## Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions asked at Council 7 July 2022

#### 1. Councillor P M Black

#### In relation to Minute 33 - Councillors Questions - Question 1

Requested the terms of reference of the newly formed Project Teams together with guidelines as to how Councillors could request them to do work.

### **Response of the Cabinet Member for Community (Services)**

The Cleansing Project Teams deal with more intensive works that would not normally be undertaken by Operatives on cleansing rounds, and include, but not limited to:

- Deep clean in areas of leaf fall
- Support mechanical brushes during leaf fall by brushing out from corners, behind utility boxes, between parked cars etc.
- Clear fly tipping from land in unknown ownership, if there is an impact on Council owned land
- Remove detritus (soil/leaves) built up at build outs, pedestrian islands, crossing points and bus shelters etc.
- Remove excessive weed growth which won't blow away after spraying
- Periodic city centre deep cleans
- Clearance of trapped litter
- Cut back where ownership of land cannot be established.

We are in the process of reviewing the best way to receive the non-routine requests these teams deal with however for now if you have a request for your ward that is not routine and wish to be considered by the Project Teams then please email it to parks.section@swansea.co.uk.

### 2(i). Councillor P N May asked a number of questions

In relation to Minute 33 - Councillors Questions - Question 3

Joint Response of the Cabinet Member for Service Transformation and Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure

### Is this city wide?

• Yes, as there are 25,933 lighting columns across Swansea.

# What is the percentage of street light columns that only receive a live feed during the hours of darkness?

• 81% of the street lighting infrastructure has only a live feed during the hours of darkness.

# Will this prevent street light columns being utilised as charging points?

 Yes the infrastructure required for charging points is not possible off the existing cable network due to the type of underground cable system, the suitability of the lighting column and the contract we have at present for purchasing energy is on an un-metered agreement.

# What actions will the Council undertake to alleviate this potential problem?

 There are no plans at present for utilising street lighting columns for charging points.

### 2(ii). Councillor S J Rice

#### In relation to Minute 33 - Councillors Questions - Question 3

Requested the remit and timeframe of the consultants and their cost.

## Joint Response of the Cabinet Member for Service Transformation and Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure

There are no plans at present for utilising street lighting columns for charging points. However, the Council is currently reviewing future options in relation to EV charging and the results of this review will be reported in due course.

#### 3. Councillor L R Jones

#### In relation to Minute 33 - Councillors Questions - Question 7

Could a wood skip be placed in Clyne Civic Amenity Site and then moved to Gorseinon Civic Amenity Site prior to be taken to the Bailing Plant, Llansamlet. This approach would reduce the need for vehicles to travel to Llansamlet thereby reducing greenhouses gases.

### **Response of the Cabinet Member for Community (Services)**

As stated previously, one of the original key reasons for diverting all wood to Llansamlet was the intention of the regulator, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to impose a requirement to separate out hazardous waste wood. The regulators (NRW) have now provided an updated, but interim, position that gives a current definition for hazardous wood with instructions that this material needs to be separately collected and disposed. The interim position runs to 2024 and is subject to annual reviews. Until NRW's review process is concluded it remains possible that the Council would need to reverse any changes to the current arrangement for wood waste. Also the removal of the wood skips has allowed space at the sites to either: provide standby skips to be used when a main skip fills; or for the site to provide additional containers to collect a wider range of recyclable items. While all wood waste is now brought to Llansamlet, the other HWRC improvements has reduced the chance of residents being diverted to another site to dispose of other materials.

Placing a wood skip part time at Clyne Recycling Centre, and then moving part time to Garngoch Recycling Centre would unfortunately both take up space at each site, and lead to an inconsistent position, confusion for residents around where to take wood on any particular day, and lead to wasted journeys. Disposal of large amounts of non-commercial wood should be a relatively infrequent requirement for most residents.

It is felt that the existing arrangement of only accepting wood at Llansamlet Recycling Centre, which both allows increased provision for other waste streams at the other Recycling Centres, and reduces any risks of future changes by the Regulator, currently provides the best balanced solution.