

## Council – 22 March 2018

### Councillors' Questions

#### Part A – Supplementaries

1	<p><b>Cllrs Will Thomas, Lyndon Jones &amp; Miles Langstone</b></p> <p>What are the council doing to encourage more people to buy electric cars. Specifically the point on installing rapid chargers. Also, what help is given to those that would like a rapid charger installed at home or business.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Housing, Energy &amp; Building Services</b></p> <p>The Council is keen to take forward the promotion of low emission vehicles and has raised this on a regional basis and with WG's Transport Policy, Planning &amp; Partnership Division via CLAW to ensure a joined up approach. This follows information received recently regarding WG looking to roll out £2m funding for EV charging Infrastructure via Local Authorities. The aim is to create an EV charging network in proximity to trunk roads which will bring additional economic and eco-tourism by bringing people into towns close to trunk roads. The funding will create a standard 'Wales branded' EV charging specification via the setting up of a Wales EV charging procurement framework with the aim being to locate 2/3 rapid charge posts in each Local Authority area. The framework and common specification will then be accessible to LA's for future projects which will help support transition from petrol and diesel by resolving the main concern which is being able to charge a vehicle for longer journeys. Funding from UK Government as part of its planned strategy on low carbon road transport will also be reviewed.</p> <p>The council is also promoting the uptake of Electric vehicles via a range of initiatives including its annual clear air roadshow scheduled for the summer which help encourage more people to buy electric vehicles by alleviating concerns over the lack of charging points, accessibility to rapid charging and relieving range anxiety for longer journeys (which evidence suggests is a key inhibitor to take-up). This forms part of the Council's overall Energy Strategy and associated action plan.</p> <p>For people wishing to purchase electric vehicles, grants are available from the Government ranging from 20–35% for car dealerships and manufacturers to enable them to reduce prices on brand new electric vehicles which fall into certain categories. In addition to this, the Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme (EVHS) provides government grant funding of up to 75% towards the cost of installing electric vehicle charge points at domestic properties across the UK.</p>
2	<p><b>Cllrs Peter Black, Jeff Jones &amp; Graham Thomas</b></p> <p>How many prosecutions for dog fouling have there been since January 2016.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment Services</b></p>

	<p>Six Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for dog fouling have been issued since January 2016 – 5 were paid within 7 working days and 1 was withdrawn. Therefore as all FPNs were paid, there have been no prosecutions for Dog Fouling.</p>
3	<p><b>Cllrs Kevin Griffiths, Wendy Fitzgerald &amp; Gareth Sullivan</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm if it is true what the papers say that there is going to be a new junction installed between M4 Junction 47 and 48. If it is where is the proposed location and what is the cost.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Commercial Opportunities &amp; Innovation</b></p> <p>There are currently no plans for a new M4 junction, or details of potential location or cost. However, it is a proposal put to the Welsh Government by Council officers in response to their call for projects to be considered for inclusion in the National Development Framework (NDF) that they are currently preparing. The NDF, which is due to be published in 2020, will be a new national land use development plan and will replace the existing Wales Spatial Plan. It will set out the framework for land use in Wales over the period to 2040 and identify the locations for the provision of new infrastructure and growth. The Welsh Government plan to publish for consultation purposes details of the issues and options proposed to be included in the NDF later this year (April to June 2018).</p>
4	<p><b>Cllrs Chris Holley, Peter Black &amp; Jeff Jones</b></p> <p>In view of the requirement to increase revenue for the Parking Enforcement section are there any incentives in place for the Parking Enforcement Officers to achieve this.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment Services</b></p> <p>There are no incentives for Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO's) to achieve income targets. However under the Traffic Management Act, there is a requirement for the Civil Parking Enforcement service to be operated at zero cost to the council. Therefore, operating costs must be offset by penalty charge income, with any surplus being reinvested into ring-fenced service provision.</p> <p>The service will have objectives in terms of team performance relating to areas of the city to be patrolled, so that complaints regarding inconsiderate or dangerous parking are addressed, performance of officers on street, and the requirement for officers to conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner at all times. Additional efforts are being made to ensure that on-street traffic regulation orders are enforceable, that lines and signs are correct and properly maintained.</p> <p>Increased income targets have been allocated across all of parking services. There are work streams in place to improve the customer experience within car parks with the intention of attracting additional customers into council car parks, especially during the traditionally quiet periods of the year, to assist local retailers. There is an obvious challenge due to the competition for</p>

	<p>shopper parking within the city centre, from the three NCP multi storey car parks.</p> <p>Investment in new technology, as part of the Smart Cities aspiration, is also expected to bring about greater efficiencies within parking services, assisting in meeting increased income targets.</p> <p>It is intended that through these range of initiatives, that the additional demands on the service will be accommodated.</p>
5	<p><b>Cllrs Chris Holley, Jeff Jones &amp; Mary Jones</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member/s tell Council which Council Assets have been transferred to Community Groups and how many are still under discussion. Will the Cabinet Member also confirm the departmental ownership prior to it being transferred.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Service Transformation &amp; Business Operations and Future Generations</b></p> <p>4 sites have been the subject of community asset transfer ;Forge Fach and Graigfelyn Hall, Clydach, the Indoor Bowls Hall in Landore and Southgate WCs. All these sites were held centrally (General Fund). There are a further 41 assets currently under consideration, 7 are currently in the legal process.</p>
6	<p><b>Cllr Linda Tyler-Lloyd</b></p> <p>Can we please be advised what involvement ERW has regarding pay negotiations for teachers in Swansea.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Children, Education &amp; Lifelong Learning</b></p> <p>The pay for teachers (including the annual national pay award) is agreed by the UK Government and the Local Government Association (LGA for England, Wales &amp; Northern Ireland).</p> <p>The pay policy for the ERW region is consulted on an annual basis, with each local authority (LA) attending to consult on behalf of their own LA. Following this each LA consults with their local trade union representatives before issuing the final policy to schools for them to adopt.</p>
7	<p><b>Cllrs Chris Holley, Mary Jones &amp; Wendy Fitzgerald</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what use will the Law Courts in the Guildhall be put once the Justice Department have finished with them.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Service Transformation &amp; Business Operations and Future Generations</b></p> <p>The lease of the Law Courts has been surrendered by the Courts Service following the payment of premium to the Council. Investigations are ongoing for alternative uses and whilst these are complicated due to the listed nature of the building this also assists in terms of ongoing holding costs as empty rates are not payable due to listed status . Discussions are ongoing with a</p>

	public sector partner organisation for an alternative use and costs are also being established for a reuse of the office accommodation.
	<b>Part B – No Supplementaries - None</b>