration within the city centre and Swansea Bay city region.</p>
4.	<p>Councillors E W Fitzgerald, D G Sullivan, L James, S M Jones, K M Marsh, I M Richard & G D Walker</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member inform Council how many summer play schemes are taking place this year, who is running them and in which locations.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Opportunities for Children & Young People</p> <p>Please find attached and enclosed a response to the Councillor questions regarding play schemes raised at the last Council meeting.</p> <p>There are 23 Play schemes funded directly by the Council's play team grants programme which are running this year, and 16 summer holiday play schemes. The locations and organisations running these are on the attached documents.</p>

PART B – None