

**Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions asked at Council
24 January 2019**

1.	<p>Councillor P M Black</p> <p>In relation to Item 9 – Adoption of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.2 of the report states that the estimated shortfall between funding and Council Tax Reduction paid to recipients is £1,270k. How does this compare to previous years.</p> <p>Response of the Section 151 Officer</p> <p>The comparable figures for previous years are attached below :</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 683 1228 817"> <thead> <tr> <th>2014/15</th> <th>2015/16</th> <th>2016/17</th> <th>2017/18</th> <th>2018/19</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">806</td> <td align="center">912</td> <td align="center">1,148</td> <td align="center">1,009</td> <td align="center">1,270</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	806	912	1,148	1,009	1,270
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2.	<p>Councillor A M Day</p> <p>In relation to Item 11 - Update on Progress for Education Department Priorities 2017-2018.</p> <p>The last bullet point under “Challenges” on Page 27 of the report makes reference to the Authority being at risk of significant costs related to historical placement in independent schools within Swansea. There are two questions:</p> <p>i) Does the Cabinet Member have any idea of the figures that may be involved.</p> <p>ii) Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether any costs incurred will be met centrally or from schools delegated budgets.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills</p> <p>The estimated figure is £173,314 to be met by the LA central budget. The figure is only an estimate as it is based on a specific Tribunal case. Since this case the authority has been working on reducing the risk going forward.</p>															
3.	<p>Councillor C L Philpott</p> <p>In relation to Item 11 - Update on Progress for Education Department Priorities 2017-2018.</p> <p>How many people were affected by the closure of Brondeg and where are they now going.</p> <p>Response of the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills</p> <p>A total of 53 learners were affected by the closure of Brondeg but not all attended full-time. However, there was unprecedented support from Corporate Buildings and Facilities as well as teams in Poverty and</p>															

	<p>Prevention to manage the situation safely with staff at Brondeg as well as making the Brondeg site itself safe and fit for purpose. The building re-opened at the start of the new spring term and all learners are back in their planned provision from 10.1.19. This was an example of good co-ordinated working to turn around a difficult situation in a timely fashion.</p>
4.	<p>Councillor P M Black</p> <p>In relation to Item 12 - Councillors Questions (Q3)</p> <p>Can the response to the residents of Dunvant referred to by Councillor L S Gibbard in relation to the withdrawal of wood skips at both Clyne & Garngoch which was provided by the Environment & Infrastructure Management Cabinet Member be circulated to all Councillors.</p> <p>Response of the Leader/Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure Management</p> <p>Further to the question you raised at Council on the 24 January 2019 in relation to the withdrawal of wood skips at both Clyne & Garngoch, here is a copy of the letter I sent to Councillor Louise Gibbard as requested: “The decision to remove the wood skip from Clyne, is not a decision based on cost cutting. This year, the Welsh Government has changed the criteria to all Welsh Councils in respect of recycling of wood. Previously, for all wood brought to our sites, we would be credited with recycling percentages that went towards our overall recycling targets. Now, only wood that is separated out and sent for certain types of recycling can be counted. That has meant a decrease in our overall recycling rate. In order to combat this, as we can't afford for our recycling rate to fall, we have to now separate our wood into various recycling streams. We do not have the capacity, resources or room to do this at any of our HWRC sites, only Llansamlet. Although you have heard that we are removing the wood skip from Clyne on the 13 December, we will also be removing the wood skips from all our other sites in January also. We will however be looking to introduce replacement skips at these sites that will allow us to accept recyclable materials that we currently do not have capacity for. We have also produced leaflets to be given out at all the sites informing residents of these changes”.</p>
5.	<p>Councillor E W Fitzgerald</p> <p>In relation to Item 12 - Councillors Questions (Q5)</p> <p>Can the results of the satisfaction surveys showing high levels of satisfaction at Garngoch be shared.</p> <p>Response of the Leader/Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure Management</p> <p>Please see attached the results of the Satisfaction Surveys undertaken at Garngoch HWRC, both prior to, and after the implementation of a residual skip and black bag challenge at Garngoch HWRC. It can be seen that on average 94.3% of visitors who answered were Very Happy or Happy with their visit before the implementation of a residual skip</p>

	and black bag challenge, and that this figure dropped to an average of 74.8% afterwards.
6.	<p>Councillor P M Black</p> <p>In relation to Item 12 - Councillors Questions (Q7)</p> <p>Does the Council offer a real nappy laundering scheme or does it rely on the private sector to provide that service</p> <p>Response of the Leader/Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure Management</p> <p>I can confirm that the Council does not run a laundry service for real nappies, and there are no plans to introduce such a service. I am not aware of any specific private sector nappy laundry services in the area, and this may well be due to such a service being uneconomical to operate. Liners are used with real nappies to capture solids, and can be flushed down the toilet, with the nappies suitable for being washed in domestic washing machines at 60 deg C.</p>