



CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

Councillor Mary Jones
Chair, Scrutiny Programme Committee

Please ask for:
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Our Ref / Ein Cyf: MT/JW
Your Ref / Eich
Cyf:
Date / Dyddiad: 16 April 2015

If you require this or any other information in another format e.g. Braille, audio tape or a different language, please contact me

Dear Councillor Jones

CABINET MEMBER QUESTION SESSION – 16 FEBRUARY

Thank you for your letter dated 12th March 2015, apologies for the delay in responding to you.

Recycling Performance:

Single use pink bags as recycling by the plastics reprocessor; however the green bags are either landfilled or sent to energy from waste.

Civic Amenity Sites:

I can confirm that the current Van/Trailer Permit scheme is being amended to restrict visits to 12 per year. This should be more than ample for residents use, but should deter businesses from using these sites.

Highways Planning:

The City & County of Swansea has commissioned Arup Consultants to undertake a comprehensive transport modelling exercise in support of the emerging Local Development Plan. The Welsh Government's population projections require that the Council plans for the provision of between 17,100 and 14,000 new homes over the next twenty five years. Officers were therefore keen to undertake appropriate

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assessments to determine whether this growth can be catered for on existing transport networks, and where this is not considered to be achievable or sustainable that alternative means would be proposed to ensure that the City & County of Swansea can continue to grow and develop to meet the pressures in the years ahead.

Arup are therefore preparing a County wide traffic model in order to interrogate the complex demands that will be created if these large scale residential developments are realised over the term of the plan. The model is being built using a pioneering new technique which utilises mobile phone data to provide journey information across the Local Authority area. Whilst the model is still in development, it has a demand matrix comprising 1.1 million trips and is therefore expected to provide extremely reliable information on journey times, durations, centres of demand and generation. The outputs from this work is expected to complete in late April 2015, and its conclusions will be used to inform the further development of the sites earmarked for residential development.

Safe Routes in Communities:

The Safe Routes Programme has been designed to both improve road safety in the area and also promote more sustainable modes of transport, particularly for school journeys.

With regard to the first aim, the schemes success can be judged by comparing the accident data before and after implementation. In the three years prior to the bid for funding for the Townhill area there were 2 collisions causing fatalities, 7 resulting in serious injury and 46 where the level of injury was classified as slight. The DfT produce statistics which enable this to be translated into a capital cost, this equates to a sum of £5,590,940. Three years after completion it will be possible to re-analyse the data for the Townhill area and undertake a direct comparison of the accident record which can be reflected in capital savings.

Traffic speed data in the vicinity of the Primary schools was also collected prior to works being implemented. It is proposed to repeat these speed surveys in the coming months to establish the effectiveness in slowing down traffic and consequently improving road safety.

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The second aim of the proposal is more difficult to quantify. Previously the Authority employed a Safe Routes in Communities officer who worked with the schools in the areas funded undertaking surveys to establish modes of transport for pupils and teachers, both before and after implementation. Unfortunately in recent years it has not been possible to fund this position and consequently this information is no longer gathered and reported.

Highways Maintenance:

The PATCH programme for 2015-16 has been circulated to all members and the team will be in contact a couple of weeks prior to arriving in your ward. Work is still proceeding on the 2015-20 Asset Management Programme; this will be released later this year and will contain details of the planned maintenance work scheduled for the next 5 years.

Transport:

A report on Partnership working including Quality Bus Contracts (QBC) and Statutory Quality Partnerships (SQP) was considered by Cabinet in 2014 when the decision was taken not to proceed with QBC or SQP but to pursue more informal partnership working along the lines of the current agreement with First Cymru for the ftrMetro Service.

More recently the Services Cabinet Advisory Committee met on 9 February to look at Quality Bus Contracts and Partnerships and will reporting back to Cabinet on their findings

Yours sincerely



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