Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions at Council 26 January 2017

Part A - Supplemantaries

- 1. Lis Davies "Councillor' Questions Question 9
 - a) Will the Cabinet Member provide a list of the planned works to upgrade the Council Housing Stock in Upper Killay?
 - b) Will the Cabinet Member meet with two Council House residents in Upper Killay to discuss the issue?

Response of the Cabinet Member for Next Generation Services

a) There are 43 Council properties in Upper Killay. 38 of these are of a non traditional construction type (Cornish Precast Reinforced Concrete properties) and these received extensive refurbishment works in 1998 including insulated render and a new roof covering. The expected lifespan of the render is at least 30 years hence these properties have not been included in any recent wind and weather proofing programmes. The lifespan of the roof covering is 60 years.

32 of the 38 properties have benefited from electrical rewiring work since 2008 and the remaining 6 are scheduled to be rewired in 2017/18.

The remaining 6 traditional build properties received new render in 1990 and were rewired between 2008 and 2010. Again the lifespan of the render is at least 30 years hence they have not been included in recent wind and weatherproofing schemes.

The scheduling of capital works in terms of priority order is based on a stock condition survey undertaken in 2012 by an independent surveying company, which was commissioned by the Council. The priorities within the programme take into account the age and condition of the building elements and as a result, properties in Upper Killay will receive new kitchens and bathrooms in 2020/21.

16 properties in the area have already received new energy efficient boilers with the remainder scheduled to receive them in the financial year 2017/18.

All Ward Members will receive a letter in the next few weeks highlighting capital works scheduled to Council properties within their area.

- b) am more than happy to meet with the tenants if I am provided with their names and addresses. Please can you forward these to me.
- 2. **Councillor P M Black -** "Councillor' Questions Question 4 Will the Education Cabinet Member please share the disaggregated PISA results for Swansea which she just referred to.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Education

Seven City & County of Swansea secondary schools took part in the November 2015 PISA assessments.

The comments re the small sample, half a million students worldwide, out of a twenty eight million 15 year olds in seventy two countries are well known.

The PISA results are published on a country by country basis and not by Local Authority. The schools who have chosen to participate receive information on how their pupils have performed as a whole school figure against the international results.

I enclose, as an example, the science test results and the maths test achieved in Swansea. In 2015 the PISA assessment was particularly targeted at all science and problem solving. The individual school result appears as a number score at the bottom of the sheet. This allows the school to compare its results with the OECD participating countries.

The recent categorisation of all Wales schools should not be seen as a league table. The same applies to PISA scores.

From the information I have received I am confident that Swansea school are performing well above the Welsh average in GCSE levels and internationally in PISA assessments.

This is thanks to the hard work of the teaching profession. Swansea pupils are provided with an enriched curriculum which encourages critical thinking, problem solving and clear understanding of facts.

On 21 December 2016 Swansea Education Department hosted a visit from a South Korean delegation. They noted with interest Swansea schools do not teach just for exams but include cultural and sporting activities which support our pupils wellbeing.

3. **Councillor E W Fitzgerald -** "Councillor' Questions - Question 9 Will the Cabinet Member provide a list of the planned works to upgrade the Council Housing Stock in Penllergaer as Council residents there believe that they are scheduled to have new bathrooms installed this year?

Response of the Cabinet Member for Next Generation Services
I can confirm that the kitchens and bathrooms in Council properties in
Penllergaer are scheduled to be replaced in the financial year 2017/18.

In 2018/19, 46 properties in the area are scheduled to receive wind and weather proofing work. This will include new wall ties and insulated render to improve structural stability, weather protection and thermal insulation. A significant number of system built houses have already been refurbished in 2015. Properties in the area have already received new external doors in 2012.

All Ward Members will receive a letter in the next few weeks highlighting capital works scheduled to Council properties within their area.

Part B - None