



Council – 22 November 2018

## Councillors' Questions

### Part A – Supplementaries

1	<p><b>Cllrs Myles Langston, Lyndon Jones &amp; Will Thomas</b></p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member please explain the process and framework (if any) when changing the AONB boundaries.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Delivery</b></p> <p>Any change to an AONB boundary would require a Boundary Variation Order to be submitted by Natural Resources Wales under s82 Part IV Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to the relevant Welsh Government Minister. No boundary Variation Orders have been submitted for the Gower AONB. The original boundary remains unchanged since the Designation Order was confirmed on 10th December 1956.</p>
2	<p><b>Cllrs Myles Langston, Lyndon Jones &amp; Will Thomas</b></p> <p>Are AONB boundaries changes purely the decision of CCS.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Delivery</b></p> <p>CCS is not able to amend the boundary of the AONB and has never sought to do so.</p> <p>The original boundaries for the AONB were drawn on paper Ordnance Survey (OS) maps scaled at 1" to 1 mile, and the map published with the original Designation Order in 1956 remains the formal legal boundary. The level of accuracy of this map is therefore far less than expected with modern mapping and there are inherent limitations of transposing a map drawn at 1" to 1 mile to the sophisticated level of detail required for digitised mapping drawn at over 25" to 1 mile. Any perceived minor boundary variations when transposing the original map from paper to digital versions at different scales do not represent a legal change as no boundary variations have ever been made.</p>
3	<p><b>Cllrs Peter Black, Graham Thomas &amp; Gordon Walker</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member provide an update on the transition funding associated the winding down of Community First.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Better Communities - People</b></p> <p>Communities First was phased-out across Wales during the 'Transition Year' 2017/18. Communities First funding continued at 70% of 2016/17 levels during this period; £1,991,368 until 31/3/18.</p>

Welsh Government approved Swansea as one of four 'Early Adopters' of the Communities for Work Plus employability support programme, and as such, the Communities First Programme in Swansea transitioned to the Communities for Work Plus programme from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. Communities for Work Plus continues to be funded in 2018/19 from Welsh Government and works alongside other employment support activity as a part of the wider 'Swansea Working' employability support provision.

A Legacy Fund of £537,067 in 2018/19 has been allocated to Swansea to maintain some of the most effective aspects of Communities First.

This is funding the below projects:

1. Third Party Delivery Partners;
  - a. Faith in Families; parent and children projects
  - b. Bonymaen Kids Play Initiative; after school homework club and holiday club.
2. Single Employability Coordination
3. Welfare Benefits support
4. Digital Inclusion support
5. Financial Inclusion support
6. Employment skills support

Indicative allocations of funding have been provided by the Welsh Government to continue the Legacy Funded and Communities for Work Plus activity in 2019/20.

**4 Cllrs Mike Day, Cheryl Philpott & Lynda James**

Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what is the latest news on the future of Home Farm.

**Response of the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration & Tourism**

Officers from our Property team continue to consider carefully options for the future use of Home Farm. Key to any future changes will be the requirement to continue delivering top class services, to offer best value to council tax payers and to protect and improve the environment. No significant decision have yet been taken. Members, staff and the public will be kept fully informed.

**5 Cllrs Chris Holley, Mike Day & Gareth Sullivan**

Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what is the current method of inspection for our road and pavements for repairing them or resurfacing them.

**Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure Management**

There are three types of inspection/survey carried out on the highway

**Safety Inspections**

The method of inspection follows the Code of Best practice. Inspections are carried out on all roads on a frequency defined by hierarchy. Frequency varies

	<p>from monthly to annual. It is a very defined and rigid process with all defects that meet investigatory levels being logged for action dependant on severity. Main carriageway inspections are driven at slow speeds whilst footway inspections are walked.</p> <p><b>Condition Inspections</b>  These inspections focus on structural condition. They are coarse visual inspections that follow an All Wales procedure. The condition is logged and is used to produce the 5 programme and any adhoc programmes of road/footway resurfacing. These inspections are carried out on both an adhoc basis (where condition problems are reported) and on a 3-5 year cycle.</p> <p><b>Scanner Survey</b>  This is a measured inspection of the roads condition carried out by Contractors as part of an All Wales programme organised by the Welsh Government. A roads and B roads are scanned for structural condition issues on a 50% a year basis. C roads are scanned on a 25% a year basis and U roads are 10% per year although a full survey was carried out 2 years ago.</p> <p><b>Resurfacing</b>  The surveys above are used to score roads to give them a priority. Variables also considered include hierarchy, bus use, social factors, accident statistics etc.</p>
6	<p><b>Cllrs Jeff Jones, Mary Jones &amp; Chris Holley</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member tell Council if there has been any inspection into the effective use of weed spraying around the city.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment &amp; Infrastructure Management</b></p> <p>The use of the current weed spraying programme has been reviewed a number of times recently both from the point of view of effectiveness and from a point of environmental friendliness. The Welsh Local Government association also reviewed the subject and confirmed that weed spraying is the only practicable method for Highway Authorities at present. The contractor is regularly monitored on a sample basis and in additional all complaints/quality issues raised will be investigated and a re-visit will be arranged at the contractor's expense.</p>
7	<p><b>Cllrs Chris Holley, Mary Jones &amp; Wendy Fitzgerald</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet Member tell Council if he thinks there will be of any adverse effects on the running of the Grand Theatre when the Friends of the Theatre finish in December 2018.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration &amp; Tourism</b></p> <p>The Friends of the Grand Theatre voted at their last meeting in September to wind up the organisation in its present form. The group played no part in</p>

running of the theatre but did assist the venue in some fundraising activity from time to time.

The Theatre as part of its transformation plans have put in place a new box office system that can offer and manage a new membership scheme that will have a wider reach and can offer more benefits to residents than the Friends membership did. This scheme will be launched in the new year with an ambitious target of 2000 new members.

Presently we are offering advice to the former members of the Friends on the option of helping them become a new charitable organisation.

There is no envisaged impact on the running of the Theatre caused by the Friend's decision.

**8 Cllrs Myles Langston, Lyndon Jones & Will Thomas**

Could the Cabinet Member please confirm how many times our AONB boundaries have been changed since inception.

**Response of the Cabinet Member for Delivery**

The Gower AONB boundary has never been changed.

**Part B – No Supplementaries**

**9 Cllrs Peter Black, Chris Holley & Susan Jones**

Can the Cabinet Member update Council on recent A' level exam grades achieved at the Council's schools.

**Response of the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement & Learning**

**Swansea Advanced Level (A2) Results 2018 - Analysis of Provisional Data**

**Table 1 : Grade Distribution for All Sixth Form Schools**

Key for colours used to show higher and lower results {

<b>&lt;10%</b>	<b>&lt;50%</b>	<b>&lt;95%</b>
<b>&gt;=25%</b>	<b>&gt;=75%</b>	<b>=100%</b>



Percentages of entries for each subject				
Subject	Entries	A*-A	A*-C	A*-E

Arabic	3	67%	67%	100%	<i>Students can enter more than one art subject</i>
Art & Design	23	26%	78%	100%	
Art & Design (3D)	11	27%	55%	91%	
Art & Design (Fine Art)	1	0%	100%	100%	
Art & Design (Graphics)	17	41%	88%	100%	
Art & Design (Photography)	11	0%	55%	100%	
Biology	125	26%	68%	97%	
Business	31	6%	58%	100%	
Chemistry	91	37%	78%	96%	
Chinese	2	100%	100%	100%	
Classical Civilisation	1	0%	0%	100%	
Computer Science	23	22%	65%	96%	
Design and Technology	15	33%	80%	100%	
Drama	23	4%	91%	100%	
Economics	15	20%	60%	100%	
Electronics	12	0%	50%	100%	
English Language	4	25%	75%	100%	
English Language and Literature	7	14%	100%	100%	
English Literature	66	15%	76%	100%	
Film Studies	1	0%	100%	100%	
French	12	42%	83%	100%	
Further Mathematics	22	55%	95%	100%	
Geography	38	29%	66%	97%	

Government & Politics	12	17%	83%	100%
Health and Social Care	22	23%	91%	100%
History	86	35%	95%	100%
ICT	8	0%	38%	100%
Mathematics	171	41%	78%	97%
Media Studies	25	12%	68%	100%
Music	4	25%	75%	100%
Music Technology	5	0%	0%	100%
Physical Education	22	14%	68%	95%
Physics	66	29%	73%	97%
Polish	6	0%	50%	100%
Psychology	64	8%	81%	98%
Religious Studies	31	23%	77%	97%
Sociology	44	20%	70%	95%
Spanish	1	100%	100%	100%
Travel and Tourism	2	0%	50%	100%
Welsh First Language	13	31%	85%	100%
Welsh Second Language	8	0%	50%	100%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1144</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>98%</b>
<i>Totals from 2017</i>		24%	72%	97%

**Table 2 :**  
**Overall Results**

*Please see the notes below*

<b>School</b>	<b>Average point score (1)</b>	<b>Level 3 threshold (2)</b>	<b>2 or more A*-A grades (3)</b>	<b>3 or more A*-C grades (4)</b>	<b>Advanced Welsh Bacc (5)</b>
Bishop Gore	635	93	13	47	49
Bishop Vaughan	548	99	4	37	35
Gowerton	739	97	23	67	65
Morrison	676	96	13	43	49
Olchfa	959	98	28	80	90
YG Bryn Tawe	622	97	11	53	54
YG Gwyr	745	99	14	57	78
<b>Swansea Overall</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>60</b>
<i>Wales Overall</i>	<i>739</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>60</i>

### Notes

(1) Average performance points scored by students aged 17.

(2) The percentage of age 17 students entering 2 or more A levels or equivalent who pass 2 or more A levels or equivalent at grades A\* to E.

(3) The percentage of students aged 17 who pass at least two A levels with grades A\* to A.

(4) The percentage of students aged 17 who pass at least two A levels with grades A\* to C.

(5) The percentage of students aged 17 who pass the advanced Welsh Baccalaureate.

Each school sets their own entry requirement for their sixth form

10

### **Cllrs Peter Black, Chris Holley & Susan Jones**

Will the Cabinet Member tell Council what progress is being made in discussions with Gower College Swansea on Post-16 education provision for Swansea young people.

**Response of the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement & Learning**

	<p>Gower College Swansea and Swansea Council are in regular communication through a number of networks and one to one meetings.</p> <p>A post 16 network has been established to share good practice across the sector and discuss the curriculum that is on offer. Last year the group worked together with the 14-19 officer to discuss a number of relevant areas including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· advice, information and guidance,</li> <li>· curriculum and programme of study,</li> <li>· teaching, assessment and learning, and</li> <li>· care, support and guidance.</li> </ul> <p>Gower College Swansea is also working with sixth forms and 11-16 schools as part of a working group to develop an alternative to UCAS Progress; an online search and apply facility for learners wishing to study at post 16 in Swansea; this would be a unique service not offered in any other Local Authority.</p> <p>The coordinator for Education Skills (14-19) regularly meets with Gower College colleagues to discuss its work with all schools and the transition processes that are in place. In particular the transition of vulnerable learners from school to college as part of the Cynnydd project.</p>
11	<p><b>Cllrs Peter Black, Graham Thomas &amp; Mary Jones</b></p> <p>Will the Leader give Council the attendance statistics for the Council representatives on the Governing Body of Gower College Swansea for each of the last 3 full municipal years, and for the current municipal year to date.</p> <p><b>Response of the Leader</b></p> <p>This information is not held by Education or the council. Members may wish to contact Gower College directly who may be able to provide this information.</p>