



City And County Of Swansea

Dinas A Sir Abertawe

Councillor Clive Lloyd
Cabinet Member for Transformation
and Performance

cc. Councillor Will Evans
Cabinet Member for Anti-Poverty

BY EMAIL

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Scrutiny

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15 June 2015

Summary: This is a letter from the Sustainability Scrutiny Working Group to the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Performance following the meeting of the Group on the 9 June 2015. It is about sustainability and in particular the issue of food security.

Dear Councillor Lloyd,

Sustainability Scrutiny Working Group – 9 June 2015

This letter outlines our discussion and informs you of our plans for scrutiny in relation to the recent work that we have completed into Sustainability in Swansea. Thank you for attending our meeting on the 9 June where you and officers presented us with the detailed further information that we requested. We used this as the basis for our discussion.

Although the report covered wider issues in relation to sustainability we mainly focused on food security at this meeting. We found the information you provided very informative but after our discussion we found we still had many questions that will require us to do a bigger piece of work, possibly even an in-depth inquiry in order to answer those questions. We will therefore forward this letter to the Scrutiny Programme Committee to consider this request.

In summary, the main issues we discussed and hope to investigate further include:

1. How we build stronger resilience into our food supply chain in Swansea (moving away in part from the 'just in time' model). We would also like to consider whether food security should form part of the authorities resilience planning.
2. How to reduce the length of food chains in particular in relation to key food items.
3. Procurement practices including ensuring using the right balance of local growers/providers

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4. More local food growing encouraged (given that agriculture in Wales has reduced by 10% in the last 10 years)
5. Encouraging individuals and communities to grow more, eat healthier and buy local, seasonal produce including
 - Education, schools and communities first actions
 - Planning, the LDP and the availability of growing space and allotments
6. The benefits of local growing in relation to health, wellbeing and community cohesion including the issue of food poverty in deprived areas
7. The role of the local authority in the leadership and facilitation of this agenda with both the public and private sector.
8. Our longer term plans and aspirations in this area including looking at future generation implications.

Your Response

We do not require a response to this letter but if the Scrutiny Programme Committee agrees with us that further work is required we will contact you for your further input over the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Anthony Colburn

Convener, Sustainability Scrutiny Working Group

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