

**Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions asked at Council  
5 October 2023**

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| <p align="center"><b>1</b></p> | <p><b>Mr David Davies</b></p> <p><b>In relation to Minute 52 “Policy Commitments Progress”.</b></p> <p>Would a Swansea wide competition be appropriate where all Schools could nominate their Reader of the Year, a Boy and Girl; and appear before a Panel organised by the Council who would judge the winners and present a Cup to them and the School. Perhaps our Education Minister could choose a particular book for the contestants and then assess their critical appraisal of it and their imagination.</p> <p>Wales is the land of Poets and Bards and this competition might inspire potential writers of the future. Cardiff has its Singer of the World, let Swansea have its Readers of the Year.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Education &amp; Learning</b></p> <p>Following consideration, we suggest having a ‘Young poet of the year’ competition, reflecting the idea that Wales is a land full of poets and bards, and giving our pupils and young people a more focused opportunity to respond creatively to literature.</p> <p>There are several initiatives currently being delivered which seek to encourage reading for pleasure. However, at present, there are few opportunities to encourage pupils to write imaginative poetry.</p> <p>The approach we suggest would encourage pupils to respond to a piece of literature through poetry. This would give them an opportunity to use their imagination and use skills of critical analysis of the text in a creative way.</p> <p>Taken together we feel that this approach would provide a meaningful opportunity for pupils to demonstrate poetic skills and a love of literature.</p> <p>To support this, we have already planned professional learning opportunities across Swansea and are encouraging teachers to make this link.</p> <p>Please also find attached examples of Reading for Pleasure initiatives. (Appendix A)</p> |
| <p align="center"><b>2</b></p> | <p><b>Councillor C A Holley</b></p> <p><b>In relation to Minute 50 – Annual Report 2022-2023 – Director of Social Services</b></p> <p>Asked a question relating to Child &amp; Adolescence Mental Health Services (CAHMS). He asked “What is the timescale for a visit after referral.</p> <p><b>Response of the Director of Social Services</b></p> <p>The Child &amp; Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) is predominantly a clinic based service provided by the local health board.</p> <p>The health board currently report that there are 65 children awaiting an assessment following a referral.</p>  |

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|          | <p>Of that cohort there are 4 children who were referred in August. The delays are in relation to difficulties with contacting parents.</p> <p>All September/ October referrals have either already had an assessment or have dates scheduled within the next fortnight.</p> <p>Overall the service is achieving 56% assessments undertaken within 28 days of a referral.</p>   |
| <b>3</b> | <p><b>Councillor P M Black</b></p> <p><b>In relation to Minute 52 “Policy Commitments Progress”.</b></p> <p>What is the timescale and extent of the rollout of Public Free Wi-Fi.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Environment &amp; Infrastructure</b></p> <p>The District Centres of Gorseinon, Morriston, Pontardulais and Uplands will receive free Public Wi-Fi this financial year (caveated by the fact that we are awaiting Openreach works which are on order). This footprint follows the current CCTV implementation to District Centres and enables dual use of the infrastructure. Provision of Public Wi-Fi at our other District Centres will be considered in due course.</p>   |
| <b>4</b> | <p><b>Councillor P N May</b></p> <p><b>In relation to Minute 52 “Policy Commitments Progress”.</b></p> <p>How many EV charging points were in place prior to the target being set. What is the numerical target now.</p> <p><b>Response of the Leader</b></p> <p>Prior to the adoption of the Policy Commitments in July 2022, Swansea Council had installed 80 public facing EV charge points across 25 locations.</p> <p>Following the confirmation of grant funding in 2023/24, a second phase of charging infrastructure roll-out is underway to install additional charge points in several locations; on-street, destination and hub, to continue the development and availability of charge points across the Swansea area. This second phase of investment aims to deliver a network of 26 ‘fast’ charge points across 13 locations and one rapid charge location servicing 4 charging bays.</p> <p>Although a numerical target hasn't been established at this stage, Swansea Council will aim to develop a bespoke EV charging strategy next financial year to set out the Local Authority's ambitions and short-term commitments for installing EV charging infrastructure over the next 10 years.</p> |
| <b>5</b> | <p><b>Councillor P N May</b></p> <p><b>In relation to Minute 53 Councillors’ Questions - Question 2</b></p> <p>Can a copy of the guidance for existing structures be circulated.</p> <p><b>Response of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services &amp; Performance</b></p>  |

Carriageway Café Licences

Licences cannot be given for live carriageway. In certain circumstances conversion of the carriageway to footway will be considered to allow an extended area for existing licences established during the pandemic. This may entail installation of kerbing, ancillary works to drains, amendment of traffic orders and construction of footway. This will only be undertaken if funding is provided, and it should be noted that a licence will still be required. Any requests to extend the footway will also require a consultation similar to small highway schemes.