

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA POLICY COMMITMENTS STATEMENT 2022 – 2027

1. This **Policy Commitments Statement** covers a broad range of topics, as outlined within paragraph 1. In addition, paragraph 2 outlines commitments in the context of meeting objectives within the first one hundred days of term.

Education

- 1.1 Swansea Council will commit to investing £1 billion for better education, including £150 million investment in new and better schools.

Better care

- 1.2 Swansea Council will commit to investing £750 million for better care in Swansea.
- 1.3 The Council will commit to fairer pay for care workers.
- 1.4 Swansea Council will strive to provide new children's care facilities within Swansea.
- 1.5 We will seek to provide better day care opportunities and respite services across the City.
- 1.6 Swansea Council will continue to develop and operate a network of Local Area Co-ordinators (LAC) to cover the whole of Swansea.

Climate Change

- 1.7 Swansea Council is committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030.
- 1.8 We will support delivery of the first phase of the Blue Eden Lagoon project.
- 1.9 We aim to progress the development of a council-operated solar energy farm at the City's Tir John site.
- 1.10 The Council will strive to install more electric vehicle (EV) charging points across the county, supporting a move to more EV ownership.
- 1.11 We will install more LED street lighting.
- 1.12 We will develop a new city-wide tree planting map allowing us to plant thousands of new trees in communities.

- 1.13 We aim to make neighbourhood greening improvements.
- 1.14 Swansea Council will continue to review the council transport fleet to maximise opportunities for use of a green fleet in line with its green fleet strategy.

Communities

- 1.15 Swansea Council will ensure the availability of dedicated resources to tackle weeds, litter and minor works in every community; recruiting local ward operatives.
- 1.16 We commit to investment in our towns and villages.
- 1.17 We shall promote the free use of sports pitches for local sports clubs.
- 1.18 Swansea Council will commit to improving public toilets.
- 1.19 The Council will continue to invest in parks and play areas.
- 1.20 We will complete work with partners and communities across Swansea to become a Human Rights City and to continue to embed our commitment to values of equality and diversity in everything we do.

Housing

- 1.21 Swansea Council commit to providing more energy efficient homes and more affordable homes, alongside more investment in social housing.
- 1.22 We will deliver on the refurbishment and upgrade of remaining tower blocks.
- 1.23 The Council shall commit to taking strong action against disruptive tenants.
- 1.24 The Council will offer immediate support for people who become homeless and a commitment to shorter housing waiting lists.

Regeneration

- 1.25 The Council will deliver on a £1 billion regeneration of the City Centre and £750 million strategic partnership with Urban Splash to develop seven key strategic sites.
- 1.26 We shall introduce new public and local services hubs in communities.
- 1.27 Swansea Council is committed to helping create thousands of new jobs for the people of Swansea, aiming to provide high quality and secure employment.

- 1.28 We will progress the Palace Theatre and Albert Hall developments to secure our historic buildings for future generations and seek an innovative solution to secure the future of the Elysium building.
- 1.29 Swansea Council will develop and promote more city living, including new hotels, retail, office space and food and beverage facilities.

Attractions

- 1.30 Swansea Council will seek to deliver the biggest ever events programme each year, for the next five years.
- 1.31 Swansea Council will continue to deliver an annual programme of community safety / Community Engagement events across the city.
- 1.32 Working in partnership with Penderyn Distillery, we will support a new whisky distillery attraction at Landore.

2. 100 days target: Commitments

- 2.1 In addition to the above, we seek to achieve the following commitments during the first one hundred days of term:

Education

- 2.2 We commit to mapping out future priorities, in line with our Quality in Education (QEd) / Sustainable Communities for Learning programme.
- 2.3 Swansea Council will commence the upgrade works at Cefn Hengoed Community School, progressing our £7million investment in a new Community Sports Barn in Bonymaen.
- 2.4 We shall begin delivery of new special school facilities.
- 2.5 The Council will seek to expand free school meal provision and implement a freeze on school meal prices.
- 2.6 We will commence the new regional partnership arrangements; the South West Wales Education Partnership will be a regional collaborative arrangement designed to promote excellence in all of our schools.
- 2.7 We will keep school leadership standards high in Swansea.

Better care

- 2.8 The Council will undertake a review of post-pandemic care provision.

- 2.9 We will begin options appraisal and move to increase council direct delivery of care.
- 2.10 Swansea Council will engage with Health to ensure care plans align with health recovery.
- 2.11 We will progress a new children's care facility.

Communities

- 2.12 The Council will complete bus shelter installations.
- 2.13 Swansea Council commit to installing new bins and to replace dog waste bins with larger general bins.
- 2.14 We commit to roll-out new drainage teams and new PATCH (Priority Action Team for Community Highways) programmes.
- 2.15 The Council will commence the £10 million local road upgrades.
- 2.16 Swansea Council will revise community budget rules.
- 2.17 We will progress roll-out of free public Wi-Fi.
- 2.18 We will investigate options for a Substance Use Truth Commission.
- 2.19 The Council shall agree a Local Library Plan including the community hub developments.
- 2.20 Swansea Council will seek to expand Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).
- 2.21 We will engage with the Police to improve visibility of local policing.
- 2.22 Swansea Council will prepare to receive more refugees.
- 2.23 We will progress the roll-out of next generation CCTV systems.

Housing

- 2.24 The Council shall complete Welsh Quality Housing Standard (WQHS) 1 and begin planning WQHS 2.
- 2.25 The Council will begin its review of its council housing lettings policy.
- 2.26 We are committed to agreeing a strategy to support homeless individuals as the Covid hotel use ends, whilst we will strive to continue our 'always a bed' pledge.

- 2.27 Swansea Council will continue onto the next phase of the More Homes build, whilst maintaining progress on further retrofitting of council homes.

Regeneration

- 2.28 Working with our regional partners, we will progress a £1 billion regeneration and £750 million strategic partnership with Urban Splash as our new strategic partner, with an initial focus on Copr Bay Phase 2, the Civic Centre site and St Thomas site.
- 2.29 We will secure a major new tenant for the Debenhams unit in the Quadrant Shopping Centre, securing the use of this unit for the future.
- 2.30 The Council will progress work on the new Castle Square Gardens project.
- 2.31 The Council will progress work on the new Central Library project.
- 2.32 Swansea Council will begin the phased demolition of Ty Dewi Sant and the old multi-storey car park.
- 2.33 We shall progress the build of 71-72 The Kingsway, to create an innovation hub which will be home to new businesses and up to six hundred new jobs.

Finances and Resources

- 2.34 We shall continue making cost of living payments on behalf of Welsh Government until the scheme closes or the fund is spent in full.
- 2.35 The Council will agree the outturn position and where possible provide more resources for reinvestment.
- 2.36 Swansea Council commit to replenish the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF) from the outturn position and ensure continued focus on the fund to aid economic recovery and part fund many of the items in this policy commitments statement.
- 2.37 We will commit to reviewing the 'Achieving Better Together, Transformation Strategy & Programme' goals.
- 2.38 The Council will commence a senior pay and grading review and ensure it fits with the wider workforce pay and grading scheme.
- 2.39 We will ensure planned savings are secured.
- 2.40 The Council will agree a post-pandemic working model.

Attractions

- 2.41 We will continue to progress development and investment through the Skyline park attraction on Kilvey Hill, hosting the Skyline board visit during June 2022.
- 2.42 We will progress hotels discussions for the City Centre and Stadium.
- 2.43 We are committed to progressing the development and reopening of the River Tawe corridor, including new pontoons expected by Winter 2022.
- 2.44 Swansea Council will deliver new promenade improvements and developments, as well as new lighting around Swansea Bay.
- 2.45 We are committed to delivering a range of new and exciting immersive attractions, summer concerts and a new phase of Arena shows; encapsulated in a larger than ever events programme (including the half Iron Man event), which commenced with community support for Platinum Jubilee events.
- 2.46 The Council is committed to retaining the Wales National Air Show in Swansea, bringing tens of thousands of visitors to the City for this annual event and reviewing how its delivery can align with its net zero carbon targets.
- 2.47 Swansea Council is committed to progressing discussions for the new interactive aquarium, aiming to offer an immersive experience for visitors and a wider educational resource.

Transport and Energy

- 2.48 The Council will announce progress on the Blue Eden project.
- 2.49 We will continue the 'free bus ride' scheme for 2022 school summer holidays and consider further extensions.
- 2.50 Swansea Council will support and enable the increase and availability of electric vehicle (EV) charging points and develop a wider EV charging strategy.
- 2.51 We will continue to review the council transport fleet to increase the green fleet in line with its agreed green fleet strategy.
- 2.52 Swansea Council will commence the review of its disabled parking bay policy.
- 2.53 We will strive to progress discussions regarding a new ferry service linking Wales with the South West of England.
- 2.54 We will progress discussions on the development of a hydrogen fuelling hub.

Well – Being

- 2.55 Swansea Council will progress delivery of all-weather sports pitches.
- 2.56 We commit to progress discussions with partners regarding the International Sports Science Village.
- 2.57 The Council commits to complete play area upgrades.
- 2.58 Swansea Council will work towards announcing new Active Travel routes, which develop the built and natural environment and encourages higher levels of physical activity.
- 2.59 We are committed to delivering better skate-park facilities within Swansea.

Other

- 2.60 We shall progress work of the new Corporate Joint Committee.
- 2.61 The Council will seek to commence a review of delegated decisions that can be taken by both Officers and Councillors.
- 2.62 Swansea Council will agree a new Swansea Bay Strategy.
- 2.63 The Council will update the recognition and naming policy.
- 2.64 We shall progress TAN15 discussions with Welsh Government to find a solution that supports appropriate development.

END