Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions at Council – 17 December 2015

1. Mrs L Davies

a)Is the Cabinet Member aware of the total outlay costs associated with the implementation of the disastrous Capgemini project and the total amount of savings actually delivered by the project? I ask because I would like to know how much public money the previous administration wasted on the Service @Swansea project?"

b)Cabinet at its meeting on 30 December 2005 resolved to delegate authority to enter into a Strategic Partnering Agreement with Capgemini PLC. The minutes of those meetings were never presented back to a Cabinet Meeting. Why not?"

Response of the Leader

a) The E-Government programme as approved in December 2005 was divided into two phases as follows:

Phase 1 – Resource@Swansea, Information Management, Strategic sourcing, ICT services.

Phase 2 – Service@Swansea including call centre design, contact centre design, interactive web site and IM implementation.

The total contract cost for phase 1 was estimated at £98.8million, including £15.5Million relating mainly to programme management, contract Management, training, data cleansing and other third party costs.

The £83.3million external costs were effectively split as follows:

	£m
New systems build	17.8
Cost of outsourced ICT service over 10 year period	60.8
Capital financing charges	4.7
Total	83.3

The financial benefits target associated with phase 1 implementation was £26.2million which was crucial to implementation of phase 2, intended to be delivered at a future date.

The reality is that the majority of these savings were not identifiable which led to the cancellation of phase 2 of the project at a meeting of Cabinet on 11 January 2007.

Given that the previous Administration cancelled phase 2 of the project this inevitably meant that the promised benefits did not materialise. This was both short sighted and in my opinion wrong. It is only recently with the investment that this administration has made that real benefits being delivered.

b) I can confirm that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 30 December 2005 were not presented back to a Cabinet Meeting. One assumes that this was an oversight given that it was a Special Meeting of Cabinet. This error does not invalidate the decision in any way as Cabinet Minutes are only presented back at meetings to ensure their accuracy.

2. Mrs L Davies

Page 41. The agenda makes mention of the schooling of looked after children. My questions relate to the time period, 2010 to date, and how many looked after children under the care of CCS have:

- a) Achieved GCSE qualifications.
- b) Achieved A level qualifications.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Education

a)Education Looked After Children (LAC) – GCSE Results

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total number of LAC pupils in Year 11 cohort	27	36	50	51	38
Total number of LAC pupils in Year 11 cohort on SEN Register	12	27	41	37	34
Total number LAC pupils in Year 11 cohort achieving Level 1 A* - G GCSE qualifications or equivalent qualifications	10	9	27	33	28
Total number LAC pupils in Year 11 cohort achieving Level 1 A*-C GCSE or equivalent qualifications	4	3	11	15	9

b) Please note that the Education Department does not keep records of LAC pupils at A level as LAC support is for statutory school-aged pupils only.

3. Councillor E W Fitzgerald Question:

If a charging facility for mobility scooters would be provided at Llys Gwalia, Gorseinon.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Next Generation Services

There is a hardstanding at Llys Gwalia which is intended as a scooter storage area. Tenants who wish to use this area for the storage of their mobility scooters can purchase their own storage units which sit on the hardstanding.

There is no charge for the use of this area. Tenants are however advised that they need to make their own arrangements for charging of their mobility scooters. Many scooters now come with removable batteries and therefore can be charged within a tenant's own home.

Previously two scooter users have used this hardstanding area for the storage of their mobility scooters but there are currently no scooter users in Llys Gwalia.

4. Councillor J W Jones Questions:

What are the administrative costs of the Communities First Delivery Plan for 2014-2015 and the first six months of 2015-2016.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Anti Poverty

The total audited expenditure on the Communities First delivery plan for 2014-15 was £2,884,445. Of this £68,577 was for administration costs which equates to 2.38% of the total.

In the first six months of 2015-16 total expenditure claimed was £1,139,682. Of this £45,456 was for administration costs which equates to 3.99% of the total claimed so far.

5. Councillor P M Black

If embedded how were children in receipt of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) services consulted.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Services for Children and Young People

It is important to emphasise that the groups at Trehafod have never been an Education Department service. They are a Health Authority service to which the Education Department contributed tuition and teaching assistant time from the Home Tuition Team. The service delivered by the CAMHS-based home tuition staff was managed on a day-to-day basis by the CAMHS clinical team and did not involve the delivery of home tuition or teaching programmes although it did involve contributing, with the CAMHS team, to the assessment of children's needs. The teachers have never been re-designated as "CAMHS Specialist Teachers" and their role in providing individual support in schools has never been consulted on or approved.

The CAMHS team did not liaise with the Education Department about the children who were attending the groups and although the tuition team linked with the children's schools there was little information sharing with other teams in the Education Department that we are aware of.

The groups at Trehafod offered a service across the ABMU area including both Neath Port Talbot and Swansea.

Thus, this service is not statutory and has been developed within CAMHS, rather than as part of a coherent strategy agreed with the Education Department. Neither would the Education Department have known which Swansea children were receiving support during the consultation period for the reasons in the second point.

The children receiving a Health Authority service at Trehafod through the "groups" were not directly involved in the consultation but children and young people who received a service from the Home Tuition Team were part of the consultation. It is worth re-iterating that the Education Department's support provided to the Health Authority's CAMHS was not a separate service but part of the home tuition team and the consultation included pupils receiving a service from that team.

6. Councillor M H Jones(Response to Question asked at Council - 23 July 2015)

601 Children and Young People have a better understanding of the importance of school, how many of these children and young people have now gone on to attend school regularly.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Anti-Poverty

This relates to a measure within the Communities First programme: LC-PM 2.2 – children and young people with a better understanding of the importance of school:

The Young People Service Community First Team support young people to have a better understanding of the importance of school through a variety of youth engagement interventions.

This includes:

- One to one support; where young people are directly supported in relation to addressing any issues they are facing. This also includes elements of supporting their family.
- Targeted and accredited project work, which offers workshops, activities and informal learning opportunities where the young people can learn and gain knowledge and be supported with issues affecting their lives.
- Residential programmes, where young people have the opportunity to have new experiences, challenge themselves and explore their learning in a new and fun environment.
- School support sessions where youth workers work closely with their schools, offer support to young people and provide regular sessions within the school where young people can access support directly off the youth workers when needed.
- Open access provision and detached work where youth workers engage with young people in their community to provide opportunities for young people where they can access support and be challenged to develop their knowledge, learning and values.

Within these programmes we offer informal learning opportunities where young people can explore, learn and gain knowledge and understanding in

issues that affect their lives. These include things such as workshops and conversations where the youth workers explore these issues with young people and help them to address these issues in line with young people's rights.

Throughout the year of 2014/15 the 601 young people supported, reported back to youth workers that through the above interventions they have a better understanding of the importance of school. The evidence gained to support this include development and progression through the matrix assessment tool, evaluations and questionnaires, verbal feedback through discussions and their consistent and repeated engagement in sessions.

The Young People's Service does not currently have a direct report on how many of these young people have gone on to attend school regularly. It is an aspiration of our Management Information System and our partnership with schools that we will be able to establish and draw down reports on changes in actual attendance during 2016/17.