

**Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions at Council
1 November 2016**

1.	<p>Mr David Davies - Page 69 “A City that Cares”, Paragraph 2. It is particularly welcome to read the words that our City is recognised as a beacon of hope and a haven from hate and persecution. Since Brexit, hate crimes have escalated, encouraged by extravagantly used language from politicians promoting their own unprincipled ideology. I have witnessed two cases of extreme racism which I am pursuing. The sentiments taken from the Swansea Story are an inspiration. Could the Senior Officers and Cabinet Members responsible be officially recognised as examples of what is good in society today and their identities revealed at our next meeting.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Services for Children and Young People The words are taken from the 'Swansea Story'. This is a short document, developed jointly by Cabinet and the Corporate Management Team to reflect our thoughts and vision for the area we all serve. Although I am delighted with your feedback and kind words I feel that it would be wrong to single out individuals as it was very much a joint effort.</p>
2.	<p>Councillor M H Jones – Councillors Questions – Q1 1. Swansea International Festival of Music and Arts. Has the cut in funding had any detrimental effect?”</p> <p>2. Can you explain why we are paying £31,500 for the Dylan Thomas Exhibition which is a Heritage Lottery Funded programme and the Dylan Thomas Centre £143,000”.</p> <p>3. Swansea is a member of the European Network of Cultural Cities. What Are the costs associated with it and what benefit has it for Swansea.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development and Regeneration 1. We are not aware of any detrimental effect to the new funding principles for the Swansea International Festival. Whilst we retained our investment at £40,000 for 16/17, the ‘cut’ if it can be described as such, was the removal of free use of the Brangwyn Hall, which amounted to £10,000 of lost income for Cultural Services. The Council has a policy for no free use of the Hall and the implementation of this policy was discussed over a period of time with the Festival organisers. We are advised by the organisers that they are incredibly grateful for The continued support of CCS despite the cuts to Cultural budgets and that the Festival programme was delivered, successfully, as agreed.</p> <p>2. The £31,500 is City & County of Swansea’s match funding to the delivery of the literature development programme to promote and engage participation in literature and the works of Dylan Thomas, which has a total budget of £130,400. This programme will cease next year and any future activity will be delivered within the overall cultural development programme of the Council.</p> <p>The Dylan Thomas Centre houses the Exhibition, administrative office for The literature development programme and shop. The budget for these,</p>

including the rent and rates payable, insurances and employee costs, nets off at £143,000.

3. Thank you for your interest in this programme, which I'm pleased to provide a full response to. Swansea is participating in a Pilot programme which has brought together a European network of Cities to work together to explore and identify the benefits of Culture in developing a sustainable city.

The aims of this programme are to:

“highlight the interdependent relationship between citizenship, culture and sustainable development; provide an international framework supported by commitments and actions that are both achievable and measurable; complement the Agenda 21 for culture adopted in 2004, making it more effective; harness the role of cities and local governments as authorities in the development and implementation of policies with and for citizens; contribute to the definition and importance of the essential role of culture in the United Nations Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.”

This is a three year project and our costs will amount to around £34,000 over the duration – depending on the Euro exchange rate – which pays for the Agenda 21 and Culture Action Europe teams to visit us, work with us to understand our current position in the network and manage workshops with our stakeholders.

There may be further minor costs incurred, of visiting other cities or hosting workshops. These are minor as the host organisation (UCLG) and city, should we undertake the visits, will cover travel and accommodation for at least one delegate and to date we are holding workshops in our own premises, or at our partners' venues, without being charged.

The three year programme will specifically address the nine commitments Of Culture 21 – Agenda 21 for Culture, which our UK governments and non-governing bodies alike have subscribed to. These are accompanied by a series of actions and tests of effectiveness which will be explored and developed throughout the programme. The commitments are: Cultural Rights: Active citizenship and the full recognition of cultural rights; Heritage, Diversity and Creativity: as the foundations of cultural life; Culture and Education: promoting active citizenship through the construction of cultural capacities; Culture and Environment: cultural factors as accelerators of environmental responsibility; Culture and Economy: cultural responsibility as necessary for a sustainable economy; Culture, Equality and Social Inclusion: culture contributes to new social bonds; Culture, Urban Planning and Public Spaces: planning cities and regions with cultural awareness and meaning; Culture, Information and Knowledge: technology and its contributions to plurality and citizenship-building; Governance of Culture: towards a balanced and shared governance of Local cultural policies.

The benefits for Swansea are that we have access to a wide ranging peer network and experts to help us develop a greater understanding of the way we work compared to others and to develop a sustainable strategy for Culture in Swansea that is considered best practice. The programme includes meetings and visits to Swansea by others and vice versa, with many opportunities for our stakeholders and partners to work with us and consider improvements and evidence of how our City can be more sustainable with

	<p>new partnerships and policies for culture. Participation in the programme will give us a solid understanding of our opportunities, strengths and weaknesses so that we can future plan within an agreed strategy. This is particularly important for Swansea presently, as we embark on the significant regeneration of the City and the need to ensure we have a breadth of activity and facilities for all our communities to benefit from, with active partnerships and external investment in place.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Councillor P M Black - Councillors Questions – Q1</p> <p>1. Why is there a big jump in funding for the Brangwyn Hall when the music programme has been discontinued.</p> <p>2. Why has there been an increase in funding for the Dylan Thomas Centre when the exhibition is funded separately by Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development and Regeneration</p> <p>1. We are not certain of the budgets you are comparing when stating that there is a big jump in funding. However, we can advise that whilst the Music budget and the Brangwyn Hall budget were two separate budgets on paper, there was a significant amount of interdependence between the both e.g. if the CCS put on a music event in the BHL, then that would have been charged against the Music budget. The Brangwyn hall budget would then recover the Hall hire costs etc. for that event from the Music budget. In 2016/17, as part of the overall savings within Cultural Services, the Brangwyn budget and Music budget had to make a saving of £80,000.</p> <p>The Music budget was therefore ceased and the Brangwyn budget was also reduced. In 2015/16 the Brangwyn budget (net) was £76,000 and in 16/17 it is £51,600. There has been no jump in funding for the Brangwyn but there has been a reduction.</p> <p>2. There has been no increase in funding for the Dylan Thomas Centre. The funding from HLF is also for the literature development programme as detailed in the response to Councillor Jones ie. a total budget of £130,400 per annum which includes £31,500 match funding from CCS. This programme will cease next year and any future activity will be delivered within the overall cultural development programme of the Council.</p> <p>The Dylan Thomas Centre houses the Exhibition, which was made possible through HLF, as well as the administrative office for the literature development programme and shop. The budget for managing these, including the rent and rates payable, insurances and employee costs, nets off at £143,000 and is the responsibility of the Council. Whilst there has been no increase in the expenditure budget, there has been an increase in standard inflationary items, which has been awarded across all council budgets, i.e. salaries.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Councillor J W Jones - Councillors Questions – Q6</p> <p>Is the borrowing being amassed for future use. What will the borrowing be used for.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Next Generation Services</p> <p>The Council does not borrow in advance or in anticipation of Capital expenditure and there is no sum being amassed for future use.</p>

The Section 151 Officer has clearly explained the rise in borrowing in 2015/16 was due to two specific reasons:

- a) The opportunity for the Council to buy itself out of the historic Housing subsidy arrangements.
- b) The need to externalise elements of the overall Capital Financing Requirement previously covered by internal borrowing and using the opportunity to take advantage of exceptionally low external PWLB loan rates.

5. **Councillor I M Richard - Councillors Questions – Q7**

At a meeting with the community very recently, four senior INNOGY project Managers clearly stated that the project (if ever done) would be 33.6 MW and not as they had previously always said 48MW capacity (although hidden in the small print of the Planning Application it always said 32MW to 48MW.

I ask for clarification and that true figures be given; not out dated figures:

The final figure precisely in the answer to Council should reflect the now set true capacity figure as 33.6MW.

In this recent community meeting INNOGY also accepted and did not disagree that the average output would now be just 8MW from Mynydd y Gwair.

INNOGY also confirmed that dropping the capacity from 48MW to 33.6MW would drop the Community Fund from £240,000 to £168,000 p.a. (£72,000 less!).

Now the complicated bit which is always “twisted” by all Renewable Energy producers is the fact that they have Renewable Obligation Certificate Contracts. This means effectively that the Electric Power National Grid is obliged to accept all they produce. Their outputs vary all the time, due to erratic wind and sun conditions and can never be precisely forecast. So in simple terms other power sources have to continually “give way” and the more renewables we get the more complex it becomes. Coal power operation is too slow to give way. Nuclear is unsafe to play about with so it cannot give way. So it is gas power that gives way as it can react quickly to demands and quickly react up or down.

The Grid is a very complex capacitor. In the sixties when I worked in the Steel Company of Wales (SCOW) we would occasionally get emergency phone calls from National Grid to shut down our big steel cold reduction mill to allow the Grid to maintain flow in a power crisis, this was called load shedding. This one mill consumed as much energy as a domestic town the size of Neath, SCOW would be compensated. Now they have “spinning reserve” a wasteful costly reserve.

So what is done; they slow down the easiest to control input – gas power to allow in the Renewables under their obligation contracts. The complicated bit is that Renewable Developers at current levels of their outputs give out Carbon Saving statistics as if they are displacing coal pure carbon power (or the mix power). The carbon savings are then inflated as false figures. The true reality is that they are displacing GAS which has far less carbon and mostly hydrogen and produce mostly steam and not carbon. So my question asked for true carbon displacement figures according to the real situation of

	<p>the “wobbly” Grid.</p> <p>This is something that needs understanding. That’s why I chose the “balloon” as an example. That’s also why they now hope to build a new medium sized Gas Power Station between Mawr Ward and Llangyfelach to burn gas from Iran and Russia via Milford Haven to steady the wobbly grid as more and more Renewable Wind Turbines and Solar Panels and Tides come into the Grid. Apart from Tidal the other two are totally erratic and unpredictable – short term or long term.</p> <p>Also in giving displacement of Carbon statistics they always compare it with Renewables capacity or Maximum and never with the reality of true average outputs – 25% for Wind and 10% for Solar and not the untruth of 100% for both! A huge exaggeration or untruth!.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development and Regeneration</p> <p>As of 7 November 2016, the Council has not received confirmation from Innogy on the size or capacity of the wind turbines and therefore it would not be considered appropriate to confirm the final size of the installation until Innogy have notified the Council as to their decision.</p>
6.	<p>Councillor M H Jones - Councillors Questions – Q8</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member provide a simple definition of “Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Services for Adults and Vulnerable People</p> <p>I can recommend you following the below link as it explains in detail the definition.</p> <p>http://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/legal-rights/mental-capacity-act-2005/deprivation-of-liberty/#.WBj2SOvfWrU</p> <p>I have also left a hard copy of this in your mail tray, the explanation of the Deprivation of Liberty is on page 21-27.</p>