

COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

PART A – SUPPLEMENTARIES

1.	<p>Cllrs C A Holley, M H Jones, A M Day</p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what land sales are being undertaken to match fund the School Building Programme.</p> <p>Response of Cabinet Member for Education</p> <p>Councillors can obtain full details in the exempt papers of Cabinet held on 17 September 2015 (Agenda Item 15a)</p>
2.	<p>Cllrs A M Day, J W Jones, P M Meara.</p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what is envisaged in respect of the future use of Daniel James School.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Education</p> <p>The LDP process is providing useful information on future educational requirements. Meetings have been held to discuss the relocation of Council staff at present using Daniel James School. More detailed survey work is being discussed.</p>
3.	<p>Cllrs C A Holley, J Newbury, P M Black</p> <p>Can the Leader give Council an up to date list of the buildings the Council are currently putting up for sale.</p> <p>Response of the Leader</p> <p>All assets are continually under review and therefore every asset is considered. As part of this ongoing asset review the following surplus Council operational buildings are currently being marketed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Clydach Teacher Centre· Clydach Youth Centre· Manselton Primary School· Treboeth OAP Centre· Cwmbwrla Primary School· Penllergaer Civic Centre· Civic Centre <p>The Council also have a number of buildings that are currently in the final stages of legal documentation for sale.</p>
4.	<p>Cllrs Mary Jones, Jeff Jones Mike Day</p> <p>Considering the concern surrounding the future of our Libraries will the Cabinet Member tell Council when we will be able to see the recommendations from the Library review.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing & Healthy City</p> <p>The first Review was commissioned as an internal document, to assess</p>

	<p>whether there were opportunities to reduce the costs, whilst maintaining the full breadth of the Library Service. Since then the financial context has changed drastically and as a result, Libraries, alongside all other Cultural Services, were placed within the Commissioning Review programme for the Sustainable Swansea strategy. Libraries went straight to Gateway 2 of this programme and final recommendations will go before Cabinet in November.</p>
5.	<p>Cllrs J W Jones, C A Holley, C L Philpott</p> <p>Inward Investment is critical to the prosperity of the City and many meetings have taken place. Will the Leader tell Council how we are able to access the minutes from the meetings of the City Bay Region</p> <p>Response of the Leader</p> <p>Minutes from meetings of the Swansea Bay City Region Board are published on the Swansea Bay City Region website and can be accessed via the website link http://www.swanseabaycityregion.com/en/board-minutes.htm</p>
6.	<p>Cllrs M H Jones, J W Jones, C A Holley.</p> <p>Over the past few months Councillors have experienced difficulties accessing their e mails via Citrix and Webmail when working remotely. Is the Cabinet Member confident that migration to the new server will resolve these problems and what does he recommend we do in the meantime.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Transformation & Performance.</p> <p>A routine software update was required to the Citrix infrastructure to extend its functionality to include access for new Windows 10 PCs and laptops. Unfortunately, during the update process, all configuration settings were lost. An interim solution to this was put in place and a further update (software version rolled-back and re-applied) took place on 5th October. This has successfully restored the standard service and a further update will be applied by 12th October (dependent on a solution being supplied from Citrix support) to restore the full two-factor authentication service.</p> <p>Councillor email accounts are being migrated during October, providing benefits such as larger mailbox allocation and quicker response times whilst using email and calendar applications.</p> <p>Recently, there have also been significant software updates to unsupported devices used by Members, for example Windows 10, Apple IOS9 and new Microsoft browser software, which could be a contributing factor to any email issues being experienced by Councillors. Councillors are requested to log all calls with the Service Desk so that ICT are able to help rectify and monitor the position.</p> <p>Over the past 2 years the Council has invested a significant amount of money in upgrading its IT infrastructure and in complying with the national Public Service Network requirements. Although this has, regrettably, caused some disruption, it will mean that the Council will have a modern, flexible and sustainable IT service in the future.</p>

7.	<p>Cllrs C A Holley, P M Meara, M H Jones,</p> <p>Given that the Guildhall is now being used extensively for filming will the Leader tell us where will Council meetings take place once he has sold the Civic Centre.</p> <p>Response of the Leader</p> <p>Alternative locations for council meetings including community buildings will be considered should a rare occasion arise when the chamber would not be available. The public would be surprised to learn that for many years this authority has had 3 council chambers. That is unsustainable and we have made a decision to reduce this to 1. The redevelopment of the civic site will give a welcome boost to Swansea's economy and both Penllergaer and the civic site will provide much needed capital receipts for the council.</p>
8.	<p>Cllrs EW Fitzgerald, DG Sullivan, IM Richard, GD Walker</p> <p>Does the Cabinet Member consider that an 'available ' walking route to school should also be a 'safe' one.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Education</p> <p>Transport arrangements for eligible pupils are in accordance with the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 and the Learner Travel Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance 2014. The terminology within the Home to School Transport Policy complies with the terminology within the above documents.</p> <p>A walking route is deemed to be available if it can be walked in relative safety by the child/ learner alone or accompanied by an adult, as necessary, taking into account the nature of the route and the age and abilities of the child/ learner.</p> <p>The safety of routes is assessed using the methodology set out in the Welsh Government Guidance for the Risk Assessment of Walked Routes to School to determine whether a route is unavailable irrespective of whether a parent accompanies a child/ learner, given the age of the child. This takes into account factors such as speed limit, traffic volume, social factors, etc.</p>
9.	<p>Cllrs EW Fitzgerald, DG Sullivan, IM Richard, GD Walker</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member comment on the apparent lack of 21st century children's playgrounds in the north west of Swansea and indicate when better facilities are going to be provided.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing & Healthy City</p> <p>Due to the current budgetary constraints the Council is not in a position to provide new or significantly upgraded children's playgrounds from within its own financial resources. However it is possible that new or upgraded facilities in the north west of Swansea will be provided as a result of housing developments in the area identified in the LDP. New facilities have recently been provided from developer contributions through S106 agreements, as is the case in the recently opened site on Penllergaer Common and a further contribution has been received to provide new facilities near to the Gower View Road</p>

	<p>development in Gorseinon, In addition the 21st Century Schools programme has resulted in a significantly upgraded facility at the Elba Complex in Gowerton and it is the intention that new facilities will be provided in Parc y Werin, Gorseinon as part of the proposed Gorseinon Primary School project.</p> <p>Furthermore other play facilities in this area have benefited or will soon benefit from some form of upgrade, either through Welsh Government Play Sufficiency funding, through Community Council involvement or through the work of local Friends groups. These include Parc y Werin, Gorseinon, Coed Bach Pontarddulais and Glais.</p>
10.	<p>Cllrs EW Fitzgerald, DG Sullivan, IM Richard, GD Walker</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member update Members as to whether the Council has recovered any of the monies owed to it by MEWN when it went into liquidation in 2014? Could the amount owed please be stated.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Transformation & Performance</p> <p>The Council formally lodged a financial claim for £85,980.54 in 2014 (proof of debt) to the appointed liquidator as a substantial creditor to MEWN. We await any distribution from that liquidation process. The whole amount remains outstanding to date.</p>
11.	<p>Cllrs EW Fitzgerald, DG Sullivan, IM Richard, GD Walker</p> <p>New signs have recently been erected on the road through Cockett welcoming visitors to this part of Swansea. What did these cost and how were they funded.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport</p> <p>In total there were 8 signs for these three communities which cost of £4019.93. The signs were requested and paid for via local ward member's environmental improvements allocation.</p>

PART B - None