



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Cabinet

At: Council Chamber, Guildhall, Swansea

On: Thursday, 18 July 2019

Time: 10.00 am

Chair: Councillor Rob Stewart

Membership:

Councillors: M C Child, R Francis-Davies, D H Hopkins, E J King, A S Lewis, C E Lloyd, A Pugh, J A Raynor and M Thomas

Also Invited: Councillors S Pritchard & A H Stevens

Webcasting: This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet Site. By entering the Council Chamber you are consenting to be filmed and the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and / or training purposes.

You are welcome to speak Welsh in the meeting.

Please inform us by noon, two working days before the meeting.

Agenda

Page No.

1. **Apologies for Absence.**
2. **Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests
3. **Minutes.** 1 - 4
To approve & sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record.
4. **Announcements of the Leader of the Council.**
5. **Public Question Time.**
Questions must relate to matters on the open part of the Agenda of the meeting and will be dealt with in a 10 minute period.
6. **Councillors' Question Time.**
7. **Scrutiny Report on Tourism.** 5 - 10

8.	Natural Environment Scrutiny Inquiry Cabinet Member Response and Action Plan.	11 - 39
9.	Revenue Financial Outturn 2018/19.	40 - 56
10.	Revenue Outturn 2018/19 – Housing Revenue Account (HRA).	57 - 59
11.	Capital Outturn and Financing 2018/19.	60 - 67
12.	Re-imagining Wind Street.	68 - 119
13.	Local Authority Governor Appointments.	120 - 123
14.	Relocation of Lifelong Learning from Bryn House.	124 - 138
15.	Residents Parking Policy Changes.	139 - 157
16.	2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment.	158 - 364
17.	Exclusion of the Public.	365 - 368
18.	Contract Award Report - Award of Framework Agreement for the Provision of Domiciliary Care and Respite at Home Services for Older People and Younger Adults with Physical Disabilities.	369 - 394
19.	Compulsory Purchase Order to Facilitate Highway Improvements.	395 - 409
20.	Disposal Programme Update.	410 - 428

** Call In Procedure - Subject to Pre-Decision Scrutiny: This decision is exempt from the Authority's Call In Procedure as "the decision has been subject to Pre-Decision Scrutiny and there is no material change in relevant information / evidence".*

*** Call In Procedure - Urgency: This decision is exempt from the Authority's Call In Procedure as "either the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer or the Monitoring Officer certifies that any delay likely to be caused by the Call In Procedure could seriously prejudice the Council or the Public Interest including failure to comply with Statutory requirements".*

Next Meeting: Thursday, 15 August 2019 at 10.00 am



Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Tuesday, 9 July 2019

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel: (01792) 636923

Agenda Item 3.



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Cabinet**

Council Chamber, Guildhall, Swansea

Thursday, 20 June 2019 at 10.00 am

Present: Councillor R C Stewart (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

M C Child
A S Lewis
J A Raynor

Councillor(s)

D H Hopkins
C E Lloyd

Councillor(s)

E J King
A Pugh

Officer(s)

Huw Evans
Adam Hill
Tracey Meredith
Phil Roberts
Ben Smith

Head of Democratic Services
Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Resources
Chief Legal Officer
Chief Executive
Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer

Also present

Councillor(s): T J Hennegan, A H Stevens

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): R Francis-Davies and M Thomas

14. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, the following interest was declared:

- 1) Councillor A S Lewis declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Minute 19 "Local Authority Governor Appointments" withdrew from the meeting prior to the meeting being discussed;
- 2) Councillor J A Raynor declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Minute 19 "Local Authority Governor Appointments" and stated that she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to Stay, Speak but Not Vote on matters relating to the Appointment of Local Authority Governors;
- 3) Councillor R C Stewart declared a Personal Interest in Minute 19 "Local Authority Governor Appointments".

15. Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting(s) listed below be approved and signed as a correct record:

- 1) Cabinet held on 16 May 2019.

16. Announcements of the Leader of the Council.

1) Webcasting of Meeting

The Leader of the Council stated that as part of the ongoing works to enable the Webcasting of Council, Cabinet, Planning Committee and the Scrutiny Programme Committee; this meeting was being recorded.

17. Public Question Time.

A question was asked in relation to Minute 21 "Swansea Poverty Truth Commission".

The Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Better Communities responded.

18. Councillors' Question Time.

Councillor T J Hennegan congratulated Councillor A S Lewis on being appointed a Welsh Local Government (WLGA) Spokesperson for Housing.

19. Local Authority Governor Appointments.

The Local Authority Governors Appointment Group submitted a report, which sought approval of the nominations submitted to fill Local Authority (LA) Governor vacancies on School Governing Bodies.

Resolved that:

- 1) The following nominations recommended by the Director of Education in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills be approved:

1)	Glyncollen Primary School	Cllr Ceri R Evans
2)	Morrison Comprehensive School	Cllr Andrea S Lewis

20. Building Capital Maintenance Report 2019/20 – Additional Welsh Government Funding.

The Leader of the Council submitted a report which sought to agree the schemes to be funded through the additional Capital Maintenance allocation for 2019-2020.

Resolved that:

- 1) The proposed additional capital maintenance schemes for Building Services, as listed in Appendix A of the report be approved;
- 2) The financial implications identified in Appendix C of the report be authorised to be included in the capital programme.

21. Swansea Poverty Truth Commission.

The Cabinet Member for Better Communities submitted a report which sought approval of the proposed next steps in the development of a Swansea Poverty Truth Commission and to agree the details of the required commitment from Swansea Council.

Resolved that:

- 1) The proposal to implement the next steps of establishing a Swansea Poverty Truth Commission be approved;
- 2) The Swansea Poverty Truth Commission be committed to and supported.

22. Exclusion of the Public.

Cabinet were requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendations to the report(s) on the grounds that it / they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the exclusion paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 relevant to the items of business set out in the report(s).

Cabinet considered the Public Interest Test in deciding whether to exclude the public from the meeting for the item of business where the Public Interest Test was relevant as set out in the report.

Resolved that the public be excluded for the following item(s) of business.

(Closed Session)

23. First Stage (Pre-Construction) Contract Award and Associated Capital Programme Authorisation for the Remodelling and Refurbishment Project at Bishopston Comprehensive School.

The Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills submitted a report which sought authorisation to:

- 1) Award the Stage One Contract for the works to Tender 4ty for disposal of assets in accordance with the Council Constitution;

- 2) Commit a total of £596,179 to the Capital Programme to fund the pre-construction phase costs and to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 – to commit and authorise a new scheme to the Capital Programme.

The Revenue Budget 2019/2020 and the Capital Budget 2018/2019 to 2023/2025 were approved by Council on 28 February 2019.

Resolved that the recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.

24. Proposed Purchase of a City Centre Property Investment.

The Cabinet Member for Business Transformation & Performance submitted a report which sought approval for the acquisition of a property as part of the Property Investment Fund. The fund was created out of a Cabinet decision made on 21 July 2016.

Resolved that the recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.

25. Disposal of Highway Land at Mumbles, Swansea.

The Cabinet Member for Business Transformation & Performance submitted a report which provided an update on progress and to consider options in respect of the future use of the land identified in the report.

Resolved that the recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.

The meeting ended at 10.27 am

Chair

Call In Procedure – Relevant Dates	
Minutes Published:	20 June 2019
Call In Period Expires (3 Clear Working Days after Publication):	23.59 on Tuesday, 25 June 2019
Decision Comes into force:	26 June 2019

Agenda Item 7.



Report of the Tourism Scrutiny Working Group

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Scrutiny Report on Tourism

Purpose:	This report presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from a Scrutiny Working Group on Tourism. Cabinet is required to consider the conclusions and recommendations and respond.
Policy Framework:	Council Constitution
Consultation:	Access to Services, Legal and Finance
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) Cabinet receives the report and tasks the relevant Cabinet Member to report back to a Cabinet meeting with a written response to the report and recommendations of the Scrutiny Working Group and proposed action(s), for Cabinet decision.
Report Authors:	Councillor Peter Jones Liz Jordan
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Catherine Window

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A one-off Scrutiny Working Group to look at issues around Tourism was established by the Scrutiny Programme Committee. A small number of Working Groups are set up each year to carry out 'light-touch' examination of topics of importance and concern.
- 1.2 A cross-party group of scrutiny councillors were appointed by the Committee and met on 1 May to consider information, ask questions, and discuss Tourism. This report presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from the Scrutiny Working Group into Tourism, for Cabinet decision.

- 1.3 The convener of the Working Group, Councillor Peter Jones, will present the report and accompanying recommendations.
- 1.4 Cabinet should respond to the report within two months and provide an explanation for any recommendations that are not agreed.
- 1.5 The Scrutiny Programme Committee will be responsible for follow up and monitoring of agreed action with the relevant Cabinet Member during the course of its work.

2. What the Working Group Looked At

2.1 The Working Group looked at:

- Overview in terms of context
- What is being done to promote Wales as a tourist destination
- What is being done to promote Swansea Bay as a tourist destination
- What is the current picture
- Strengths and Weaknesses
- Vision/strategy to promote/sustain tourism for the next 5 to 10 years
- What is the business plan for putting this in place
- Data on why people visit the area
- Findings/recommendations from previous tourism inquiry and follow up and any outstanding issues
- Information on benchmarking with the rest of the UK (Scotland, Ireland)
- Any other information the department thinks it would be useful for the Working Group to consider.

2.2 The Working Group heard from the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration and Tourism along with the Tourism and Marketing Manager and the Strategic Manager, Tourism, Marketing and Events. A written report was provided by the Cabinet Member for discussion.

2.3 The Working Group also received presentations on sustainable/eco-tourism from Officers from Gower AONB, Nature Conservation and Countryside Access teams.

3. Findings

3.1 Sustainable / Eco-Tourism Presentations

3.1.1 Chris Lindley, Gower AONB Team Leader, Deb Hill, Nature Conservation Team Leader and Chris Dale, Countryside Access Team Leader attended to present an overview of the work the Authority undertakes in relation to sustainable/eco-tourism.

3.1.2 The following main issues were discussed:

- Important to recognise the value of natural environment to tourism and the economy.
- As well as Gower, the River Tawe Corridor is also important to tourism. The Local Development Plan has just been agreed and includes access to riverbank along Tawe corridor.
- Working Group pleased to see how much hard work is being done by Authority.
- There is a lot more the Authority could do in relation to tourism if it had the resource but budget has been reduced by 50% in some areas over last 3 years. Department welcomes recommendations from scrutiny on things that can be done with minimum resource.
- Eco-tourism is very important for Gower. Working Group would like to see work on off-road cycling network brought forward. Estimated cost to do this is £50,000 (mostly in legal fees). Working Group recommends that money is found to fund production of a cycle map.
- All walking/cycling/trail riding routes are available on line.
- Signage in Gower could be better. It needs to be accurate and replaced if damaged or disappeared. There is lack of funding available for this work.
- Statutory duty to signpost footpaths/bridle paths. Members should inform Department if aware of signage issue for these areas and they will rectify.
- European Union is one of the biggest funders for this work. Uncertainty with grants after Brexit.
- More use should be made of volunteers to repair footpaths etc. This has already worked well in one area of Swansea.
- Important to have joined up way of recording and promoting everything going on in the area. Swansea Bay 'Surfari' campaign including campervan at Gower Show was very good. Ideas like this should be used more.
- In Llangollen, there is one number to ring to find out availability of accommodation and to contact hotels etc. There is a charge for using this line so it pays for itself. Would be a good idea for Swansea to do this, if it is not already.
- Would be good to have deck chairs back on Swansea beach. However, the issue of maintenance may be a problem.
- In terms of marketing eco-tourism opportunities, the Authority should make use of memberships of national organisations. Could look at establishing a group again with Natural Resources Wales and other national organisations represented.

3.2 Tourism Report and Presentation

- 3.2.1 Robert Francis-Davies, Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration and Tourism; Steve Hopkins, Tourism and Marketing Manager and Frances Jenkins, Strategic Manager, Tourism, Marketing and Events attended to present an overview of marketing and development of tourism delivered by the Authority, based on the brief provided by the Working Group prior to the meeting, and answer the Working Group's questions.

3.2.2 The following main issues were discussed:

- Tourism and Marketing is a small team of four staff. They are focussing their marketing efforts on North West England, South West England, London and Birmingham.
- Need to ensure big events in Swansea are supported by all departments - emptying bins, cleaning up afterwards etc. as this affects people's opinions. There has to be a whole Council approach.
- Have to make Gower work as a tourist destination whilst still protecting the environment and recognising it is also a place where people live. It is not easy to get the balance right.
- The Skyline will be a big tourist attraction if it goes ahead. Signs are positive.
- A percentage of receipts from car park charges should be used to maintain the destination. However, the cost of car parking should not increase in order to fund local destinations as the cost of parking is a barrier to tourism.
- Working Group Members are happy to tweet tourism videos and put on their social media pages.
- Important for different types of accommodation to be made available in the area including pubs, bed and breakfasts, family run hotels and campsites. Should look at good practice from other areas with regards marketing of accommodation in Swansea
- Working Group would like to see more advertising like the 'EPIC' banner at Rhosilli last year. This 'viral' sort of advertising is good use of the budget.
- Marketing videos are good but could be longer and include more activities such as hiking/trail walking and the Copper Works.
- Department tends to focus on operators. Would be worth investigating using booking site that the Authority would receive commission from.
- Tourism is now an all-year-round business.
- Glamping pods are a good idea for extending the season.
- Access to and capacity of campsites on Gower is an issue.
- Working Group feels planning policies hinder tourism, for example, a campsite on Gower was asked to remove 'pods' as they did not meet some planning regulations, the owners of the campsite had to go through a long process to show they did meet planning regulations; There have been planning issues regarding access to Three Cliffs campsite. If we want to remain a tourist destination we need to change planning.
- Authority should use sites with large footfall all over City and County of Swansea to promote/advertise tourism in the area. Should look into using big screen more; using walls at entrances to Swansea Market to advertise local areas; displaying information at the Railway Station and the Quadrant Bus Station; and consider the possibility of pop ups on the main artery roads when arriving into Swansea.
- Authority needs to advertise cultural tourism in Swansea on different platforms such as videos.
- Need to work with BID in promoting tourism in Swansea.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 4.1 The Working Group was pleased to see how much hard work is being done by the Authority to promote tourism in the area. We feel that there is a lot more the Authority could do but recognise that this is restricted by the budget that has reduced drastically in recent years.
- 4.2 We feel it is important to recognise the value of the natural environment to tourism and the economy and recommend that:
 - a. Work on an off-road cycling network is brought forward and that money is found to fund the production of a cycling map for the area (estimated at £50,000, mostly in legal fees).
 - b. Consideration is given to making more use of volunteers to help maintain our environmental assets such as footpaths, steps etc. This is a valuable resource for the Authority and can be a great learning and social experience for volunteers.
- 4.3 The Working Group would like to see an improvement in signage especially in Gower. Many signs are missing or in need of repair. The Authority has a statutory duty to signpost footpaths and bridle paths and we would like people to be made aware that if the Department is informed of any signage issues for these areas they will rectify them.
- 4.4 We are concerned about funding post Brexit and recommend that a piece of work is undertaken to identify future grant funding possibilities.
- 4.5 We feel that the Authority should look at good practice from other areas regarding the marketing of accommodation in Swansea.
- 4.6 We recommend that the Authority explores introducing an information and availability phone line for holiday accommodation in the area. If this includes a booking system, and commission is charged, it could pay for itself.
- 4.7 We would like to see the Authority make use of the membership of national organisations to market eco-tourism in the area such as National Trust, RSPB etc.
- 4.8 We feel that there needs to be a 'whole council' approach to supporting big events in Swansea. Departments such as Refuse and Street Cleansing need to work with the Tourism team to ensure events run smoothly and everything is cleaned up afterwards.
- 4.9 We would like the Authority to consider ring-fencing a percentage of receipts from car parks to maintain the local destination, including maintaining and cleaning public facilities etc.
- 4.10 We would like marketing videos to show more of what people can do and see if they visit Swansea, such as walking/cycling in Gower and promotion of cultural tourism. We would also like to see more use of 'viral' types of advertising that have proved effective in the past and we would like to see

more use of sites with large footfall throughout Swansea to promote/advertise tourism in the area, such as the Market and Quadrant Bus Station.

- 4.11 Members of the Working Group are happy to promote tourism in Swansea through social media, by posting videos and tweeting links etc. We suggest all councillors are contacted, to ask if they will do the same.
- 4.12 We feel that scrutiny needs to look at this topic in more detail than can be done in a one-off working group. We will therefore recommend to the Scrutiny Programme Committee that Tourism is considered as a future scrutiny inquiry topic.

5. Equality and Engagement Implications

5.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

Any recommendations agreed by Cabinet will be subject to the council's EIA process.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There is a financial implication to two recommendations in this report. Recommendation 4.2a - if accepted, the cost of production of a cycle map for the area is estimated at £50,000. Recommendation 4.9 – if accepted, would have a financial implication on how receipts from car parking are used. Any costs arising would need to come from existing resources or would be subject to the usual budget process for future years.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 There are no specific legal implications at this stage.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: None.

Agenda Item 8.



Report of the Cabinet Member for Delivery

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Natural Environment Scrutiny Inquiry Cabinet Member Response and Action Plan

Purpose:	To outline a response to the scrutiny recommendations and to present an action plan for agreement.
Policy Framework:	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015), Environment (Wales) Act (2016). Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)
Consultation:	Legal, Finance, Access to Services
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The response as outlined in the report and related action plan be agreed.
Report Author:	Paul Meller
Finance Officer:	Aimee Dyer
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Natural Environment Scrutiny Inquiry report was submitted to Cabinet on the 21 March 2019 after the Natural Environment Scrutiny Inquiry Panel completed a detailed inquiry. The scrutiny report is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 1.2 Having considered the contents of the scrutiny report, and specific recommendations made, advice to Cabinet on whether it should agree, or not agree, with each recommendation is detailed in this report.
- 1.3 Cabinet is also asked to consider, for each of the responses, any relevant policy commitments and any other relevant activity.

2.0 Response to Scrutiny Recommendations

Recommendation 1
<i>Development and implementation of a Corporate Biodiversity Action Plan to take this forward (Medium Term)</i>
Relevant Policy Commitments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protecting Swansea's unique natural and built environment• Ensuring Swansea is an attractive place for investment and development
Action already being undertaken: <p>To ensure compliance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 - Part 1, Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (Section 6 Duty), the Council must prepare and submit to Welsh Government by the end of 2019 a report (Corporate Biodiversity (Section 6) Action Plan) outlining what it has done to comply with the duty and then provide a progress update every three years after this date. A draft Action Plan is currently being prepared.</p> <p>In October 2018 the Council adopted an additional corporate well-being objective "to maintain and enhance Swansea's Natural Resources and Biodiversity."</p> <p>Initial actions/steps have been identified with reference to this objective.</p>
New actions following from the recommendation: <p>It is proposed that progress on meeting the corporate biodiversity objective actions could be monitored and reported on a quarterly basis by means of the establishment of a Corporate Biodiversity Working Group. This Group would more effectively support and encourage all Service Areas to take ownership of Section 6 duties.</p> <p>The Group would comprise representatives from all relevant service areas and be chaired by the Director of Place. Proposed terms of reference have been drafted and a first meeting is planned for July 2019.</p> <p>Under the new business planning and reporting regime, all Service Areas will be required to report on progress made and planned future actions to meet the new Corporate priority for the Natural Environment and biodiversity.</p>
Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed
Recommendation is AGREED

Recommendation 2
<i>Ensure the Biodiversity Action Plan links with other relevant cross organisational policies at a strategic level, for example: the Local Well-being Plan, Area Statements, Local Development Plan, Green Infrastructure Strategy, Open Space Strategy, Nature Recovery Action Plan, Play Strategy, Destination Management Plan, Gower Management Plan, Economic Development Plan, etc (Medium Term)</i>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting Swansea’s unique natural and built environment • Ensuring Swansea is an attractive place for investment and development • A joined up approach to public expenditure and more imaginative community use of public assets • Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Action Plan under preparation involves collaboration with other Public Service Board (PSB) partners to deliver actions which contribute to achieving the PSB Well-being Plan Working with Nature priority. It also provides a more integrated approach that will contribute to the delivery of the other corporate wellbeing goals.</p> <p>Inclusion of the Corporate Biodiversity Objective and actions arising within Service/Business Plans.</p> <p>Nature Conservation Team represented on PSB Working with Nature Group and leading on the development of the Local Nature Recovery Plan and supporting the Local Nature Partnership.</p> <p>Working with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and drawing upon Area Statement evidence base, to promote the sustainable management of natural resources at the local level, enabling joined-up collective action and identification of innovative new solutions, for example the City Centre Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>Establishment of a Corporate Biodiversity Working Group that will explore further opportunities for collaborative cross-service and external partnership initiatives /projects that deliver multiple benefits across the well-being goals.</p> <p>Nature Conservation Team participation in the PSB Working With Nature working group.</p>
Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed
Recommendation is AGREED

Recommendation 3
<i>Develop a clear and enthusiastic vision and message for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity to ensure a consistent 'buy-in' from each service (Quick Win)</i>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting Swansea's unique natural and built environment • Ensuring Swansea is an attractive place for investment and development • Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Council has a duty under the Environment (Wales) Act to embed the consideration of biodiversity into its early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans and projects as well as day to day activities.</p> <p>Each Council function/Service Area should now be considering where and how they can maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience through their service/business plans.</p> <p>The Corporate Biodiversity working group will provide a vehicle for raising awareness and encouraging best practice</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>The Section 6 Plan will become an integral part of any business planning, asset management and/or corporate planning processes, as this will demonstrate how the consideration of biodiversity is being embedded.</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments</p> <p>Needs additional officer advice and support</p> <p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

Recommendation 4
<i>Embed the new corporate priority by developing and delivering relevant training. The Nature Conservation Team could roll out training at the appropriate level and could undertake a service appropriate assessment with ideas and input coming from that service to encourage involvement. (Medium Term)</i>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in our people
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>Biodiversity training for Members/ a limited number of Service Areas</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p>

- Identify and address biodiversity training needs for all Service Areas
- Identification of opportunities and actions within each relevant Service Area to maintain and enhance biodiversity
- Identify Service Areas where advisory support could be provided by the Nature Conservation Team
- Development of on and offline training packages
- Development and implementation of a Comms Strategy for biodiversity
- Refresh of Nature Conservation/Biodiversity webpages

Cabinet Member Comments: Whilst the recommendation is fully supported it is not able to be delivered within current resources. It therefore accepted in principle but can only be delivered in full if additional resources are made available within future budget provisions or successful grant applications

Recommendation is **AGREED IN PART**

Recommendation 5

Make information available to the public to encourage participation and understanding, including continuing to develop the Natural Environment web pages e.g. explain why some verges are wild or why projects which have a green aspect are taking place. Public promotion is vital. (Quick Win)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
- Working with 'friends of parks ' organisations
- Development of Green Infrastructure in our estates

Action already being undertaken:

- Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea
<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents>
- In August 2018, the Nature Conservation Team was awarded two grants from Natural Resources Wales to fund two temporary (18 month) part-time posts: Our Nature Our Schools project officer and a Wildlife Volunteering co-ordinator
- In April 2019 the Council's Nature Conservation Team were successful in securing grants from Welsh Government in partnership with other agencies. These grants will fund 3 part time posts for 3 years: a Nature Partnership Officer, a Place based Project, and a volunteer Co-ordinator. Job descriptions need to be prepared and evaluated for these posts and approval to advertise and appoint obtained

New actions following from the recommendation:

- Provide opportunities for schoolchildren to access and learn about their natural environment (Our Nature Our Future project).
- Engage with local communities to encourage volunteering and to support them taking action to enhance and maintain their local greenspaces and wildlife sites
- Development and implementation of a Comms Strategy for biodiversity
- Refresh of Nature Conservation/Biodiversity webpages
- Develop and publish Programme of Environmental Events

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed

Recommendation is **AGREED**

Recommendation 6

Complete and publicise the ward mapping exercise. This would provide each ward and the Councillor Representatives with information specific to that ward. It would include information about important species, protected sites and other relevant ecological information as well as potential opportunities for improving biodiversity within the ward. A link to the ward mapping should appear on planning applications when completed. This would help when it comes to planning applications and empower ward councillors and residents to be able to respond to issues which threaten these special features of their ward and encourage maintenance of biodiversity. It would also contribute to the enforcement activity of the Council. (Long Term)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
- Development of Green Infrastructure (GI) in our estates
- Ensuring development complies with sustainable development principles
- Develop a natural environment that encourages higher levels of physical activity
- Encourage greater use of public access land for informal recreation

Action already being undertaken:

- ‘Wild about your ward’ profiles drafted for a few pilot wards highlighting ecological information
- Enhancements to greenspace being undertaken as part of an environmental works programme to meet the Council’s commitment to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard
- GI enhancements undertaken as part of a Welsh Government funded multi-GI project with Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend Councils

<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>Complete mapping of existing Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure assets and ecosystem service provision on a ward by ward basis working with Members to identify areas which provide the best opportunities for improvement and, where appropriate, maximise match funding opportunities afforded by Members' community fund.</p> <p>In April 2019 the Council was awarded a grant to fund a temporary (3 year) part-time (3 days/week) post to deliver the above project. The post needs to be agreed, advertised and an appointment made.</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Members are encouraged to support local GI improvement projects through their community budget.</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

<p>Recommendation 7</p>
<p><i>Maintain support for volunteers, Community Councils and groups managing both Council owned and non-Council owned land. There are important areas of natural environment in Swansea that may be managed by trusts or owned privately. The links to these areas need to be maintained to ensure best practice is shared and any relevant information/policy can be applied across Swansea, improving nature-based connectivity overall. (Long Term)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats • Working with 'friends of parks' organisations • Development of Green Infrastructure in our estates
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Scrutiny Inquiry identified that there are currently 3 Council officers supporting 40 sites and 27 'Friends of' groups.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post has been obtained for the next three years. They will assist volunteers, groups and Community Councils to make the work carried out by them more effective and appropriate. They will also recruit, train and engage with new volunteers, for example, through social prescribing, corporate social responsibility, etc</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Members are encouraged to support volunteer projects in their wards</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

Recommendation 8
<p><i>Insert a relevant biodiversity clause into service level agreements, licences etc which relates to land use and land management and land use and ensure that the importance of these clauses is made clear to the land managers/occupiers and the implications of not meeting them are highlighted.(Quick Win)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joined up approach to public expenditure and more imaginative community use of public assets • Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>As a consequence of discussion of this matter during the Scrutiny inquiry a clause has been inserted into the service level agreement for community groups managing green spaces</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>To work with Estates and other relevant Service Areas to ensure that more detailed and relevant biodiversity clauses are inserted into all service level agreements, licences, etc, which relate to land use and land management. For example, those relating to grazing sites and also in those entered into with external event organisers which require Council consent before certain activities (e.g. clearing land, special events, etc) are undertaken to prevent loss of biodiversity.</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

Recommendation 9
<p><i>Assess the verges in Swansea that can stop being mowed and sprayed. Give these over to nature and allow for self-seeding, which will encourage native plants and pollinator species. This can also save money as less frequent mowing is required. There could be signs erected to highlight the project to help change the culture. (Medium Term)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joined up approach to public expenditure and more imaginative community use of public assets • Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>An annual programme of wildflower planting and management within verges.</p>

<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with Parks, Highways and other relevant Service Areas (e.g. Housing , Education) to identify those locations in Council ownership which can be given over to self-seeding, less intensive mowing and/or seeding with perennial species mixes • Develop a Comms plan in relation to proposed biodiversity actions.
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

<p>Recommendation 10</p>
<p><i>Where appropriate, plant native wildflowers and trees. Non-native species do not benefit pollinators to the same extent as native species. (Long Term)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joined up approach to public expenditure and more imaginative community use of public assets • Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>An annual programme of wildflower planting and management within verges which includes non-native species.</p> <p>Over 5000 native trees planted by Nature Conservation Team.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include more native species within wildflower planting programme • Develop and adopt a Council tree policy which encourages planting of native species trees where appropriate. • Plans for new tree planting to include native species • Identification of suitable sites for further woodland planting with support from Trees for Cities • Investigate additional sources of funding for woodland planting e.g. Glastir and Carbon Credits
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED SUBJECT TO ACTIONS BEING CONTAINED WITHIN CURRENT BUDGETS</p>

<p>Recommendation 11</p>
<p><i>Encourage green projects for well-being such as gardening projects, outdoor green-space activities and volunteering opportunities for adults and children across all relevant services. This includes linking with</i></p>

Community Councils. Communities can make use of the 'Community Green Space Toolkit' which can be found online at <http://swanseacommunitygreenspaces.weebly.com> (Long Term)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
- Working with 'friends of parks' organisations
- Development of Green Infrastructure in our estates
- Promote greater use of allotment and garden sharing

Action already being undertaken:

Swansea Environmental Forum and Swansea Council for Voluntary Services' Swansea Community Green Spaces project helps people make greater use of green spaces within their communities and become more involved in how they are managed.

Nature Conservation Team Wildlife Volunteer Co-ordinator project.

New actions following from the recommendation:

See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post and a Place based project officer and a Nature Recovery Project Officer has been obtained for the next three years. They will liaise with all relevant Service Areas, Ward members and external organisations such as community councils to encourage and provide volunteering opportunities for adults and children.

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed

Recommendation is **AGREED**

Recommendation 12

Employ a Section 6 Officer to co-ordinate, support and promote the consideration and delivery of a range of environmental projects across Swansea and also ensure the Council are meeting the requirements of the Environment Act (Section 6). This includes the development of a Corporate Natural Environment Working Group. This should stop us breaching the legislation and potentially facing fines/restricted grant access/reputational damage. (Quick Win)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered
- Enhance and sustain our parks and natural habitats
- Protecting Swansea's unique natural and built environment

<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Council does not currently have a Section 6 officer. An officer fulfilling a similar role in a temporary grant funded post left the Council in March 2019 when the grant funding ended. Requests to Welsh Government for further funding for a Section 6 officer post have been declined.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See recommendation 1 above. A Corporate Biodiversity Working Group is in the process of being set up. Part of the ongoing work of the group would be to identify additional or reallocation of resources to meet the Council's Section 6 duties, although this is expected to be a medium to longer term solution rather than a quick win. • See recommendations 5 and 6 above. Provided appointments are made to these three temporary posts they will fulfil a few, but by no means all, of the duties that a Section 6 officer would be expected to undertake.
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: The need for a Section 6 officer is recognised and notwithstanding the recommendation response below it is expected that all possible funding streams for creation of this post will continue to be explored.</p>
<p>Recommendation is NOT AGREED</p>

<p>Recommendation 13</p>
<p><i>Employ an additional Planning Ecologist/Ecological Enforcement Officer to work with Council services with a specific duty to help ensure the environmental conditions and section 106 obligations on planning consents are met, whilst also contributing to maintaining biodiversity, and meeting the requirements of the new Sustainable Drainage System (SUDs) legislation. (Quick Win)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting Swansea's unique natural and built environment
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Council currently has one (0.8) Planning Ecologist post. An additional grant funded (0.5) temporary Planning Ecologist position expired April 2019. Welsh Government/NRW have confirmed that there is no funding to renew this position and that monies cannot be diverted from other grants to fund such a post.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>There is currently no direct funding available to appoint an additional full/part time Planning Ecologist (Quick win).</p>

However roles and responsibilities will be reviewed when posts become vacant within the Planning and City Regeneration Service. In addition a review of budget is taking place where current external advice is being sought to see if this can be redirected accordingly on a full cost recovery through charging basis (see recommendations 14 &15 below)

To be effective and have the capacity to ensure the increasing number of environmental conditions on planning applications, etc, plus the requirements of the new SUDs legislation are met the post needs to be a full-time position.

Cabinet Member Comments: The need for an additional Planning Ecologist post is recognised and notwithstanding the recommendation response below it is expected that all possible funding streams for creation of this post will continue to be explored as a matter of urgency.

Recommendation is **NOT AGREED**

Recommendation 14

Share natural environment and biodiversity costs across services. Much of the work completed in relation to biodiversity is funded by a single team's budget with significant external funding/grant aid. Considering both the Council as a whole, and certain specific services, benefit from a thriving environment, it seems appropriate that other services should be contributing financially to this work. (Long Term)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered

Action already being undertaken:

Some major developments have been approved subject to Section 106 agreements providing financial contributions towards practical on/off site mitigation and/or compensation measures against biodiversity loss and also in support of maintenance agreements.

See also response to recommendation 15 below

New actions following from the recommendation:

It is proposed that the Corporate Biodiversity Working Group carry out a review of how Service Areas have been impacted by the Environment (Wales) Act, Section 6 Biodiversity duty and Well-Being of Future Generations Act Resilient Wales goal and identify the additional demands arising in terms of provision of ecological/biodiversity advice. This should be taken into consideration as part of any Department/Service budget review particularly in regard to externally commissioned advice.

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed within department/service

Recommendation is **PARTLY AGREED**

Recommendation 15

Renew the South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBRc) service level agreement for 2019/20 (with a plan in place to achieve this in subsequent years) the approximate cost is between £8,000 and £10,000 per annum. The relevant departments (Development Management, Highways, Corporate Buildings and Corporate Property) should be contributing to the costs of accessing this information, using this resource regularly and, where necessary, asking the Council's ecologists to interpret the data. (Quick Win)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered

Action already being undertaken:

The cost of the SEWBRc Service Level Agreement (SLA) is currently taken from the Nature Conservation Team's budget, however there is no budget allocated for this purpose. The SLA has been previously funded through grant aid, but this is no longer available.

Some Service Areas are carrying out projects, asset disposal, etc without reference to SEWBRc/relevant ecological records which has the potential to result in outcomes that are in breach of the Council's Section 6 duty.

New actions following from the recommendation:

It is proposed that the Corporate Biodiversity Working Group carry out a review of which Service Areas benefit from the SEWBRc data and if the arrangement continues to prove value for money review how this agreement is funded in line with the various recommendations above.

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed

Recommendation is **AGREED**

Recommendation 16

Continue to nurture good working relationships with external agencies and encourage other services to do the same. This should not be limited to national organisations but should also include local ones such as Swansea Environmental Forum, the Swansea Biodiversity Partnership and the Swansea Environment Centre. (Long Term)

<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered • Working in partnership with public and private sector partners to develop green infrastructure in our buildings and estates
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Council's Nature Conservation Team already has excellent working relationships with all relevant external agencies both national and local, and play a key role in supporting a number of partnerships e.g. Local Nature Partnership (LNP) and Swansea Environmental Forum</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>Existing external working relationships/ networking to be further developed to include other Service Areas through training, shared knowledge /good practice at Corporate Biodiversity Working Group meetings, etc.</p> <p>New Temporary part time LNP officer to be appointed with Welsh Government funding.</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>
<p>Recommendation 17</p>
<p><i>Invite environmental voluntary groups and Community Council representatives to regular liaison meetings e.g. Friends of parks and wildlife sites. This would allow them some support and access to specialist advice from relevant officers (e.g. Parks Team, Nature Conservation Team, Education Link Officer), whilst allowing them a forum to discuss concerns and success. The loss of these groups would have a severely detrimental impact on the management of Council land and finances, so there needs to be ongoing and meaningful engagement and support from the Council. (Medium Term)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with 'friends of parks' organisations • Working in partnership to explore collaborative and innovative ways in which services can be financed and delivered
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>The Scrutiny Inquiry identified that there are currently 3 Council officers supporting 40 sites and 27 'Friends of' groups.</p>

New actions following from the recommendation:

See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post has been obtained for the next three years. They will regularly meet with external organisations such as environmental voluntary groups and Community Councils and enable them to access support and specialist advice from various Council services.

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed

Recommendation is **AGREED**

Recommendation 18

Create environmental link Councillor Governors on school governing bodies who can take relevant information and projects to their school. They can also report back on a school's activities and this can be used to contribute to the 3 yearly section 6 report to Welsh Government on the Council's performance. (Medium Term)

Relevant Policy Commitments:

- Ensuring schools are accessible and available for community activities
- Encouraging schools to provide a safe and supportive environment

Action already being undertaken:

None

New actions following from the recommendation:

It is proposed that the Nature Conservation Team liaise with the School and Governor Unit to ensure that all governing bodies appoint an environmental link governor. It is expected that these will primarily be local ward Members given the synergy with recommendation 6. The ward mapping exercise will include school grounds within the assessment of opportunities for improvement and it also supports the policy commitment to make schools more accessible and available for community activities.

Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed

Recommendation is **AGREED**

Recommendation 19

Encourage better use of school grounds and local wildlife sites for biodiversity. For example, gardens, growing schemes, tree planting, wildlife ponds and habitat creation. This can be done by linking in with relevant organisations such as RSPB and sharing good practice with schools who are already doing such activities. 'Making the Most of School Grounds' guidance booklet. (Long Term)

<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring schools are accessible and available for community activities • Promoting schools as a resource for the whole community • Encouraging schools to provide a safe and supportive environment
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents</p> <p>Our Nature Our Schools project which runs until December 2019 connecting schools to local Wildlife Sites and supporting school grounds environmental improvements.</p>
<p>New actions following from the recommendation:</p> <p>As recommendations 5, 6 and 18 above.</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed</p>
<p>Recommendation is AGREED</p>

<p>Recommendation 20</p> <p><i>Employ a dedicated outdoor learning officer who can provide the tailored support, training and delivery that will enable Swansea schools to fully realise the potential of outdoor learning, to deliver educational and wellbeing benefits, from the varied natural resources which Swansea possesses. (Medium Term)</i></p>
<p>Relevant Policy Commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring schools are accessible and available for community activities • Promoting schools as a resource for the whole community • Encouraging schools to provide a safe and supportive environment
<p>Action already being undertaken:</p> <p>Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents</p> <p>The Nature Conservation Team also employs a part-time project officer at the Bishops Wood Local Nature Reserve who delivers at this location low-cost training for schools within Swansea and wider afield.</p>

Our Nature our Schools project which runs until December 2019 connecting schools to local Wildlife Sites and supporting school grounds environmental improvements.
New actions following from the recommendation: See recommendation 5 above.
Cabinet Member Comments: Support actions already being undertaken and proposed
Recommendation is AGREED

2.1 An action plan for the agreed recommendations is attached as **Appendix B**.

3.0 Equality and Engagement Implications

3.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

3.2 The Scrutiny Inquiry considered which groups might be particularly affected and how they might be engaged with. As a result a blog and survey was published asking for feedback and ensured that this was available in alternative formats; this was sent to forums that represent people with protected characteristics.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report. All Council departments and service areas have a duty to maintain and enhance the natural environment and biodiversity within the County in order to meet the Council's duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Environment (Wales) Act. Welsh Government guidance recommends that Local Authorities must have sufficient ecological expertise to meet their Biodiversity duties under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no additional financial implications associated with this report as only recommendations that can be supported within existing budgets are recommended for approval. Any further budget amendments linked to

the recommendations or additional grant funding opportunities would be in accordance with the relevant grants and FPR requirements at that time. The three temporary posts identified are 100% externally grant funded and any actions linked to grants would have to be reviewed if those sources of grants were to end.

Background Papers:

None

Appendices

Appendix A – Original Scrutiny Report

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=124&MId=7946&Ver=4&LLL=0>

Appendix B – Proposed Cabinet Action Plan

Scrutiny Inquiry into the Natural Environment – Cabinet Action Plan

Recommendation	Action already being undertaken	New Action Proposed	Timescale	Responsible Officer
<p>1. Development and implementation of a Corporate Biodiversity Action Plan to take this forward (Medium Term)</p>	<p>To ensure compliance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 - Part 1, Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (Section 6 Duty), the Council must prepare and submit to Welsh Government by the end of 2019 a report (Corporate Biodiversity (Section 6) Action Plan) outlining what it has done to comply with the duty and then provide a progress update every three years after this date. A draft Action Plan is currently being prepared.</p> <p>In October 2018 the Council adopted an additional corporate well-being objective “to maintain and enhance Swansea’s Natural Resources and Biodiversity”</p> <p>Initial actions/steps have been identified with reference to this objective</p>	<p>It is proposed that progress on meeting the corporate biodiversity objective actions could be monitored and reported on a quarterly basis by means of the establishment of a Corporate Biodiversity Working Group. This Group would more effectively support and encourage all Service Areas to take ownership of Section 6 duties.</p> <p>The Group would comprise representatives from all relevant service areas and be chaired at a senior level. Proposed terms of reference have been drafted and a first meeting is planned for June 2019.</p> <p>Under the new business planning and reporting regime, all Service Areas will be required to report on progress made and planned future actions to meet the new Corporate priority for the Natural Environment and biodiversity</p>	<p>June 2019 (Corporate Working Group to meet) and quarterly thereafter</p> <p>Dec 2019 Action Plan submission and review every three years</p>	<p>Paul Meller/ Deb Hill</p>

2.	<p>Ensure the Action Plan links with other relevant cross organisational policies at a strategic level, for example, the Local Well-being Plan and Area Statements (Medium Term)</p>	<p>The Action Plan under preparation involves collaboration with other Public Service Board (PSB) partners to deliver actions which contribute to achieving the PSB Well-being Plan Working with Nature priority. It also provides a more integrated approach that will contribute to the delivery of the other corporate wellbeing goals.</p> <p>Inclusion of the Corporate Biodiversity Objective and actions arising within Service/Business Plans.</p> <p>Nature Conservation Team represented on PSB Working with Nature Group and leading on the development of the Local Nature Recovery Plan and supporting the Local Nature Partnership.</p> <p>Working with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and drawing upon Area Statement evidence base, to promote the sustainable management of natural resources at the local level, enabling joined-up collective action and identification of innovative new solutions, for example the City Centre Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p>	<p>Establishment of a Corporate Biodiversity Working Group that will explore further opportunities for collaborative cross-service and external partnership initiatives /projects that deliver multiple benefits across the well-being goals.</p> <p>Nature Conservation Team participation in the PSB Working With Nature working group.</p>	<p>June 2019 (Corporate Working Group to meet) and quarterly thereafter</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Paul Meller/ Deb Hill</p>
3.	<p>Develop a clear and enthusiastic vision and message for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity to ensure a consistent 'buy-in' from each service (Quick Win)</p>	<p>The Council has a duty under the Environment (Wales) Act to embed the consideration of biodiversity into its early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans and projects as well as day to day activities.</p>	<p>The Section 6 Plan will become an integral part of any business planning, asset management and/or corporate planning processes, as this will demonstrate how the</p>	<p>March/April annually - Annual Service Plans</p>	<p>Heads of Service</p>

		<p>Each Council function/Service Area should now be considering where and how they can maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience through their service/business plans.</p> <p>The Corporate Biodiversity working group will provide a vehicle for raising awareness and encouraging best practice</p>	consideration of biodiversity is being embedded.		
4.	Embed the new corporate priority by developing and delivering relevant training. The Nature Conservation Team could roll out training at the appropriate level and could undertake a service appropriate assessment with ideas and input coming from that service to encourage involvement. (Medium Term)	Biodiversity training for Members/ a limited number of Service Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and address biodiversity training needs for all Service Areas Identification of opportunities and actions within each relevant Service Area to maintain and enhance biodiversity Identify Service Areas where advisory support could be provided by the Nature Conservation Team Development of on and offline training packages Development and implementation of a Comms Strategy for biodiversity 	Ongoing Comms Strategy – Summer 2019	Paul Meller/ Deb Hill
5.	Make information available to the public to encourage participation and understanding, including continuing to develop the Natural Environment web pages e.g. explain why some verges are wild or why projects which have a green aspect are taking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for schoolchildren to access and learn about their natural environment (Our Nature Our Future project). Engage with local communities to encourage 	Dec 2019 (Our Nature Our Future) Comms Strategy – Summer 2019	Deb Hill/ Penny Gruffydd

	<p>place. Public promotion is vital. (Quick Win)</p>	<p>free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In August 2018, the Nature Conservation Team was awarded two grants from Natural Resources Wales to fund two temporary (18 month) part-time posts: Our Nature Our Schools project officer and a Wildlife Volunteering co-ordinator • In April 2019 the Council's Nature Conservation Team were successful in securing grants from Welsh Government in partnership with other agencies. These grants will fund 3 part time posts for 3 years: a Nature Partnership Officer, a Place based Project, and a volunteer Co-ordinator. Job descriptions need to be prepared and evaluated for these posts and approval to advertise and appoint obtained 	<p>volunteering and to support them taking action to enhance and maintain their local greenspaces and wildlife sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and implementation of a Comms Strategy for biodiversity • Refresh of Nature Conservation/Biodiversity webpages • Develop and publish Programme of Environmental Events 	<p>Webpages update (Dec 2019)</p> <p>Programme of Events (March annually)</p> <p>March 2022 (3 grant funded projects)</p>	<p>Project Officers (to be appointed)</p>
6.	<p>Complete and publicise the ward mapping exercise. This would provide each ward and the Councillor Representatives with information specific to that ward. It would include information about important species, protected sites and other relevant ecological information as well as potential opportunities for improving biodiversity within the ward. A link to the ward mapping should appear on planning applications when</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Wild about your ward' profiles drafted for a few pilot wards highlighting ecological information • Enhancements to greenspace being undertaken as part of an environmental works programme to meet the Council's commitment to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard 	<p>Complete mapping of existing Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure assets and ecosystem service provision on a ward by ward basis working with Members to identify areas which provide the best opportunities for improvement and, where appropriate, maximise match funding opportunities afforded by Members' community fund.</p>	<p>March 2022</p>	<p>Project Officer</p>

	completed. This would help when it comes to planning applications and empower ward councillors and residents to be able to respond to issues which threaten these special features of their ward and encourage maintenance of biodiversity. It would also contribute to the enforcement activity of the Council. (Long Term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GI enhancements undertaken as part of a Welsh Government funded multi-GI project with Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend Councils 	In April 2019 the Council was awarded a grant to fund a temporary (3 year) part-time (3 days/week) post to deliver the above project. The post needs to be agreed, advertised and an appointment made.		
7.	Maintain support for volunteers, Community Councils and groups managing both Council owned and non-Council owned land. There are important areas of natural environment in Swansea that may be managed by trusts or owned privately. The links to these areas need to be maintained to ensure best practice is shared and any relevant information/policy can be applied across Swansea, improving nature-based connectivity overall. (Long Term)	The Scrutiny Inquiry identified that there are currently 3 Council officers supporting 40 sites and 27 'Friends of' groups.	See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post has been obtained for the next three years. They will assist volunteers, groups and Community Councils to make the work carried out by them more effective and appropriate. They will also recruit, train and engage with new volunteers, for example, through social prescribing, corporate social responsibility, etc.	March 2022	Project Officer
8.	Insert a relevant biodiversity clause into service level agreements, licences etc which relates to land use and land management and land use and ensure that the importance of these clauses is made clear to the land managers/occupiers and the implications of not meeting them are highlighted.(Quick Win)	As a consequence of discussion of this matter during the Scrutiny inquiry a clause has been inserted into the service level agreement for community groups managing green spaces	To work with Estates and other relevant Service Areas to ensure that more detailed and relevant biodiversity clauses are inserted into all service level agreements, licences, etc, which relate to land use and land management. For example, those relating to grazing sites and also in those entered into with external event organisers which require Council consent before certain activities (e.g. clearing land, special events, etc) are	Ongoing	Deb Hill/Judith Oakley

			undertaken to prevent loss of biodiversity.		
9.	Assess the verges in Swansea that can stop being mowed and sprayed. Give these over to nature and allow for self-seeding, which will encourage native plants and pollinator species. This can also save money as less frequent mowing is required. There could be signs erected to highlight the project to help change the culture. (Medium Term)	An annual programme of wildflower planting and management within verges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work with Parks, Highways and other relevant Service Areas (e.g. Housing , Education) to identify those locations in Council ownership which can be given over to self-seeding, less intensive mowing and/or seeding with perennial species mixes Develop a Comms plan in relation to proposed biodiversity actions. 	March 2020 Comms Strategy – Summer 2019	Deb Hill/Judith Oakley
10.	Where appropriate, plant native wildflowers and trees. Non-native species do not benefit pollinators to the same extent as native species. (Long Term)	An annual programme of wildflower planting and management within verges which includes non-native species. Over 5000 native trees planted by Nature Conservation Team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include more native species within wildflower planting programme Develop and adopt a Council tree policy which encourages planting of native species trees where appropriate. Plans for new tree planting to include native species Identification of suitable sites for further woodland planting with support from Trees for Cities Investigate additional sources of funding for woodland planting e.g. Glastir and Carbon Credits 	Ongoing	Paul Meller/ Deb Hill

11.	<p>Encourage green projects for well-being such as gardening projects, outdoor green-space activities and volunteering opportunities for adults and children across all relevant services. This includes linking with Community Councils. Communities can make use of the 'Community Green Space Toolkit' which can be found online at http://swanseacommunitygreenspaces.weebly.com (Long Term)</p>	<p>Swansea Environmental Forum and Swansea Council for Voluntary Services' Swansea Community Green Spaces project helps people make greater use of green spaces within their communities and become more involved in how they are managed.</p> <p>Nature Conservation Team Wildlife Volunteer Co-ordinator project.</p>	<p>See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post and a Place based project officer and a Nature Recovery Project Officer has been obtained for the next three years. They will liaise with all relevant Service Areas, Ward members and external organisations such as community councils to encourage and provide volunteering opportunities for adults and children.</p>	March 2022	Project Officer
12.	<p>Employ a Section 6 Officer to coordinate, support and promote the consideration and delivery of a range of environmental projects across Swansea and also ensure the Council are meeting the requirements of the Environment Act (Section 6). This includes the development of a Corporate Natural Environment Working Group. This should stop us breaching the legislation and potentially facing fines/restricted grant access/reputational damage. (Quick Win)</p>	Not Agreed			
13.	<p>Employ an additional Planning Ecologist/Ecological Enforcement Officer to work with Council services with a specific duty to help ensure the environmental conditions and section 106 obligations on planning consents are met, whilst also contributing to maintaining biodiversity, and meeting the requirements of the new Sustainable Drainage System legislation. (Quick Win)</p>	Not Agreed			

14.	Share natural environment and biodiversity costs across services. Much of the work completed in relation to biodiversity is funded by a single team's budget. Considering both the Council as a whole, and certain specific services, benefit from a thriving environment, it seems appropriate that other services should be contributing financially to this work. (Long Term)	Some major developments have been approved subject to Section 106 agreements providing financial contributions towards practical on/off site mitigation and/or compensation measures against biodiversity loss and also in support of maintenance agreements. See also response to recommendation 15 below	It is proposed that the Corporate Biodiversity Working Group carry out a review of how Service Areas have been impacted by the Environment (Wales) Act, Section 6 Biodiversity duty and Well-Being of Future Generations Act Resilient Wales goal and identify the additional demands arising in terms of provision of ecological/biodiversity advice. This should be taken into consideration as part of any Department/Service budget reappportionment exercise.	March 2020	Paul Meller/ Deb Hill
15.	Renew the South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC) service level agreement for 2019/20 (with a plan in place to achieve this in subsequent years) the approximate cost is between £8,000 and £10,000 per annum. The relevant departments (Development Management, Highways, Corporate Buildings and Corporate Property) should be contributing to the costs of accessing this information, using this resource regularly and, where necessary, asking the Council's ecologists to interpret the data. (Quick Win)	The cost of the SEWBReC Service Level Agreement (SLA) is currently taken from the Nature Conservation Team's budget, however there is no budget allocated for this purpose. The SLA has been previously funded through grant aid, but this is no longer available. Some Service Areas are carrying out projects, asset disposal, etc without reference to SEWBReC/relevant ecological records which has the potential to result in outcomes that are in breach of the Council's Section 6 duty.	It is proposed that the Corporate Biodiversity Working Group carry out a review of which Service Areas benefit from the SEWBReC data and also those which should be utilising it prior to commencement of any regeneration projects/asset disposal and apportion costs accordingly.	March 2020	Paul Meller/ Deb Hill
16.	<i>Continue to nurture good working relationships with external agencies and encourage other services to do the same. This should not be limited to national organisations but should also include local ones such as Swansea Environmental Forum, the</i>	The Council's Nature Conservation Team already has excellent working relationships with all relevant external agencies both national and local, and play a key role in supporting a number of partnerships e.g. Local Nature	Existing external working relationships/ networking to be further developed to include other Service Areas through training, shared knowledge /good practice at Corporate	Ongoing	Paul Meller/ Deb Hill

	Swansea Biodiversity Partnership and the Swansea Environment Centre. (Long Term)	Partnership (LNP) and Swansea Environmental Forum	Biodiversity Working Group meetings, etc. New Temporary part time LNP officer to be appointed with Welsh Government funding.		
17.	Invite environmental voluntary group and Community Council representatives to regular liaison meetings e.g. Friends of parks and wildlife sites. This would allow them some support and access to some specialist advice from relevant officers (e.g. Parks Team, Nature Conservation Team, Education Link Officer), whilst allowing them a forum to discuss concerns and success. The loss of these groups would have a severely detrimental impact on the management of Council land and finances, so there needs to be ongoing and meaningful engagement and support from the Council. (Medium Term)	The Scrutiny Inquiry identified that there are currently 3 Council officers supporting 40 sites and 27 'Friends of' groups.	See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for a temporary volunteer coordinator post has been obtained for the next three years. They will regularly meet with external organisations such as environmental voluntary groups and Community Councils and enable them to access support and specialist advice from various Council services.	March 2022	Project Officer
18.	Create environmental link Governors on school governing bodies who can take relevant information and projects to their school. They can also report back on a school's activities and this can be used to contribute to the 3 yearly section 6 report to Welsh Government on the Council's performance. (Medium Term)	None	It is proposed that the Nature Conservation Team liaise with the School and Governor Unit to ensure that all governing bodies appoint an environmental link governor. It is expected that these will primarily be local ward Members given the synergy with recommendation 6. The ward mapping exercise will include school grounds within the assessment of opportunities for improvement and it also supports the policy commitment to make schools	Dec 2019 (Governor appointment) March 2022 (Mapping exercise)	Paul Meller/Penny Gruffydd/ Deb Hill Project Officer

			more accessible and available for community activities.		
19.	Encourage better use of school grounds and local wildlife sites for biodiversity. For example, gardens, growing schemes, tree planting, wildlife ponds and habitat creation. This can be done by linking in with relevant organisations such as RSPB and sharing good practice with schools who are already doing such activities. 'Making the Most of School Grounds' guidance booklet. (Long Term)	<p>Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents</p> <p>Our Nature Our Schools project which runs until December 2019 connecting schools to local Wildlife Sites and supporting school grounds environmental improvements.</p>	As recommendations 5,6 and 18 above	<p>Dec 2019 (Our Nature Our Schools and Governor appointment)</p> <p>March 2022 (Mapping exercise)</p>	<p>Paul Meller/Penny Gruffydd Deb Hill</p> <p>Project Officer</p>
20.	Employ a dedicated outdoor learning officer who can provide the tailored support, training and delivery that will enable Swansea schools to fully realise the potential of outdoor learning, to deliver educational and wellbeing benefits, from the varied natural resources which Swansea possesses. (Medium Term)	<p>Improving awareness and understanding of our natural environment through provision of information, training and events. An annual Environmental Events programme is published which provides details of hundreds of free or low cost environmental events taking place around Swansea https://www.swansea.gov.uk/environmentalevents</p> <p>The Nature Conservation Team also employs a part-time project officer at the Bishops Wood Local Nature Reserve who delivers at this location low-cost training for schools within Swansea and wider afield.</p>	See recommendation 5 above. Grant funding for an Our Nature Our Future school project officer has been obtained for the next three years. They will liaise with Swansea schools within more deprived wards to realise the potential of outdoor learning.	Dec 2019	Deb Hill/Penny Gruffydd

		Our Nature Our Schools project which runs until December 2019 connecting schools to local Wildlife Sites and supporting school grounds environmental improvements.			
--	--	--	--	--	--

Agenda Item 9.



Report of the S151 Officer

Cabinet - 18 July 2019

Revenue Financial Outturn 2018/19

Purpose:	To report on the detailed Revenue financial outturn for 2018/19
Policy Framework:	Budget 2018/19, Sustainable Swansea
Consultation:	Cabinet Members, Corporate Management Team, Legal Services and Access to Services.
Recommendation:	It is recommended that the comments and variations in this report be noted, and that the proposed reserve transfers detailed in Section 7.3 are approved
Report Author:	Ben Smith
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Background and Introduction

- 1.1 This report details net expenditure for 2018/19 and highlights variances from the revised budget.
- 1.2 The Revenue Budget for 2018/19 was approved at Council on 6th March 2018. The budget as approved included the following proposals to address a potential budget deficit of £28.928m

<u>Budget Proposals 2018/19</u>	£'000	£'000
Planned Service Savings	-10,252	
Cross cutting savings	-1,055	

Invest to Save savings*	-4,295	
Reduction to Contingency Fund	-1,400	
		-17,002
Schools pressures funded by schools.	-2,698	
Reserve Changes(Restructure, Specific grants)	-2,195	
Draw from General Fund reserve	-1,000	
Net effect of Council Tax base increase and increased charge	-6,033	
<u>Overall resourcing</u>		<u>-28,928</u>

* Invest to Save savings were predominantly in respect of packages of care and direct payments in Adult Services (£1.7m) and in respect of implementing the Safe Looked After Children Strategy and the commissioning review recommendations (£2.7m).

- 1.3 The specific savings proposals detailed above were incorporated into Directorate budgets at service level and have been the subject of specific monitoring via the budget savings tracker, reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis during the year.
- 1.4 2018/19 marked the fifth year following the introduction, from 1st April 2014, of the Council's single status pay and grading scheme relating to all staff on NJC grades. The scheme specifically excludes Teaching staff, those on the Soulbury Scheme and Senior Officers at Head of Service/Director level.
- 1.5 The introduction of the scheme has been accompanied by an extensive appeals process for those staff adversely affected by pay and grading allocations made during the original allocation process. Despite significant inroads made to the numbers of appeals, elements of the appeals and grievance process does remain ongoing.
- 1.6 The extent to which appeals are successful in terms of job allocation will inevitably affect financial performance on an annual basis and impact on future budget planning.
- 1.7 The modelled costs of single status as at the implementation date have been incorporated in revenue budgets going forward. However, costs in respect of successful appeals have not, and any costs arising from appeals and grievances will have to be met from within existing Directorate Budgets.
- 1.8 The report that follows details the Revenue outturn position for 2018/19, makes commentary on comparison with in year budget monitoring and, where appropriate, details action already taken in setting the 2019/20 Revenue Budget based on anticipated outcome at quarter 3 of the year. It remains critical that the progress on savings adopted under *Sustainable Swansea* is subject to constant review and

updated during each financial year and that future budgets are constantly informed by outcomes from the monitoring process.

2. Detailed Outturn Position

2.1 Overall direct revenue expenditure for 2018/19 was £883,000 more than the revised budget as follows:

	£000's
Net Expenditure on Services per appendix 'A' - overspend	2,806
Reduced call on Apprenticeship levy	-220
Inflationary provision not utilised	-1,000
One off corporate costs/income	-1,079
Council Tax collection shortfall	328
Other net overspends	48
<hr/> Overall net overspend <hr/>	<hr/> 883 <hr/>

2.2 Members will see from the table at 2.1 above that the net overall overspend at year end is primarily the result of a net overspend in services of nearly £3m, a lower than anticipated overspend (which had ranged from £6-9m in the in-year reports), predominantly as a result of the action taken in the third and fourth quarter by all Directorates to contain or reduce overspending, in line with Cabinet decisions and target setting, following receipt of the in-year quarterly monitoring reports. This has then been significantly offset further by the already agreed actions, namely to utilise unspent budgets on the central inflation provision and Apprenticeship Levy, and boosted by some further one off corporate income.

2.3 Separately, there is, as highlighted during the year, a significant in year underspend on capital financing of £7.7m. An element of capital programme slippage has contributed to the capital charge underspend. There is a strategy to monitor interest rates and average in the borrowing requirement over a period of time but inevitably as the need to fund the capital financing requirement increases so will the capital charges in line with budget. Such underspends should therefore be considered temporary, albeit not necessarily solely one off. Further borrowing will be externalised where rates, which are monitored on a constant basis, are favourable. Indeed already in 2018/19, £60m of that external borrowing has now occurred to lock in favourable rates. The indicative minimum revenue provision at current 2.5% rates would cost £1.5m per annum and interest a further £1.5m per annum in the following full year (2019/20).

2.4 As outlined throughout the year (and set out in Section 7 below) it is proposed that the whole underspend on the Capital Charges be transferred in its entirety to the Capital Equalisation Reserve to help prudently meet part of future capital costs. This approach was re-affirmed by Council in its review of all reserves.

- 2.5 As reported to Cabinet in the 1st Quarter monitoring report as a result of concerns and lobbying from both members and officers, the Welsh Government provided, belatedly, funding in respect of Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant and School Uniform Grant. As a result the original anticipated budget draw of £1m from the General Fund reserve was not required.
- 2.6 Council approved, in October 2018, the S151 officer's recommendation of utilising up to £3m of earmarked reserves, in light of general reserves being at the minimum declared safe level, to help mitigate the forecast overspend pressures at that time. The final position indicates that some £0.673m is actually required in 2018/19. An element of the balance not utilised related specifically to Social Services and will now be available for use in later years by that service. The remaining balance amounting to £1.6m is proposed to be added to the Capital Equalisation Reserve to provide further funding for the future capital programme.
- 2.7 The improved final position, lower overspend and reduced cost of ER/VR scheme, has resulted in a reduced transfer from the Restructure Reserve (originally anticipated that the entire reserve would be exhausted in 2018-19). This allows the S151 officer to propose that £3 million is retained in the Restructure Reserve to be used to continue to contribute towards helping centrally fund the costs of ER/VR in 2019-20, again only where there is an evidenced business case and reasonable payback period, as in previous years.
- 2.8 Details of net expenditure variations are given in Section 2.11 and onwards below.
- 2.9 Recommendations in terms of Reserve Movements and Review as a result of the final outturn position as set out in Section 2.1 to 2.3 are made in Section 7 of this report.
- 2.10 The Directorate/Services outturn position itself is made up of a mix of over and under spends and it is clear that some elements of the overspends in particular will substantially continue into 2019/20. Consequently, urgent management action and, in some cases, further Member decisions, will inevitably be required to address the underlying base budget issues, which at present stands at around £5 million as set out further in directors' comments.
- 2.11 The following sets out the major service specific variances in 2018/19.

Resources Directorate

	£
Net Employee Costs	-1,598,000
Shortfall in Sustainable Swansea savings target – predominantly ongoing spend pressure (see below)	2,505,000
Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)	-837,000
IT spend delayed to conserve budgets	-824,000

Other net variances

285,000

-469,000

Director Comments:-

1. As reported in the 2017/18 outturn, there was a shortfall in the target attributable to Sustainable Swansea savings in the Directorate. This was compounded with a further shortfall into 2018/19 and highlighted at quarterly monitoring throughout the year. The shortfall in both years was due to a timing delay. Several change projects had to be delivered first before savings could be realised. Both the interim Director and Deputy Chief Executive (appointed in November), in conjunction with existing Heads of Service undertook measures to proactively underspend to control the in-year budget.

This action meant a steady reduction of in-year spending mostly related to staff costs through the management of both vacancies and ER/VR applications during the restructure, which began in January 2018. A key role of The Resources Directorate is to support the other directorates and due to the reduction in staffing this has had a serious impact on other services and service delivery. These actions resulted in a temporarily rebalanced Directorate budget ready for the start of 2019/20, although its longer-term sustainability remains challenging.

2. Secondly, the ER/VR scheme significantly contributed to the accelerated reduction in staff costs.
3. A third area of underspend variance relates to the deliberate holding back of ICT development spend to contain overall directorate costs. However, this is beginning to have significant implications for the roll out of digital solutions across the Council and could imperil other future efficiency savings if not developed. The impact has meant a drop in performance by the digital service desk, with more open cases as a result of vacancies not filled. In addition, several key development projects were delayed, e.g. passenger transport, schools LAN replacement, network consolidation and mobile device management.
4. A fourth area of Underspend variance relates to Legal Services, where vacancies have not been filled, left the Authority or been on maternity leave. This has resulted in case management increasing per lawyer which in turn has had implications on the speed of which work is completed and increased complaints from customers and service users.
5. The final major variance relates to budget overprovision for CTRS (Council Tax Reduction Scheme), which is predominantly demand led. Some significant reduction in this overall budget was factored into the 2018-19 budget but it remains under review with the wider rollout of the Universal Credit system and wider efforts by Welsh Government to encourage and maximise local take up of the scheme.

6. The shortfalls in Sustainable Swansea savings targets are predominantly:

Unachieved Savings	£
Management Review of senior staff in corporate services – ongoing spend pressure	113,000
Service Reviews/Regional Working/Shared Services - ongoing	239,000
Stopping Services - areas where services could stop or reduce through new ways of working – ongoing spend pressure	597,000
Working commercially across the Council on income / contract spend, prioritising resources as per strategy and plan	1,150,000
Other Net Saving Targets (pre 2018/19 £602k, Business Hubs in People & Place £-221k, Other £25k) - ongoing spend pressure	406,000
TOTAL	2,505,000

The Commercial Services shortfall is primarily as a result of the target being held corporately, whilst any additional income earned/reduced contract spend as a result of actions taken is already reflected within service budgets and outturns. The totality of commercial activity in terms of income generation and procurement activity across all directorates has been significant and this will be reported upon separately.

The remaining shortfall of approximately £1.4m will currently recur without further action and the Director has therefore committed to produce a further update report and action plan to either address this through direct management action or identify alternative options for Cabinet to consider as part of the first quarter monitoring for 2019-20.

Director of Social Services

Children's and Adult Services

Unachieved Savings	£
Review of CHC arrangements - ongoing spend pressure	1,000,000
Reduce Number of Independent Residential placements - ongoing spend pressure	1,400,000
Reduce number of independent fostering placements - ongoing spend pressure	250,000
Reduce mother and baby residential placements – ongoing spend pressure	50,000
Senior Staffing - Review/Reduce posts at senior level	54,000
Reduction in Number of In House Beds	87,000
Provide day services to those who are eligible only	22,000
Implement preferred options as outcome of LD, PH and MH Commissioning Review	63,000
Reduce overall number of funded residential care	142,000

placements	
Direct Payments Strategy - Targeted increase in recourse to direct payments as alternative to non-complex domiciliary care packages and complex care packages for MH & LD	158,000
Charging Policy and Annual Fee Increases - Increased client income through uplifts and more efficient processes	183,000
	3,409,000

Other – net £127,000*

Independent Child and Family Placements	314,000
External Domiciliary Care (Older Persons)	108,000
External Residential Care	1,305,000
Internal Services	-2,539,000
Community Equipment	-371,000
MHLD Complex Care	1,674,000
Third Party Spend	-237,000
Other	-127,000
	<u>3,536,000</u>

*Note that the net variance on other overspending is £127,000 but the major variations are set out for completeness. The Director will seek to vire sums as appropriate in 19-20 to ensure budgets are closer aligned to spend within the overall budget envelope

Director's Comments

There have been significant improvements in the Social Services position throughout the year.

In adult services, the savings target was c £4 million against the headings detailed above. £3.3 million was achieved. Of the £700k not achieved, £550k remains deliverable but over a longer period than originally intended.

In children services, unachieved savings are more significant and linked to large increases to the number of looked after children and a complete cessation of health board funding for children with complex needs.

The value of unachieved savings has required significant remedial action to offset. This has predominantly involved reducing discretionary spend and freezing vacancies. At the same time reviews of grant spend has provided opportunities to reduce the net cost of internal services.

These remedial actions have been built into budget allocations for the coming year with the intention of maintaining lower staff levels and stopping discretionary services where this is safe to do so (and would not lead to increased pressure and spend elsewhere in the service).

The increased reliance on grant income to maintain prevention services that would historically have attracted core Council funding is a concern in the medium term but manageable for 2019/20. At this stage the level of exposure to known short term grant funding is c.£7 million.

The additional cost pressures linked to internal wage inflation should begin to ease in the new financial year. However cost pressures for externally commissioned care will continue to rise. The combination of inflated costs and higher demand are continuing to cause some of the bigger overspends highlighted in the budget variances above (ext dom care, ext res care, MH/ LD complex care, ind. Placements). Again these pressures have been reflected in budget allocations for the coming year as far as possible.

Underspends in respect of the Community Equipment Store are representative of the higher contributions received from partners, alongside the service's success in attracting external funding. The partnership agreement for this service requires that such underspends are set aside for the ongoing benefit of the service.

Poverty & Prevention

	£
Adult Wellbeing and Prosperity	-338,000
Young People's Services	-63,000
Early Intervention Services	-156,000
Joint People Directorate Commissioning	-164,000
Other	-61,000
	<u>-782,000</u>

Directors Comments:-

The core budget of Poverty and Prevention funds 33% of the service, with the remainder funded by income, mostly Welsh Government grants. The principle adopted by the service is to maximise grant funding where legitimate and able to do so. Where this approach is successful it can create underspends and one off savings to core budgets.

The increased integration of commissioning services has provided additional opportunities for core funding underspends.

The Director has set out ambitious plans to reduce the budget for poverty and prevention by over £2m by closer integrating early intervention and prevention work with Social Services and also with Education. This is likely to remove opportunities for further underspending against the new lower budget in 2019-20.

Director of Education	£
EOTAS/One to One	-336,000
Recoupment/Independent Placements – ongoing spend pressure	288,000
Home to School Transport – ongoing spend pressure	599,000
Cleaning	100,000
School Catering	199,000
Other Catering	96,000
Other net variances	40,000
	<u>986,000</u>

Directors Comments:-

Education

EOTAS/One to One Support : A number of one off underspends were identified in year to support the department's financial position and robust management action taken to contain pressures in the 'one to one' and other areas of the additional learning needs budget. A review of budgets in this area will continue in line with the development of the new model of EOTAS provision.

Recoupment/ Independent Placements: The overspend is in respect of contributions to the educational cost of social services placements. Like all independent placements, this is an inherently volatile demand-led budget.

Home to School Transport remains a significant area of concern, as it is inherently volatile and uncontrollable within existing national and local policy. Expectations continue to be raised through Welsh Government action and legal challenges. There has been some success in mitigating inflationary pressures through process reviews and the achievement of service efficiencies.

Catering and Cleaning: Overspends in this area are primarily due to cost pressures, particularly the effect of the 2018/19 Pay Award, food inflation and free school meal entitlement. This has been mitigated in part by continuing management action to further increase income and efficiencies within the services.

The significant areas of unavoidable service and demand pressures identified above will predominantly continue into 2019/20, especially around specialist provision and this is anticipated to become a growing pressure with the Additional Learning Needs Act provisions, whilst many of the mitigating savings identified during 2018/19 are one off in nature. Work will continue to mitigate the areas of continuing pressure.

Place Directorate

Director Comments:-

Notwithstanding the ongoing financial challenges, significant progress has been made against the 18/19 savings targets with 87% of savings achieved and mitigation delivered for any that were undelivered or delayed. In addition a number of savings have been accrued earlier than planned and extra income also derived which in many cases will be sustained into 2019/20. Proactive budget management has also reduced overall spend levels across the directorate. This will assist the directorate in achieving a balanced budget in 2019/20 with Heads of Service looking to further align any budget variances and amend the base budgets to reflect any recurring underspends as part of its overall budget strategy and savings programme.

Unachieved savings

	£
Mobile working delayed IT solution (building services)	150,000
Grand theatre savings (part unachieved)	180,000
Integrated transport cross cutting savings (part unachieved)	110,000
Unachieved sickness saving	400,000
	<u>840,000</u>

Main areas of variance

	£
Highways and Transportation additional income from car parks, fees and charges and staff underspends offset by additional costs fleet management costs and unachieved ITU savings	-710,000
Waste management overspend arising from reduced value of recyclates and increases vehicles charges mitigated by in years changes to recycling and HWRC	431,000
Property services increases income from letting strategy and commercialism of the estate (*note below)	-928,000
Unachieved sickness saving as a result of delayed introduction of new policy	400,000
Overspend as service picked up the "management fee" to Freedom Leisure funded from underspend within the linked budgets (Indoor leisure) and delayed creation of new model of delivery for Plantasia	253,000
Swansea market overspend resulting from additional staffing and agency costs resulting from short term staffing issues, under achievement of income due to falling occupancy levels, one-off staff back pay.	222,000
Housing options underspend due to additional funding this year from the RSG for Homelessness prevention and whilst a robust spending plan is being developed there is a short term underspend which will be linked with longer term improvements and capital investment.	-917,000
City Centre regeneration short term overspend on staff until Swansea Central FPR report approved and capitalisation of staff authorised due to be addressed in 2019	265,000
Other overspends /underspends	<u>-20,000</u>
Total underspend	-1,004,000

(*)Note-

It should be noted that the substantial income outperformance in respect of the property investment fund will with effect from 2019-20 be used to reduce the net cost of unsupported borrowing (capital financing) and thus not be available to help support the Place Directorate overall financial position going forward.

3. Items met from the Contingency Fund

- 3.1 The Council Report on 6th March 2018 highlighted a number of risks that may need to be met from the Contingency Fund in 2018/19.
- 3.2 The £3.511m shown at Appendix 'A' represents the cost of the ER/VR exercise for 2018/19 which has been charged to the Contingency Fund on an 'Invest to Save' basis. Of this amount some £1.115m will be funded, as approved by Council on the 6th March 2018, out of the Restructure Reserve specifically towards Teachers ER/VR costs. This £3.511m reflects the inevitable workforce reductions implicit within the budget proposals for 2018/19 and 2019/20 contained within the 'Sustainable Swansea- Fit for the Future' Budget strategy adopted by the Council. As in prior years access to ER/VR requires a maximum payback period of three years for an employee who leaves under the scheme.
- 3.3 In addition to the above, other costs have been funded from the contingency in year including funding for a Data Protection Post (£53,000), City Centre Regeneration , City Deal and Tidal Lagoon costs (£113,000 – initial costs – where future reimbursement materially expected from Welsh Government), Adult Services 'invest to save' staffing costs and targeted social care support costs (£308,000) and additional staffing costs to deal with Occupational Health support (£33,000).
- 3.4 Items charged to the fund represent one off costs which, apart from ER/VR costs, will not re-occur during 2019/20. The budgeted Contingency fund for 2019/20 is £7,072,000 (approximately half one – off and half base funded). The level has been increased from 2018/19 as further risk mitigation against repeated overspending in 2019/20.

4 Schools Expenditure and Reserves Position

- 4.1 The Schools delegated budget for 2018/19 was £147,013,217.
- 4.2 This delegated budget in reality reflects in actual expenditure as shown in the education directorate line of the outturn summary given at appendix 'A', and any variation in expenditure incurred by Schools at a level greater/less than overall delegated budgets will result in a movement in ring-fenced delegated schools reserves.
- 4.3 During 2018/19 Schools expenditure overall was £1,499,725 less than the delegated budget, equating to an underspend of 0.01%

4.4 This underspend will be added to the schools own reserves.

The following is a summary of overall Schools Reserves since 2016:

	Balance 31/3/2016	Balance 31/3/2017	Balance 31/3/2018	Balance 31/3/2019	Overall change over last 3 year period (%)
Primary	7,026,483	5,433,323	5,310,963	5,694,092	-18.9
Secondary	2,188,589	1,687,157	1,612,646	2,730,332	+24.7
Special	331,635	454,287	177,098	176,008	-46.9
Total	9,546,707	7,574,767	7,100,707	8,600,432	-9.9

4.5 The above table is presented to reflect the quantum of schools reserves against each stream and the position within individual schools may vary quite considerably from the trend shown.

4.6 The above overall movement in Schools Reserves – a net increase of £1,499,725 or 21.1% in year has to be viewed in the context of an overall increase in Schools funding of £3.045m in 2018/19. The position was also affected by a late decision by Welsh Government to release additional specific grant funding for schools (principally the pay grant at £1.2m) which effectively had to go into schools reserves with an expectation of spend immediately thereafter in 2019/20.

4.7 It is expected that the outturn position for 2019/20 for schools will evidence a net call on existing reserves.

5 Ongoing implications for the 2019/20 budget

5.1 There are ongoing risks from planned savings not achieved from 2018/19 budget which cumulatively impact future years.

5.2 There are ongoing overspend risks arising from the outturn position in the following areas

- Sustainable Swansea 2018/19 savings targets;
- Social Services both Adults and Children;
- Home to School Transport; and
- Education catering and cleaning.

5.3 There are inherent risks in the current 2019/20 budget around:

- Sustainable Swansea workstream savings 2019/20;
- Additional Learning Needs;
- Ongoing costs relating to residual Single Status appeals; and
- Uncertainty of impact of Brexit.

5.4 There are emerging and continuing risks going forward in future years arising from national developments around:

- Risk of redistribution of block government grant (especially re sparsity factors);
- Continued loss of specific grants;
- Ongoing demographic pressures especially in the older age population, pressures and interlinkages with NHS health care funding and a relative fragile private sector care sector;
- Higher than expected cases of looked after children;
- Affordability of the national employer pay awards to address National minimum and Living Wage issues and the effective, but unfunded, removal, of the public sector pay cap;
- Potential changed costs from the triennial revaluation of the pension fund;
- Ongoing Brexit uncertainty; and
- Increased costs from changes to the way the employer contribution costs are calculated in respect of the teachers' pension scheme (the current arrangements are such that the part first year impact is temporarily funded by substantial one off grant - a more sustainable, and base budgeted, funding solution needs to be assured by Welsh Government).

5.5 Continued uncertainty at national government level means there remains doubt as to the timing, completion, or otherwise, and also the depth of the scheduled forthcoming Spending Review. This means there is less certainty of a definitive redrawing of UK government departmental cash limits, consequential Welsh government cash limits and consequently the scope for considering the rebasing of the Welsh local government settlement. Budgets risk being broadly cash flat, simply rolled over, with a temporary continuation of some one-off grants that could have otherwise been hoped to have been more definitively built into base budget settlements.

5.6 We can anticipate therefore that the authority's overall budget position will remain under significant pressure for the foreseeable future, with added uncertainty and thus all efforts to live within budget must be redoubled.

6. Use of the savings tracker and outturn position

6.1 During 2018/19 the Council continued with use of a tracking mechanism in order to monitor progress against the specific savings proposals contained within service and overall budgets proposals.

6.2 The detailed final position as shown by the savings tracker for 2018/19 showed an overall achievement of 62% and specific details on the outturn position are given at Appendix B

6.3 Given the overall outturn position it is clear that some additional compensating savings have been made where specific savings have been delayed or have not been achieved.

7 Summary of Outturn Position and Recommendations

- 7.1 The outturn position for 2018/19 reflects a significant improvement on the forecast position at quarter 3 (Reported to Cabinet in February 2019) i.e. a much reduced level of overspend, as a result of actions taken, but nonetheless continued overall directorate service overspending, which is not sustainable.
- 7.2 This is the minimum that should be expected in terms of Service Revenue Budgets as a result of in year budget monitoring, management action and spending restrictions.
- 7.3 The Revenue Budget as set by Council in March 2018 approved the use of Earmarked Reserves to support the 2018/19 budget. In addition the report to Council in October 2018 reviewing its reserves proposed utilising some earmarked reserves to offset forecast service budget shortfalls together with any underspends/savings in budgeted Capital Financing charges to a Capital Equalisation reserve. Based on the net Revenue position arising out of the actual outturn position it is recommended that:-
- 7.3.1 The following transfers are made TO earmarked Revenue Reserves as follows:-
- Commuted Sums Received £533,000 ,
 - Crematorium mercury abatement reserve £108,000 ,
 - Community Equipment Service Section 33 agreement £371,000 ,
 - ICT schools development £159,000 ,
 - Vibrant and Viable City Centre £73,000 ,
 - Proceeds of Crime/Home Office £55,000 ,
 - Homelessness Prevention £200,000 ,
 - Joint Archives service £45,000 ,
 - Communities for work £60,000 ,
 - Workways extension/match funding £33,000 ,
 - Design Print relocation costs £19,000 ,
 - Online booking system development £15,000 ,
 - Capital Equalisation Reserve £12,005,000.
- 7.4 Notwithstanding these proposed transfers, it is a duty of the Section 151 Officer to consider levels of General and earmarked reserves in order to continually monitor their adequacy and projected use. This has to be done in terms of both current known and projected future liabilities.
- 7.5 It is the opinion of the Section 151 Officer at this point that there is no scope within General reserves to fund any additional expenditure of the Council given the current risks facing the Council in terms of continuing single status issues, ongoing spending pressures and the uncertainty of future Welsh Government funding streams. That means that subject to any limited emergency one off use of earmarked reserves, and other limited action the S151 Officer can propose immediately in year, all spending must otherwise be wholly contained within existing budgets.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications relating to matters contained within this report.

9. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 9.1. There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report. Equalities implications are identified and addressed by departments via the Equality Impact Assessment process at the time that budgets are developed.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 'A' Revenue Outturn Summary 2018/19

Revenue Outturn Summary 2018/19

Appendix 'A'

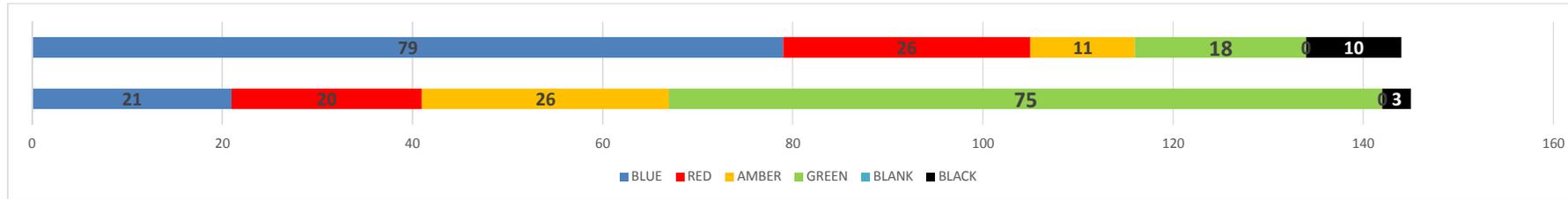
Directorate

	Revised Budget £'000	Revenue Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Variance %
Resources	42,094	41,625	-469	-1.1
People - Poverty and Prevention	6,576	5,794	-782	-11.9
People - Social Services	111,614	115,150	3,536	3.2
People - Education	166,876	167,862	986	0.6
Place	57,553	56,549	-1,004	-1.7
Net Directorate expenditure	384,713	386,980	2,267	0.6
Financed from Contingency Fund	2,972	3,511	539	
Total Service costs	387,685	390,491	2,806	
Inflation /Apprenticeship levy	2,000	780	-1,220	
Corporate items		-1,079	-1,079	
<i>Levies:</i>				
Swansea Bay Port Health	86	86	0	
<i>Contributions:</i>				
Combined Fire Authority	12,631	12,631	0	
	402,402	402,909	507	
<i>Capital financing charges</i>				
Principal repayments	16,066	10,654	-5,412	-33.7
Net interest charges	16,643	14,367	-2,276	-13.7
Net Revenue Expenditure	435,111	427,930	-7,181	-1.7
Movement in balances				
General Balances	0	0	0	
Earmarked reserves	-2,295	4,510	6,805	
Total Budget Requirement	432,816	432,440	-376	
Discretionary NNDR relief	400	448	48	12.0
Total CCS requirement	433,216	432,888	-328	
Community Council precepts	1,403	1,403	0	
Total spending requirement	434,619	434,291	-328	-0.1
Revenue Support Grant	239,946	239,946	0	
NNDR	79,141	79,141	0	
Council Tax	115,532	115,204	-328	-0.3
Total financing	434,619	434,291	-328	-0.1

SSFFF/MTFP Saving & Delivery Tracker - Programme/Project

End of Qtr 4

Number of projects BBRAG rated in current month compared to previous month



BBRAG Postion

	Blue	Red	Amber	Green	BLANK	Black
Total BBRAGS	55	40	11	29	0	10
Total £	£ 6,163,000	£ 6,549,000	£ 349,000	£ 122,000	£ -	£ 3,347,000

DIRECTORATE	SAVING TARGET	FIRM	FORECAST	VARIANCE	FIRM %	FORECAST %	Status
PLACE	£ 3,318,000	£ 2,873,098	£ 2,873,098	£ 444,902	87%	87%	GREEN
PEOPLE (Social Services & Education)	£ 7,355,000	£ 4,561,485	£ 4,561,485	£ 2,793,515	62%	62%	RED
CROSS CUTTING	£ 2,455,000	£ 1,400,000	£ 1,400,000	£ 1,055,000	57%	57%	RED
RESOURCES	£ 3,402,000	£ 1,446,855	£ 1,446,855	£ 1,955,145	43%	43%	RED
	£ 16,530,000	£ 10,281,438	£ 10,281,438	£ 6,248,562	62%	62%	RED

Status Classification		Q1- Jun	Q2 - Sept	Q3 - Dec	Q4 - Mar
BLUE	Forecast below target by	0%	0%	0%	0%
RED	Forecast below target by	30%+	20%+	15%+	5%+
AMBER	Forecast below target by	15-30%	10-20%	5-15%	0-5%
GREEN	Forecast below target by	15%	10%	5%	0%

Agenda Item 10.



Report of the S151 Officer

Cabinet - 18 July 2019

Revenue Outturn 2018/19 – Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Purpose:	This report details the City and County of Swansea's HRA outturn compared with the approved revenue budget for 2018/19.
Policy Framework:	Budget 2018/19
Consultation:	Corporate Management Team, Legal and Access to Services.
Recommendations:	It is recommended that (a) the variations detailed in the report are noted;
Report Author:	Ben Smith
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Summary of HRA outturn for 2018/19.

- 1.1 The HRA showed a deficit of £0.625m compared with the original budgeted deficit as outlined in the report to members on 6th March 2018 of £0.097m. The summarised HRA is set out in Table A in the Appendix.
- 1.2 The main reason for this overspend and movement against original deficit of some £0.528m is set out below:-

Item	£m
Planned increased contribution to fund capital expenditure	3.029
Reduced management/revenue repairs costs	-0.434
Reduced capital charges	-1.349
Increase in Bad Debt provision	0.131
Additional income	-0.849
Net overspend	0.528

- 1.3 The increased contribution to fund capital expenditure was as a result of the planned use of existing balances and savings from the current year as set out above to minimise the borrowing requirement.
- 1.4 The decrease in management and revenue repairs costs was mainly due to lower than expected employee costs and additional Capital fee income partially offset by an increase in the cost of revenue repairs.
- 1.5 The previously adopted treasury management strategy of 'internalising' the HRA capital financing requirement has been beneficial to the HRA in recent years. However to mitigate: the ongoing Brexit risks, the increasing interest rate environment and working cashflow requirements, it was determined prudent to externally fund the capital financing requirement by PWLB borrowing at historically low interest rates. The underspend in capital charges in year is as a result of material slippage in the capital programme.
- 1.6 The increase in the contribution to the bad debt provision arose because of the impact of Universal Credit which has led to an increase in rent arrears.
- 1.7 The additional income was due to a number of factors, namely as a result of the allocation of the week 53 rent income apportionment, the receipt of an Affordable Housing Grant from Welsh Government which was not anticipated until 2019/20, and lower void numbers.

2. Reserves

- 2.1 The opening balance for the year was £6.781m. With the final 2018/19 use of reserves of £0.625m the closing balance is £6.156m. The summary reserves position including budgeted usage for 2019/20 is set out in Table B in the Appendix.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 There are no legal implications.

4. Equalities Implications

- 4.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report. Equality impact assessments are carried out in respect of HRA budgets at the time that budgets are approved.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix A

Table A: Summarised HRA 2018/19

Classification	Original Budget 2018/19	Actual 2018/19
	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Management and Maintenance	29,657	29,354
Capital Charges	11,085	9,736
Revenue Funding for capital schemes	24,471	27,500
Total Expenditure	65,213	66,590
<u>Income</u>		
Rents and other income	65,116	65,965
Use of balances	97	625
Total Income	65,213	66,590

Table B: Movement in Balances 2018/19 to 2019/20

Description	£000's
Actual balance at 1 st April 2018	6,781
Actual transfer from Reserves 2018/19	-625
Actual balance 31st March 2019	6,156
Budgeted use 2019/20	-403
Forecast balance 31st March 2020	5,753

N.B. Actual usage in 2019/20 will be dependent upon final Capital requirements including slippage of schemes from 2018/19.

Agenda Item 11.



Report of the Section 151 Officer

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Capital Outturn and Financing 2018/19

Purpose:	This report details capital outturn and financing for the year ended 31 March 2019.
Policy Framework:	Budget Plan 2018/19.
Consultation:	Cabinet Members, Executive Board, Legal Services and Access to Services
Recommendation:	It is recommended that the net under spending of the approved budget of £27.979m is carried forward to 2019/20.
Report Author:	Ben Smith
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer	Rhian Millar

1. Background

- 1.1 The original capital budget approved by Council in February 2018 for 2018/19 totalled £106.702m (excluding the waste provision). During 2018/19 this figure was increased by £17.788m to give a revised budget of £124.490m (excluding waste provision).

The net increase in the capital budget was the result of:

- a) The addition of both grant funded and Council funded schemes after Council approved the original programme,
- b) Delayed spending from 2017/18 carried forward into 2018/19.

2. **Outturn 2018/2019**

- 2.1 Capital outturn in 2018/19 on the approved budget was £96.511m, an under spend of £27.979m which is detailed in Appendix A.
- 2.2 Apart from a small number of exceptions, the under spends in the capital budget represent delayed spending on approved schemes. As such, the unspent budget will need to be carried forward to 2019/20 in order to complete schemes in progress. It should be recognised that capital schemes are complex projects which are often faced with a host of issues including legal (planning, procurement etc.) and operational (budget, ground conditions, weather, contractor availability/viability), which can offer considerable challenges to the delivery timetable. The main underspends are set out in Appendix C. Project Managers have provided appropriate explanatory narrative where appropriate.
- 2.3 Some schemes were overspent when compared with budget but these were largely re-profiling issues where spend was delivered ahead of the original in year profile and spend for the project was contained within the overall approved budget
- 2.4 Appendix A shows the breakdown of Capital Expenditure and variances in respect of individual Directorates and highlights the sum of £43.029m spent on HRA properties during the year.
- 2.5 Notwithstanding the under spending mentioned above, the capital outturn represents a significant expenditure on a number of major projects. Appendix B lists projects with expenditure in excess of £0.5m.
- 2.6 The final outturn position represents one of the largest ever capital spending programmes delivered by this Council in a single year and was close to the original budgeted programme value. The challenging stretch target set by adding to the overall capital programme in year has helped deliver, as planned, a larger proportion of the capital works. The delays predominantly around schools sites and city centre works have had clear and obvious reasons already well documented and reported.

3. **Financial Implications**

- 3.1 2018/2019 capital expenditure will be financed as follows:-

Financing Requirement	
	£'000
Unfinanced sundry creditors 2017/18	3,096
2018/19 ledger capital spend	96,511
To be financed sundry creditors 2019/20	-5,288
Spend to be funded in 2018/19	94,319

Financing 2018/19	
	£'000
Supported Borrowing	8,387
Unsupported Borrowing (GF plus HRA) 2018-19	22,451
Grants and Contributions	32,794
Revenue contributions to capital	30,439
Earmarked capital receipts	248
Total financing 2018/19	94,319

4. **Legal Implications**

4.1 There are no legal implications.

5. **Equalities and Engagement Implications**

5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report. A full analysis of equalities implications is carried out as part of the annual budget process and any expenditure detailed in this report is on approved schemes.

Background Papers:

None

Appendices:

Appendix A - 2018/19 Capital Programme Outturn Summary

Appendix B - Capital Projects with spend in excess of £0.5m

Appendix C - Capital Projects Underspent in excess of £0.25m

2018/19 Capital Programme Outturn Summary

Appendix A

Directorate Comparison	Original Budget 2018/19 £'000	Revised Budget 2018/19 £'000	Outturn 2018/19 £'000	Net Over / (Under) spending £'000
Resources	4,845	5,185	997	(4,188)
People	14,018	10,364	6,245	(4,119)
Place	87,839	108,941	89,269	(19,672)
Total	106,702	124,490	96,511	(27,979)

Budget Book Comparison	Original Budget 2018/19 £'000	Revised Budget 2018/19 £'000	Outturn 2018/19 £'000	Net Over / (Under) spending £'000
Education (including 21st Century Schools)	14,018	9,076	5,375	(3,701)
General Fund Services	34,791	67,709	48,107	(19,602)
HRA	57,893	47,705	43,029	(4,676)
Total	106,702	124,490	96,511	(27,979)

Capital Projects with spend in excess of £0.5m

Appendix B

Project	£'000
Carriageway resurfacing and footways (including Highways Invest to save schemes)	5,304
Active Travel strategic and local schemes (highways)	2043
LTF and LTNF including SW Wales metro, active travel and strategic bus corridor improvements	1,807
Swansea Central Phase 1 and enabling works	5,201
Musgrave Engine House repairs (within Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme)	695
Kingsway Infrastructure works	4,415
IT - laptops and accessories	604
Leisure centre capital improvements (Freedom contract)	904
Plantasia - capital improvements	801
Pentrehafod Comprehensive School remodelling	3,418
Education other than at school new build	607
Schools building capital maintenance	3,619
Housing Disabled Facilities Grants	4,109
Mini adaptation grants	525
Sandfields Renewal Area	658
Property investment portfolio	8,242
Buildings capital maintenance (non-schools)	1,531
<i>HRA: various schemes</i>	
HRA new builds	941
HRA Improvements to British Iron & Steel Dwellings	1,124
HRA Wind & Weatherproofing (including Hi-rise flats)	6,222
HRA Refurbishment (mainly Kitchens & Bathrooms)	19,710
HRA regeneration and repairs including Easiform properties	7,570
HRA Landscaping & Enhancement	3,498
HRA Energy Efficiency (including Boiler Replacements)	1,104
HRA Tenant Adaptations Programme	2,792
Total of schemes in excess of £0.5m	87,444

Capital Projects Underspent in excess of £0.25m		Appendix C
Project	£'000	Comments
Education		
Gorseinon Primary new build	866	Re-profiling of spending to reflect impact of unavoidable slippage as a result of legal processes.
Pentrehafod Comprehensive School remodelling	841	School is complete, the underspend is re-profiled to reflect outstanding payments and retentions.
YGG Lon Las New School	306	School is complete, the underspend is re-profiled to reflect outstanding payments and retentions.
YGG Tirdeunaw new build	436	Re-profiling of spending into 2019/20 reflecting revised timescales for procurement processes.
YGG Tan-y-Lan new build	280	Re-profiling of spending into 2019/20 reflecting revised timescales for procurement processes.
Education other than at school new build	259	Re-profiling of spending into 2019/20 reflecting contractor issues.
Digital Services		
IT - laptops	2,013	The spend on these capital schemes are dependent on the speed of the Agile programme rollout. This is determined by both facilities and digital resources and is subject to change year on year.
IT - mobile phones	446	
Finance		
Finance capital contingency	973	The Finance capital contingency exists to enable the S 151 Officer to support any unfunded, unplanned, capital expenditure in year. As such, underspend is to be expected.
Highways		
Bridges and retaining walls	581	The underspend relates to four schemes which will be carried forward for delivery in 2019-20 (Lone Road highway improvement works, Duvant retaining wall replacement, Baldwins bridge concrete repairs and Newton House retaining wall replacement)
Corporate Property		
Pipehouse Wharf Relocation	935	The underspend is due to an inability to secure alternative premises for Pipehouse Wharf services during 2018/19. The underspent budget continues to be required and carried forward into 2019/20 to secure land / premises to enable the relocation of Pipehouse Wharf.

Economic Regeneration & Planning		
Swansea Central Phase 1	4,362	The underspend on Swansea Central is due to delays with the City Deal approval and PCSA. The unspent budget will be carried forward for delivery in 2019/20.
Kingsway offices design and planning	782	Following the masterplan review, the initial forecasts have been revised to more accurately reflect the activities and projected spend across the Kingsway Digital Village and Strategy Development workstreams, resulting in an underspend in 2018-19, which will be carried forward to 2019/20 and 2020/21.
Kingsway demolition	271	Completion of works now expected to be achieved in July 2019/20 due in the main to the requirement of unforeseen remedial works.
Housing (GF)		
Property Appreciation (Homefix) loans	602	The Cabinet approved FPR 7 report on Disabled Facilities & Improvement Grant programme 2019-20 agreed £250,000 allocation of Homefix 2018-19 underspend to fund Homefix loans assistance in Sandfields as part of Sandfields Renewal Area exit strategy arrangements, with a further £100,000 for Sandfields exit contingency and £56,129 for DFG & MAG overspends. The remaining £200,000 of funding shall be utilised in the general capital programme
Sandfields	828	FPR 7 report on Disabled Facilities & Improvement Grant programme 2019-20 agreed carry forward of Sandfields Renewal Area funding underspend in 2018-19 into 2019 -2020 to fund slippage in remaining scheme programme.
HRA		
Kitchen & Bathrooms C1	1,251	Contractor programme delays and increase in access/drop out levels has meant that some properties have slipped into 2019/20 and savings have accrued which will be utilised for other schemes in future years.
Kitchen & Bathrooms C2	1,462	Contractor programme delays and increase in access/drop out levels has meant that some properties have slipped into 2019/20 and savings have accrued which will be utilised for other schemes in future years.
Kitchen & Bathrooms C3	1,641	Contractor programme delays and increase in access/drop out levels has meant that some properties have slipped into 2019/20 and

		savings have accrued which will be utilised for other schemes in future years.
External facilities	382	Procurement issues (now being resolved) has meant properties have slipped into 2019/20
External Facilities (Penlan)	285	Slippage due to weather and contractor progress issues has meant works have slipped into 2019/20
External Facilities (Arennig)	476	Slippage due to weather and contractor progress issues has meant works have slipped into 2019/20
Total underspends greater than £250k 2018/19	20,278	

Agenda Item 12.



Report of the Chair of the Economy & Infrastructure PDC & Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration & Tourism

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Re-imagining Wind Street

Purpose:	To grant approval to officers to progress the potential implementation of the Feasibility Study by developing further proposed plans to facilitate its delivery particularly in regards to funding.
Policy Framework:	Swansea Central Regeneration Framework (SCARF), Local Development Plan (LDP) and Purple Flag.
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal, Development & Physical Regeneration, EU & External Funding, Planning & Control, Highways & Transportation, Community Safety, Licencing, Economy & Infrastructure Policy Development Committee (PDC), Swansea BID (Business Improvement District), Safer Swansea Partnership and South Wales Police.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The principles of the Wind Street Feasibility Study are approved as the over-arching framework for the physical regeneration of Wind Street, subject to a more detailed design and approval process.2) Cabinet approve the silver model scheme outlined in the report to proceed to the detailed design stage and that Officers be permitted to progress applications for funding.3) A further report is prepared setting out the detailed designs, explicit costs, detailed EIA report including action plan to incorporate further consultation and engagement, and confirmation of the funding arrangements prior to final decision on this scheme.
Report Author:	Lisa Wells
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Deb Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report summarises the key findings of the recent Feasibility Study, *Re-imagining Wind Street* which was jointly commissioned by the Council and Business Improvement District (BID). The Feasibility Study, which is attached as Appendix A, provides design concepts to guide the physical regeneration of Wind Street according to a preferred Bronze, Silver and Gold development pathway each consisting of several projects.
- 1.2 This report will also show how the Feasibility Study has considered the current and proposed future role of Wind Street as a key component of the City Centre leisure offer and how the scheme forms part of the wider portfolio of developments taking place across the City Centre.
- 1.3 Details as to the key considerations in delivering the Feasibility Study including the opportunities to access capital funds, secure external funding and options regarding a phased approach are also provided.

2.0 Existing Position

- 2.1 Wind Street is the main entertainment district in the City Centre which is a very popular destination for those seeking a night out in Swansea. On weekends and key evenings thousands of people visit the area given the variety and choice of pubs, clubs and eating establishments that are available within a compact geographic area.
- 2.2 At present, Wind Street is subject to an annual Road Traffic Order which enables it to be pedestrianised on Friday, Saturday and Bank Holiday Sunday evenings from 19.00pm until 6.00am the following morning.
- 2.3 During the week Wednesday and Thursday evenings are also pedestrianised which reflects the popularity of these nights particularly among students. Wind Street is also closed to traffic during key sporting fixtures such as the 6 Nations Rugby tournament as well as on Beaujolais Day and in the lead up to Christmas.
- 2.4 The current method of pedestrianising Wind Street is through the manual placement of cones, barriers and signs by Council personnel at either end of the street. These are stored and left in situ each day which detracts from the attractiveness of the area.
- 2.5 There are automated lifting bollards in place which have recently been commissioned as part of a trial. However, these are not fully functional at present. They are also not robust enough to prevent a vehicle from gaining deliberate access whilst the set-back position of the bollards at the junction of Wind Street/ Victoria Road is problematic.

3.0 Strategic Context

3.1 *Creating a vibrant and viable City Centre and economy* is a key corporate objective for the Council and provides the strategic context for supporting the recommendations set out within this report.

3.2 The *Swansea Central Regeneration Area Framework* or SCARF for short, which was adopted by the Council in February 2016, provides a strategic framework for how the Council will achieve this goal and regenerate the City Centre.

3.3 The SCARF identifies the key development sites in the City Centre and includes an appraisal of Wind Street. According to its Accessibility and Connectivity Strategy the principal of introducing a shared space/ low speed environment or pedestrianising Wind Street is endorsed.

'The Priority Area will continue to be an attractive mixed-use part of the City Centre based on its historic character and its emphasis on leisure and entertainment. Its role in linking the City Centre with the waterfront should continue to evolve through new development and enhance active pedestrian routes.'

3.3 As one of only two areas in Wales to have a Purple Flag, Swansea City Centre's evening and night time economy has been recognised since February 2014 for its high standards of management and the strength of its partnerships. Purple Flag is underpinned by several core themes, including the free movement and well-being of the public which offers support for the improvements proposed as part of the Feasibility Study.

3.4 Wind Street has been a key priority for the Policy Development and Delivery Committee (PDC) for Economy & Infrastructure. PDC has provided support and advice regarding the process of the inception and development of the Feasibility Study as well as endorsing the proposals it contains.

4.0 Background

4.1 During the implementation of the EU funded Waterfront City Project the opportunity arose to fully pedestrianise Wind Street. However, this was not considered a political priority at the time and funds were redirected to other projects within the Waterfront City programme.

4.2 Since then Swansea BID, which represents the businesses within the area, has lobbied the Authority to bring forward a scheme on the basis of its economic benefits.

4.3 In 2016 BID surveyed the businesses on Wind Street to gauge their support with over 90% of respondents being in favor. This was followed by a wider consultation exercise which was undertaken by City Centre Management on behalf of Highways and Transportation which galvanised support from the businesses as well as residents and started to test the servicing and access needs of the area.

- 4.4 This research highlighted the following key factors:
- Improving the attractiveness and appeal of the area.
 - Increasing safety.
 - Concerns about traffic congestion in and around the City Centre.
 - Concerns about access to premises by the public particularly elderly and disabled people.
 - Commercial opportunities associated with the expansion of outdoor seating areas and for events.
- 4.5 The ability of businesses to service their premise was also critical. The research found however that many businesses have rear access and the majority of loading takes place in the morning.
- 4.6 Following the reporting of the consultation results, support and funding was secured to commission a feasibility study jointly with Swansea BID. The objective of the study was to develop and test a range of suitable options and provide a preferred approach together with outline costs for the physical regeneration of Wind Street.
- 4.7 The Consultancy Brief, which also included the production of a delivery strategy to progress the scheme from concept to reality, required the following key factors be taken into account:
- Planning and the conservation and heritage status of the area.
 - Existing and ongoing maintenance of the public realm.
 - The wider servicing requirements of the street.
 - Location and type of street furniture.
 - Approach to premise licencing.
 - Management and development of pavement cafes.
 - Highway network issues.
 - Footfall.
 - Events.
 - Visitor experience.
 - Uses (daytime, evening and night time economies).
 - CCTV coverage.
 - Parking provision.
 - Occupation of commercial and residential premise.
 - Topography.
 - Connectivity of development sites within the City Centre.
 - Taxi provision.
 - Governance and on-site supervision arrangements.
- 4.8 External regeneration consultant Owen Davies Consulting was procured to oversee the project which commenced in January 2018 and was completed earlier this year.

5.0 Feasibility Study Process

- 5.1 The Feasibility Study, which is appended (Appendix A), was developed according to a series of set stages underpinned by a process of collaboration and consultation with identified stake-holders.

5.2 The key objectives of the Feasibility Study were:

- Great emphasis on pedestrian prioritisation.
- Improvement to the physical and economic environment to support the day, evening and night-time economies.
- Support for businesses to be creative, inspiring and ambitious with their day and night-time operations.
- Creation of a more inspiring landmark destination and enhance the brand and character of Wind Street.
- Examination of the way the street is regulated, managed and maintained, and identify ways for a more efficient and safer Wind Street.
- Consideration of how Wind Street will coordinate with other City Centre regeneration projects.

5.3 As part of its execution the Feasibility Study reflects on the changing evening and night time sector as well as the national security context. Research on Wind Street past and present in terms of its history and uses now and over the decades is also provided as well as a look to the future regarding its relationship with other development projects particularly the Digital Arena and Castle Square. Given the investment in these areas for leisure use it is imperative that Wind Street keeps pace to provide a complimentary offer.

5.4 As part of its analysis of Wind Street, the Feasibility Study identifies security, access and movement, street lighting and CCTV, heritage and conservation, building use and events, use of outside space, patterns of use, sun path/ trees, materials and components and management of the ENTE as the key issues and opportunities for potential interventions.

5.5 From the base-lining process, the following 8-point *Vision for Wind Street* has emerged.

Wind Street should become a place that:

- *Is hospitable, attractive and showcases the best of the city's heritage and built environment.*
- *Is accessible and welcoming to all.*
- *Inspires and encourages existing and new businesses to diversify their offer and create a first-class evening and night time destination.*
- *Retains its exciting edge but also welcomes all ages and interests through a wide variety of dining, drinking and entertainment experiences throughout the days and nights.*
- *Is safe and secure from major threats and minimises and manages nuisance activity.*
- *Supports businesses in carrying out their day to day operations.*
- *Provides opportunities for events, festivals, markets and performances.*
- *Celebrates the best of Swansea and becomes a foundation to the city's identity and brand.*

5.6 89% of respondents participating in the consultation that was undertaken as part of the scheme gave their support to the overall vision as well as the draft proposals outlined below.

6.0 Feasibility Study Proposals

6.1 Each of the proposed projects for improving Wind Street are summarised as follows, some of which are stand-alone whilst others are interdependent.

6.2 The results of a public and stake-holder consultation exercise, which included both an on-line survey and engagement event, are shown below in regards to most of the recommended measures.

6.2.1 *Improved Security Measures*

- Install PAS 68 Rated vehicle deterrent fully automated bollards with remote access at either end of the street and undertake associated junction alignment works.

6.2.2 *One-Way Street (88% support)*

- Devise a new Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to create a one-way vehicle system with ingress at the Castle Square junction to the western end of the street and egress at the eastern end onto Victoria Road.

6.2.3 *Controlled Access*

- Amend the existing road closure to minimise vehicle movements and implement a controlled access system that allows access for loading and unloading and for disabled customers.

- 82% of consultees supported controlling vehicle access throughout the day and 86% agreed that the existing road closure period should be extended through-out the week.

6.2.4 *Reduced Road Width & Increased Pavement Area (91% support)*

- Capitalise on the introduction of a one-way system to realign the road and reduce its width to create a corresponding increase in pavement and public areas.

6.2.5 *Defined External Seating Spaces*

- Following on from 6.2.4 above, develop protocols to provide more clearly defined and uniform outdoor seating areas using the additional pavement space available to facilitate businesses to expand and create new pavement cafés.

6.2.6 *Fixed Boundary System for Seating Areas*

- In conjunction with 6.2.5 above, implement a proprietary system for a fixed boundary treatment to define the outside seating area. Options include the use of fixed removable metal posts and infill panels.

6.2.7 *Use & Management of Pavement Areas (85% support)*

- Update the existing Pavement Café scheme to encourage more applications from businesses with the aim of increasing the level of day time and early evening activity and diversifying the demographic of visitors to the area, in particular families.

Unifying and streamlining the licencing system, introducing a flat rate based on square footage and relaxing the conditions to allow the use of cutlery and glassware are among the ideas that have been presented

together with trialling such a scheme on Wind Street.

6.2.8 *Formal Public Space (90% support)*

- Given the proposals above regarding the reduced dominance of the vehicle route, utilise the additional space to create more substantial formal public spaces at key locations, for example at the junction of St Mary's Street. Install new furniture and infrastructure such as Wi-Fi and pop-up power points to encourage events and activities.

6.2.9 *Gateway Features & Lighting*

- Replace the existing aging 'blue-style' street lights with the new city-wide standard.
- Replace the current pea lights in the trees, which are nearing 'end of life' with an easier to maintain and more cost effective solution.
- Develop and install an artistic landmark feature or features at gateways /key junctions to help establish a distinct identity.
- Incorporate ornamental lighting and effects.

6.2.10 *Tree Management*

- Improve the maintenance of the existing trees; specifically explore opportunities to reduce the density of the tree canopies to allow more natural light onto the street.

7.0 Phasing Options

7.1 In response to the Brief, subject to the availability of funding, the consultants have prioritised each of the proposed measures according to a Bronze, Silver and Gold proposition which can be delivered in phases according to a development pathway.

7.2 Bronze represents the most basic scenario focusing on vehicle mitigation, controlling vehicle access and the associated realigning of the immediate junctions.

7.3 Silver includes the core components of the Bronze scheme plus realigning and resurfacing the carriageway, repointing and creating new paved and public areas and replacing the street furniture and public lighting.

7.4 Gold incorporates both Bronze and Silver elements plus those measures that will enhance the identity and character of Wind Street as a landmark destination. Gateway and art work features, feature lighting and a boundary system for external seating areas are among the gold-star plans.

7.5 In terms of updating the existing Café Licencing Scheme, whilst this will entail a significant amount of officer time, providing that internal resources allow, this process could be undertaken separately to the physical regeneration works subject to which there is potential to generate additional income for the Council. It would however be opportune to dovetail this process with the wider measures being proposed to create additional space and pavement areas.

8.0 Delivery & Risks

- 8.1 The Feasibility Study provides a high level conceptual design strategy to upgrade Wind Street which is reflected in the outline costs in Paragraph 9.0 and programme for delivery.
- 8.2 According to the delivery plan which sets out the key steps to the delivery of the project, a 27 month programme is predicted from the point of, securing the funding for the capital works and corporate approval to proceed to the completion of the physical works on site. The programme will include the formal EIA process from the outset running in parallel with, and directly informing the detailed design including as part of that engagement and consultation.
- 8.3 Whilst this is an extended timetable which would be subject to the extent of the measures approved, it is contingent on a number of risk factors many of which have been identified within the Feasibility Study by the consultants.
- 8.4 The availability of funding and the ability of the Authority to provide officer resources to oversee the project are the most immediate issues that require resolution. Detailed design will be procured, and accessibility considerations will form part of the brief to the procured design team, informed by the detailed EIA process.
- 8.5 Following detailed design there will be specific consultation on key aspects such as traffic proposals, as well as further consideration by Cabinet prior to any final decision on implementation.

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 A cost assessment to deliver the scheme in its entirety or in part is included in the Feasibility Study, a summary of which is provided below:
- *Bronze Model:* £680,000
 - *Silver Model:* £1,477,000
 - *Gold Model:* £2,214,000
- 9.2 These estimates are indicative of the approximate level of investment that is required according to the conceptual nature of the measures being proposed.
- 9.3 Whilst a detailed design will clarify more precisely the actual sums involved, the Feasibility Study has facilitated discussion both internally and with external partners regarding how the project might be funded.
- 9.4 As an independent company limited by guarantee, Swansea Business Improvement District (BID) is eligible to source an interest free Town Centre Loan. This scheme, which is administered by the Council on behalf of Welsh Government, aims to support projects which help regenerate towns and city centres across Wales.
- 9.5 Whilst confirmation of the funding is subject to an application and quality assurance process, discussions regarding the affordability and terms of a

potential loan have been undertaken with BID over several months. Agreement in principal has been reached to apply for approx. £28,200 during the current BID term which extend runs until 2021.

- 9.6 These sums represent the annual BID levy that is currently generated by the occupiers located on Wind Street.
- 9.7 As part of this arrangement, BID would be involved in the delivery of the Feasibility Study. In addition, it has been agreed that a percentage of the revenue generated by the Café Licencing Scheme on Wind Street would be re-directed to help fund projects that support the management and development of the area.
- 9.8 As a largely capital project, external funding sourced at a regional level by the Council through the Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme (TRI Programme) is available and can be used in combination with the Town Centre Loan to support the delivery of the Wind Street scheme. As one of several local strategic projects, early indicators suggest that a formal application would be supported which would generate approximately £500,000.
- 9.9 In order to secure this funding, a capital investment by the Council will be required to provide the necessary level of match funding to support the TRI bid. The internal funding that would be required for the silver level would be circa £1,000,000 which could be derived from current unallocated city centre capital allocations listed in the 2019 capital budget. In addition, consideration is being given to a revised licencing charging structure for street furniture although charge levels are restricted by “full cost recovery” only
- 9.10 Given that the total amount of funding that is available from the various sources reported above is £1,528,200, the calculations suggest that the delivery of the Silver Model is possible. Members views are requested on which standard is preferable
- 9.11 In terms of the delivery of the additional measures according to the Gold Model, opportunities can be assessed as the project progresses to secure further funding for subsequent phases. For example, exploring with the individual businesses on Wind Street financing developing their own external spaces, using loans or co-investing. BID have also agreed to consider investing in the area and/or applying for further funding in the subsequent BID term subject to a successful ballot. Particular areas of BID interest include destination branding and street café furniture to provide a more uniform and quality public space.
- 9.12 The table below summarises how the proposed scheme will be funded according to the Silver Model.

PROPOSED FUNDING PROGRAMME:	CCS Capital Programme	TRI Programme	Town Centre Loan via BID	TOTAL (£)
PROPOSED SUMS (£):	£1,000,000	£500,000	£28,200	£1,528,200

9.13 It is recommended that Members approve implementation of the outline scheme on the basis of the funding package above. It is also recommended that further funding be pursued by officers to bring forward enhancements according to the Gold proposition.

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 In the event that a decision is made to permanently close Wind Street to vehicular traffic because it is considered no longer necessary (or should be diverted) then an application to the Magistrates Court can be made by the highway authority to permanently close the highway.

10.2 The highway authority must give notice, at least 28 days before the application is made, to certain prescribed bodies and must display the notice at the ends of the highway. At least 28 days before the day on which the application is made, the highway authority must also publish notice in the London Gazette and in a local newspaper. The application must not be made if, within two months from the date of service of the notice, the district council, parish council or chairman of the parish meeting have, by notice to the highway authority, refused to consent to its being made. At the hearing before the Magistrates' Court, the applicant and any person to whom notice is required to be given, and any person who uses the highway has a right to be heard. The application by the highway authority for a stopping up order is treated by the Court as being by way of complaint, and so any person whose objection results in the order not being made is entitled to recover his costs from the order-making authority.

10.3 It may be necessary to implement a new Traffic Regulation Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 in the event of a change to the current arrangements which are currently in force on Wind Street.

10.4 The Council will need to comply with the terms and conditions attached to any grant funding utilised in conjunction with the regeneration match funding budget identified in this report. This will include specified outputs as per the funding programme requirements.

10.5 All contracts for works, goods and services necessary to deliver the projects must be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the relevant EU Regulations as appropriate. The contractual liabilities/ obligations of the Council and any appointed contractors will be covered by the individual contracts entered into.

10.6 All statutory consents required in proposals to utilise the regeneration match-funding budget will be the responsibility of the Planning and City Regeneration Division.

10.7 A FPR7 report will be prepared for approval once the complete funding package has been secured and is fully defined.

11.0 Equality & Engagement Implications

- 11.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 11.2 The Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that due regard has been paid to the above.
- 11.3 In order to comply with the relevant equality regulations, an Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form has been completed. The Screening Form is attached as Appendix B.
- 11.4 It is recommended that a full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) be undertaken. In terms of the timings of the EIA, this will be undertaken during the next stage in the project and the development of detailed designs, the outcome of which will be formally reported and subject to formal consultation processes. .
- 11.5 We do recognise even at this early state there then maybe some potential equality implications, for example disabled users and older people may be impacted. These potential implications will be fully explored and consideration will be given to minimising the potential impact within the design process.
- 11.6 A process of consultation with a wide range of internal and external stake-holders was undertaken as part of the development of the Feasibility Study, the information derived from which was used to help shape the development proposals. It is anticipated that a similar approach will be undertaken in regards to the detailed design implementation of the Study if approved.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices:

- Appendix A Reimagining Wind Street – Feasibility Study.
Appendix B Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form.

RE-IMAGINING WIND STREET

FEASIBILITY STUDY



© 2017 Google

All maps within this document are:

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey with permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office (C) Crown copyright.

Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution/ civil proceedings.

CLIENT ISSUE / REV 05 / 20.02.2019

This document has been prepared by Owen Davies and Ewan Smith on behalf of Swansea Council and Swansea BID



CONTENTS



	FOREWORD	5
1)	INTRODUCTION	6
2)	A TIME OF CHANGE	8
3)	SETTING THE SCENE	10
4)	A VISION FOR WIND STREET	16
5)	STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT	20
6)	HAVE YOUR SAY	26
7)	COST & BENEFITS	28
8)	STEPS TO DELIVERY	32
9)	TIMELINE	34
10)	THE NEXT STEPS	36

(SEE SEPARATE APPENDIX FOR SUPPORTING BASELINE INFORMATION)

FOREWORD

“Our City is on the cusp of an unprecedented period of development and growth. The investments being made by the Council and its partners via the City Deal are not only nationally significant, but are quickly becoming the catalyst and momentum for international inward investment in our City. We are already seeing serious interest from sector leading organisations as far afield as New Zealand and France, and this trend is set to continue as we deliver our exciting regeneration programme in the months and years ahead.

When I became Leader in 2014, I made it very clear that our regeneration aspirations went far beyond the delivery of strategic projects such as the Digital Arena and Digital Village on Kingsway. Yes, these are critical projects to create employment and GVA growth in key sectors within our City, but our City is so much more than that. That is why it is with great pleasure that I receive this feasibility study for the regeneration of Wind Street. In years gone by this part of our City performed a vital commercial role in our economic development, especially during the Copper industry period. In recent times Wind Street has successfully reinvented itself, becoming a popular leisure destination for the evening and night time economy. The options for environmental enhancements set out in this feasibility study will help consolidate Wind Street’s important leisure role within our City and broaden and diversify its appeal to existing and new audiences alike. By respecting its conservation area status, with sensitive and appropriate enhancements, I am confident that Wind Street will thrive and prosper, adding to the mix, distinctiveness and vitality of our City Centre. I therefore commend this strategy and look forward to seeing the vision for Wind Street translated into reality.”



Councillor Rob Stewart
- Leader of Swansea
Council and Cabinet
Member for Economy
and Strategy



Juliet Luporini
- Chair Swansea Business Improvement District

“Wind Street has been central to the story of Swansea City Centre for many years and it is now, more than ever, a fulcrum of its economic success. As such, Swansea Business Improvement District, our BID area members, and our partners across the City Centre, are alert to the fact that its vibrancy and its future must be safeguarded and nurtured, in order to ensure the continued success of our City Centre.

With this in mind, we are very pleased to see this important feasibility study set out a bold, exciting, achievable vision for Wind Street - this important link between the City Centre and the waterfront, which already has such a strong identity and brand.

It is fitting that these old plans for Wind Street are being laid down in detail in 2019, just as full focus is being levelled at the wholesale regeneration of Swansea City Centre. There are many changes unfolding in the City Centre as we speak. We can be proud of the progress made so far and all of us with a vested interest in the future of Swansea City Centre are looking forward to seeing the effects of regeneration upon the fortunes, the make-up and the personality of Swansea. Our city has always had a very strong sense of itself. We have always acknowledged the quirks and anomalies that give our city some of its unique character. I hope the regeneration, and this important re-imagining of Wind Street, gives us all renewed pride in the many great traits to be found in our City Centre – our hard-working and entrepreneurial businessmen and women, our enviable night life and thriving night time economy and – most of all – our ambition to meet the challenges presented to us by shifting economic climates and changing shopping habits, by being flexible and imaginative in the plans we make and enact, to safeguard Swansea’s future.”

1) INTRODUCTION

Swansea Council and Swansea BID (Business Improvement District) are developing regeneration aspirations to improve the Wind Street pedestrian and business environment. The area provides a significant evening, night-time, leisure and entertainment focus for the city centre, and provides an important pedestrian link between the city centre and the waterfront.

The idea of improving Wind Street has been discussed for several years, and strong political, stakeholder and business support has grown for a range of interventions to make the street safer, inclusive, pedestrian friendly and a more appealing and varied drinking and dining destination. To help move this initiative forward, Owen Davies Consulting and Element Urbanism have been appointed to prepare a feasibility study for concept ideas that are technically robust, costed and deliverable, should sufficient resources become available.

Key objectives of the feasibility study include the following:

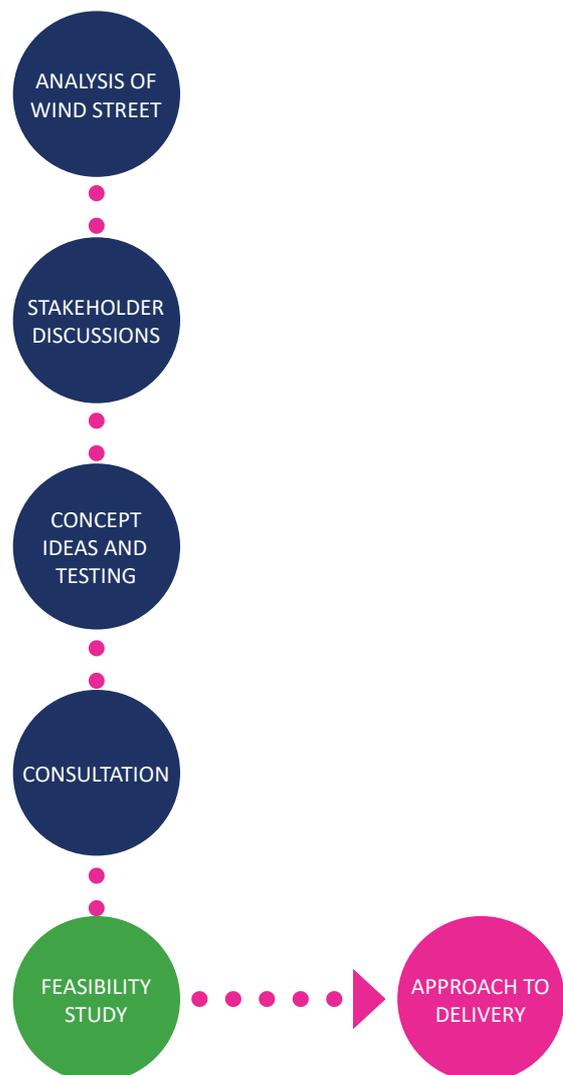
- Greater emphasis on pedestrian prioritisation.
- Improvement to the physical and economic environment to support the day, evening and night-time economies.
- Support for businesses to be creative, inspiring and ambitious with their day and night-time operations.
- Creation of a more inspiring landmark destination, and enhance the brand and character of Wind Street.
- Examination of the way the street is regulated, managed and maintained, and identify ways for a more efficient and safer Wind Street.
- Consideration of how Wind Street will coordinate with other city centre regeneration projects.

The study area covers Wind Street, including consideration as to how it relates to Castle Square, and the connecting street of St Mary's, Green Dragon Lane, Salubrious Place and Little Wind Street.

This document provides a brief summary of the feasibility study exploring potential improvements to Wind Street and refers to a separate and more detailed appendix which catalogues other baseline data which supports the study.

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

The proposals have been developed through a series of stages, as summarised in the diagram below. This collaborative approach has included surveys of the local businesses and residents, and several individual meetings. Discussions have also taken place with key senior Council officers and councillors, Swansea BID and the Police. The information gathered has provided a clear foundation upon which the strategy for Wind Street has been shaped.



WIND STREET PAST & PRESENT

If you are from Swansea, Wind Street, the liveliest street in the city centre, is popularly known as 'Wine Street'. This is believed to be derived from Wyne Street (1567) with 'wine' derived from waun (Welsh for meadow) or possibly the wine importers historically associated with the street. The curve of the street mirrors the original course of the River Tawe from where goods were traded from ships moored along the river bank. Fortifications have been present in Swansea since the early 12th century, and the visible remains of Swansea Castle, located at the top of Wind Street, date from the late 13th or early 14th century. They remain a significant landmark in the city centre. The commercial development of Wind Street continued into the 19th century, with clock and nautical timepiece-making businesses, banks, accountants and other services occupying architecturally impressive buildings. Many of these buildings remain and help to make Wind Street arguably the most historically significant and attractive street in the city.

During the 1990's the commercial uses gradually disappeared, and Wind Street became better known for its pubs, bars, clubs, and restaurants. With the growth in licensed and late-night premises, the area has not always maintained a good reputation and in recent years, has often been linked with drunkenness and bad behaviour. It should be recognised that the crowded streets and late night 'eclectic mix and edginess' of Wind Street, is part of its appeal and identity however, the negative aspects of its reputation have lessened its appeal to a wider customer base.

Today there are a small number of businesses offering some outside seating, and in recent years, the casual and family dining sector has established a foothold, although currently this lacks the critical mass to be considered a vibrant daytime and evening destination for all ages.

This project presents an opportunity to transform Wind Street both visually and operationally, to help change mindsets and customer behaviours – and incentivise businesses to respond by altering the nature of their operations, particularly during the day and early evening. Physical improvements will not achieve the transformation on their own, as branding and communication strategies will also play an important role however, they will act as a catalyst to help drive a more holistic change.



2) A TIME OF CHANGE



THE CHANGING EVENING & NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

A healthy and vibrant Evening and Night Time Economy (ENTE) is known to make a significant contribution to the competitive position and prestige enjoyed by towns and cities and generates 'symbolic capital' where the ENTE contributes towards the image and status of a place. The quality of the ENTE is also a visitor attraction in its own right, with people seeking out locations with the top restaurants, venues and events. However, in recent years, there have been notable societal shifts that have created new challenges for the operation and management of destinations such as Wind Street.

For example, the traditional '9 to 5' working day is gradually giving way to more flexible lifestyles and employment patterns which in turn is blurring the distinction between what has traditionally been offered by café's, restaurants, bars and clubs at different times of the day.

The ENTE has also seen consumer tastes and demands shift with the drinking of alcohol in sharp decline among young people. Research has shown that 25% of people aged 16-24 describe themselves as 'non-drinkers' while between 2005 and 2015, the percentage drinking above the recommended limits dropped by 15% and just one in ten perceiving drinking as 'cool'. This is an important consideration for the ENTE in university cities such as Swansea.

Increased consumer caution is also fuelling pressure on the casual dining sector, with high-profile operators including Prezzo, Byron and Jamie's Italian all shutting down restaurants resulting in significant job losses. With around half of the UK's night club venues also closing in the last 10 years, the face of the ENTE is dramatically changing.

At the same time, the ENTE is serving a much more mature audience, as young people generally look for different experiences or go out less often.

In economic development terms, the ENTE has a close interaction with the growth of media, digital/tech sectors and young enterprise, where a cool, vibrant hospitality sector often thrives alongside.

Some of the key challenges that influence the planning, growth, development and management of Wind Street include:

- Adaptation of traditional venues to suit new activities/trends.
- Changing the look - more 'dry' food led venues and a need for venues to respond to customers' demands for casual dining in 'cool' and 'al fresco' environments.
- More opportunities to provide street entertainment and festivals with a 'wow' factor.
- Creating safe, well managed destinations that strike the right balance between effective management, flexibility and innovation in response to changing consumer tastes and demands.

THE CHANGING SECURITY CONTEXT

In recent years there have been a number of significant 'vehicle as a weapon' (VAW) attacks both in the UK and overseas. This type of attack is regarded by terrorist groups as an attractive attack method because it is low complexity, cheap, requires little skill and is perceived as less likely to be detected in the planning phase. This type of attack type has been used by terrorists to target crowded places.

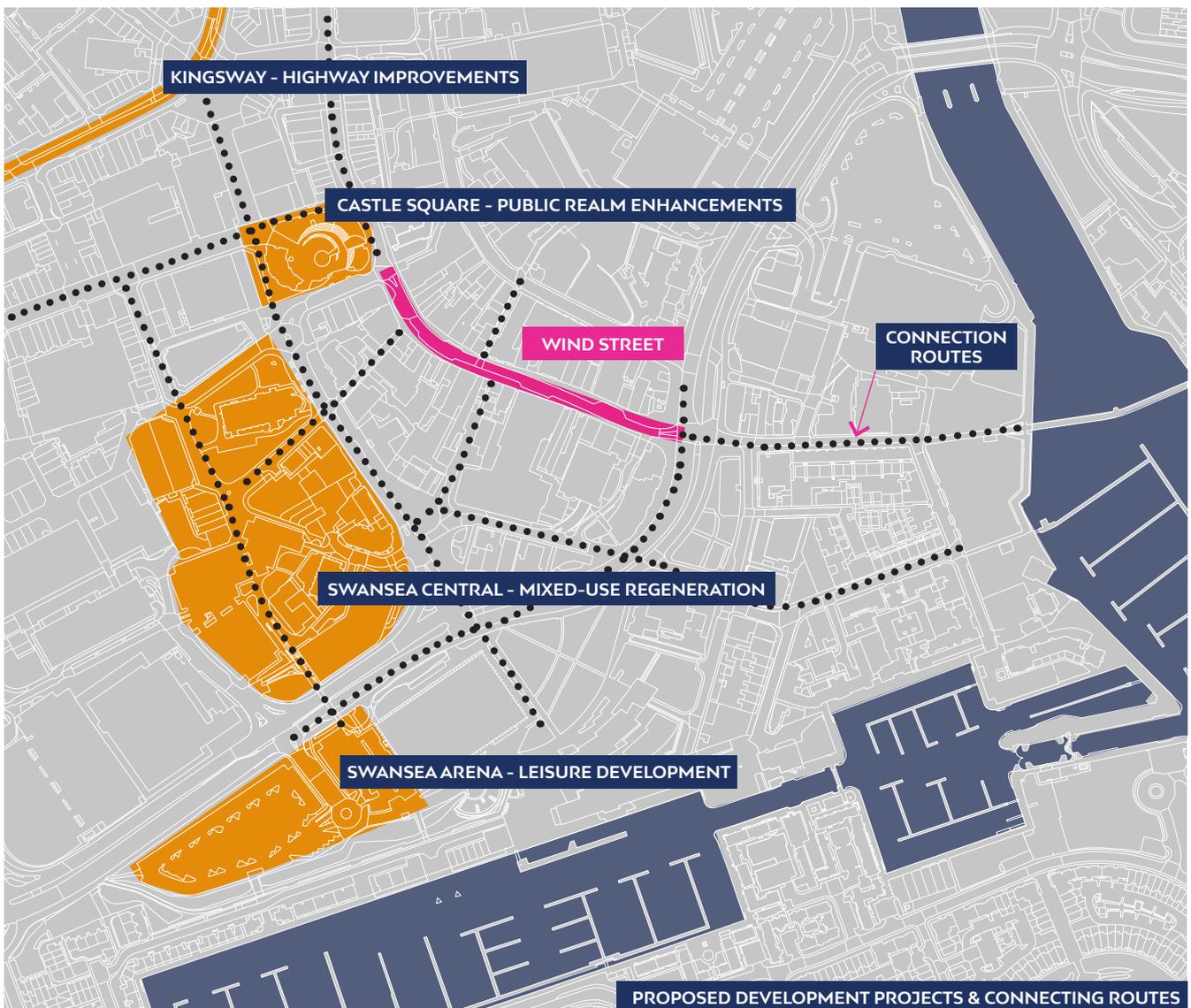
The vulnerability of crowded places to an attack by a vehicle, to breach a perimeter, ram and damage infrastructure, or as a weapon to injure and kill people is a modern-day risk underpinned by the UK government currently setting a 'Severe' threat level for International terrorism. Introducing or upgrading appropriately designed security measures is necessary when considering improvements to crowded places or locations where major events may also take place.

SWANSEA'S CHANGING CITY CENTRE

Wind Street is located in the Swansea Central Area, which is a regeneration priority set out in the adopted Swansea Central Area Regeneration Framework (SCARF) (2015). The aim is to bring a more vibrant and balanced mix of leisure, culture, retail, office and residential uses.

SCARF identifies Wind Street as a 'central hub' for leisure and entertainment and is one of several interconnected regeneration areas in the city centre that share the same ambition for creating more distinctive and enlivened spaces. Wind Street will become a natural southerly extension of the enhanced public space proposed for

Castle Square which will link with both the remodelled Kingsway and the forthcoming Swansea Central 3,500 capacity digital entertainment arena. As well as the new physical links, these redevelopments will have an influence on the character and role of Wind Street, as they all share the aim of developing the city centre offer for food, drink and entertainment. In addition, new student and residential developments will help to reinvigorate the city centre and potentially support the ENTE however, careful consideration will be required to ensure their successful cohabitation.



3) SETTING THE SCENE

The key objective underpinning the project, is to realise the full potential of Wind Street in terms of its architectural heritage, its civic role and its function as a focus for city’s dining, drinking and entertainment economy. Through its transformation, Wind Street could become a much-loved asset to the city, and a place with a reputation that is worthy of its historic significance. In support of this aim, the feasibility study has been methodical in identifying issues and opportunities for potential interventions. This section outlines some of the key considerations to be addressed.

SECURITY

In response to recent acts of terrorism elsewhere in the UK and overseas, there has been a UK wide call to action to devise plans to harden the security of popular areas where large crowds regularly gather. An assessment of Swansea has been undertaken in conjunction with WECTU (Welsh Extremism & Counter Terrorism Unit), to identify areas that would benefit from additional protection. Wind Street is one of four local priorities.

The existing automated bollards to the north and south entrances of the street are not currently operational, and are not to a standard (i.e. PAS 68) that would prevent a large vehicle entering Wind Street in the event of an accident or a deliberate attack. This is also the case in relation to the other fixed and removable bollards in the street. Note that at the time of writing, measures are being taken to make the automated bollards operational.



CURRENT ROAD CLOSURE METHOD



SUMMARY ANALYSIS DRAWING



ACCESS & MOVEMENT

Open access for all vehicles applies on most weekdays, with restrictions in place on Friday, Saturday and Bank Holiday Sunday evenings from 19.00 until 06.00 (11 hours). Other days of the week include Wednesday and Thursday evenings and during key sporting fixtures such as the 6 Nations Rugby tournament and in the lead up to Christmas. Automated bollards are in place at both ends of the street although they are not currently operational and any closures are controlled by manually placing signage and moveable bollards.

Wind Street currently has two-way vehicle access and traffic levels are considered low for a city centre location. The primary vehicle use of the street is for deliveries to the businesses and the previous plan (pages 10-11) identifies four loading bays which are in regular use. (Note that these bays will be removed and replaced with pedestrian paving by March 2019 as part of planned highway improvements works for Wind Street). In addition, several businesses receive deliveries from the rear of their property. There are also two areas of Blue Badge parking providing a total of six spaces located towards the centre of the street. Parking is otherwise prohibited in Wind Street. The vehicular use of the street is set out in a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

Normal daytime pedestrian footfall is also modest. The street connects the city centre with the docks and is also accessed via four side streets / passages. However, the significant new development proposed in the city is likely to increase pedestrian traffic. There is a pelican crossing located to the middle section of the street however, with the low levels of traffic pedestrian safety when crossing the street is not currently an issue.



EXISTING STREET DOMINATED BY CARRIAGEWAY & PARKING

A meeting with the Disability Liaison Group highlighted a number of issues regarding ‘access for all’:

- Street clutter especially with regard to A-boards.
- Occasional trip hazards.
- The lack of clear and permanent boundaries to seating areas.
- Concern regarding the loss of Blue Badge parking
- Potential of losing the ability to be dropped-off or picked-up by vehicles at any point in the street.
- Concern regarding the potential of a ‘shared surface’ environment.
- Perception that the street is often unwelcoming.

STREET LIGHTING & CCTV

The street is lit by standard columns which are positioned at regular intervals and in alignment with the trees which allows unobstructed pedestrian routes. The lighting levels are considered to achieve a good balance between effectively lighting the space for safety and CCTV reasons, without compromising the ambience of the street. The style of the columns and lanterns however, has recently been superseded within the city centre by a new range and the improvements project should take the opportunity to replace them.

The LED pea lights located within the tree canopies are a highly effective and popular feature of the street. They have low running costs however, the high maintenance costs of the lights and a conflict with the management of the trees should be considered within the proposal.

CCTV monitoring is an important element in the management of the street and should not be compromised by future proposals. This should include the continued maintenance of the raised tree canopies and consideration of surveillance in areas potentially covered by canopies and parasols.

HERITAGE & CONSERVATION

Wind Street is a designated Conservation Area and in terms of its heritage, is possibly one of the finest streets in Swansea and an important example in Wales.

Its alignment and gracious curve, originate from its function as a key route through the centre of the emerging settlement, which ran parallel to the line of the River Tawe.

The eastern (river) side of the street dates mainly from the mid to late 19th Century and contains many very fine examples of Victorian commercial architecture, the Mackwork buildings (No's. 9-10) being the finest.

The western side of the street is older. The frontage is mainly late 18th and early 19th Century built in soft red brick, typical of the Georgian period. However, with much of the medieval street and court pattern remaining, it is likely that many of the building structures also date back to this period. This area is unique to Swansea and as important as any in Wales.

Listed buildings tended to be concentrated in the central area of Wind Street, and either side of Salubrious Place and Green Dragon Lane which hints at the historical importance of this cross roads route with Wind Street.

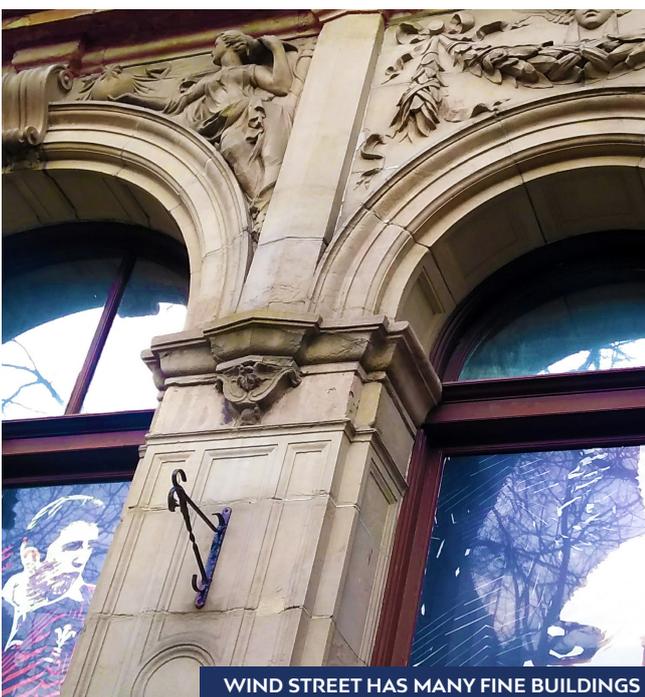
BUILDING USE & EVENTS

There are over 35 ground floor businesses fronting onto Wind Street of which 80 % are licensed premises ranging from independent and branded traditional pubs, bistros, night clubs and restaurants. A small number of retail and fast food takeaway outlets are also present.

In recent times, given changes to the nature of the type of occupier on Wind Street, more premises are providing in-venue entertainment such as live bands and entertainment. There are also examples of meanwhile uses and pop up entertainment taking place. This is enhanced by some on- street activities such as organised busking through the Council's Busk Til Dawn scheme and events; The Swansea Fringe in September being the most notable. Beaujolais Day in November is a much-celebrated occasion in Swansea and on Wind Street and appeals to a wide audience and attracts many visitors from outside the area. Other events that have previously taken place in Wind Street include the Festival of Transport and Swansea Half Marathon. The level of existing on street activity is encouraging, and there is the opportunity to promote, through new events spaces and commercial opportunities, additional on-street events and activities in line with a Wind Street scheme.

USE OF OUTSIDE SPACE

Swansea Council operates a Café Licenses and A-board Licenses system for the use of the pavements areas by businesses in the city centre. Less than a third of the licensed venues on Wind Street officially provide an outside seating/dining area, although observations suggest that less than half of these venues regularly provide seating outside, with the spaces more often used for smoking and standing. The existing licensing system has an official 9.30pm cut off time that reduces the opportunities of using the outside spaces for later evening seating, and a 'plastic glasses only' outside condition applies to all venues and is known to put off many customers.



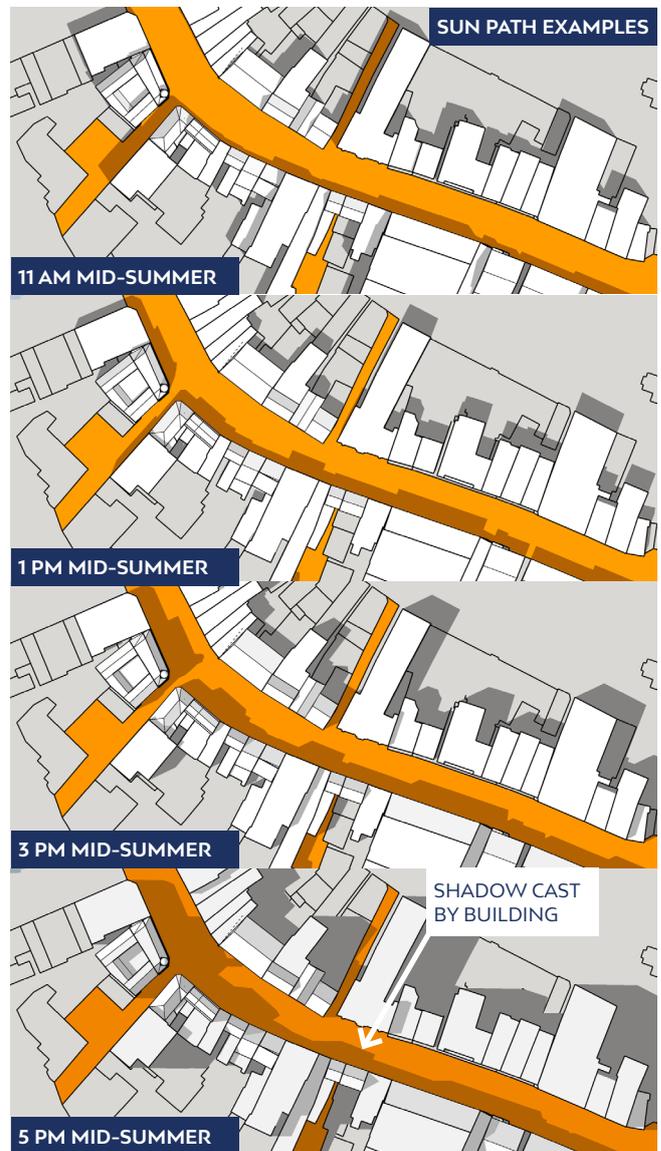
PATTERNS OF USE

The character Wind Street visitor experience differs according to the time of the visit. During the day, whether that's weekday or weekend, the street is typically quiet up until around 8pm with small pockets of activity centred around the casual dining offer and stag and hen party trade on weekends. On weekends and bank holidays footfall typically starts to increase from early evening with user levels, mainly among those under 25 years, spiking from approximately 11.30pm onwards. This is also the case in terms of Wednesday student nights during term time.

SUN PATH / TREES

The general alignment of Wind Street is north-west to south-east with its western end aligned more steeply to the north. With relatively tall buildings (approximately 12m high) along its length, access to the sunlight is restricted – especially the south side of the street. However, during the summer months the north side of the street enjoys good access to sunlight along most of its length throughout the day. The adjacent diagrams are taken from a sun path analysis exercise that mapped the shading effects of the buildings by using a computer model of the street.

The 20 mature Plane trees located in Wind Street contribute to the street's attractive and genteel character and the biodiversity value of the city centre. Although only approximately 20 years old, the trees have grown tall within their restricted space and, despite their raised canopies, the current density of their foliage notably increases shading on the north side of the street.



MATERIALS & COMPONENTS

The paving used for Wind Street's pedestrian areas is primarily a Yorkstone slab of UK providence and grey granite kerb stones. These materials have been applied consistently throughout the street and are generally in excellent condition and compliment the architecture and character of the Conservation Area. Issues with the joint width have been reported and the mortar has been washed out in many areas following street cleansing. The road surface is hot rolled asphalt.

Some areas of granite sett paving used in parking and loading bays are currently being replaced by extending the pedestrian paving, as they have been loosened by vehicle movements and present a pedestrian trip hazard. This work is anticipated to be completed by March 2019.

Compared to many urban street environments, Wind Street is not considered to be overly cluttered with street furniture. However, there are some localised cluttering issues which are often exacerbated by the use of A-boards and street cafés. The styles of bollard, bench and bins etc., are also inconsistent.



EXCELLENT CONDITION & CHARACTER OF EXISTING PAVING

MANAGEMENT OF THE ENTE

Swansea city centre's ENTE sector is safe and well managed as has been recognised by its Purple Flag status (until recently, the only designation in Wales). This confirms the high standards of management practices that are in place and the strength of the partnerships that are in existence to support the growth and development of the hospitality and entertainment sector. Wind Street possesses a high profile amongst these initiatives as the city centre's most popular and crowded area at night. The improvement and encouragement for innovation and diversification of the existing Wind Street offer, as well as developing a more distinct and relaxed on-street identity, would take place in the context of this well-managed and multi-agency setting.

Both the ENTE Operations Group, led by South Wales Police and the ENTE Strategy Development Group lead by the Swansea Council meet regularly. There is also a Hospitality Group, led by Swansea BID, which provides a forum to engage directly with businesses. Twilight personnel operate on weekends and key evenings with particular focus on reducing vulnerability. The Swansea Street Pastors, Student Volunteers from both local universities, Taxi Marshals, medical staff and Night Time Ambassador situated at the Help Point on The Strand together with Police Officers who patrol the area, adopt an early intervention approach to prevent issues from escalating and to engage positively with visitors to the area.

An ENTE Officer is also employed by Swansea BID in partnership with Swansea Council to engage with the evening and night time businesses on key initiatives and in particular to implement the Best Bar None scheme (34 members to date) aimed at promoting responsible management and operation of licensed premises. A Safe Space Info Point has also recently been trialled on Wind Street with Home Office support. This 'pop-up' facility provides information and support to users of the ENTE. The Help Point medical facility to treat minor injuries and Drop-off point for vehicles, are other initiatives that have been heralded as examples of best practice.



4) A VISION FOR WIND STREET



The starting point for this study is set out in the Swansea Central Area Regeneration Framework (SCARF) (2015) which in reference to Wind Street states:

'This Priority Area will continue to be an attractive mixed-use part of the City Centre based on its historic character and its emphasis on leisure and entertainment. Its role in linking the City Centre with the waterfront should continue to evolve through new development and enhanced active pedestrian routes.'

To help direct and guide the feasibility study forwards from this strategic position, a series of specific objectives have been identified which in combination, establish a 'Vision' for Wind Street. This has been informed by baseline analysis of the key issues and through discussions with the client team and key stakeholders and consultations with businesses and residents, and is detailed as follows.

WIND STREET SHOULD BECOME A PLACE THAT:

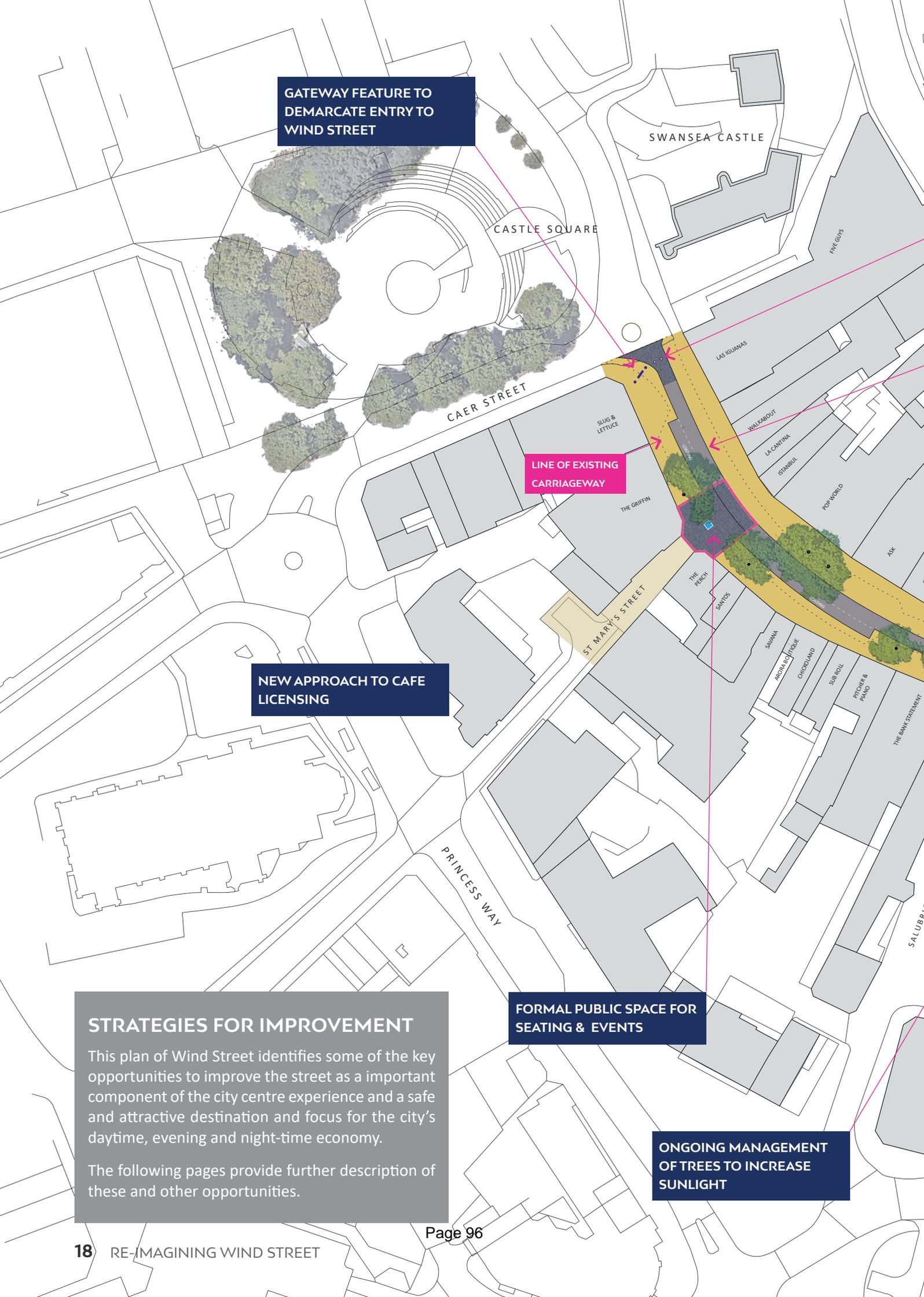
- ▶ IS HOSPITABLE, ATTRACTIVE & SHOWCASES THE BEST OF THE CITY'S HERITAGE & BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- ▶ IS ACCESSIBLE & WELCOMING TO ALL
- ▶ INSPIRES & ENCOURAGES EXISTING & NEW BUSINESSES TO DIVERSIFY THEIR OFFER & CREATE A FIRST-CLASS EVENING & NIGHT-TIME DESTINATION
- ▶ RETAINS ITS EXCITING EDGE BUT ALSO WELCOMES ALL AGES & INTERESTS THROUGH A WIDE VARIETY OF DINING, DRINKING & ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCES THROUGHOUT THE DAY & NIGHT
- ▶ IS SAFE & SECURE FROM MAJOR THREATS & MINIMISES & MANAGES NUISANCE ACTIVITY
- ▶ SUPPORTS BUSINESSES IN CARRYING OUT THEIR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS
- ▶ PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVENTS, FESTIVALS, MARKETS & PERFORMANCES
- ▶ CELEBRATES THE BEST OF SWANSEA & BECOMES A FOUNDATION TO THE CITY'S IDENTITY & BRAND

The adjacent images give an indication of the level of transformation envisaged for Wind Street.

The streetscape which is currently dominated by the road and has limited space for pedestrians and seating would become a people oriented place.

A reduction in the road width would allow generous pavements and businesses the ability to establish seating areas for people to enjoy al fresco dining and drinking amongst the street's fine architecture and mature trees.





GATEWAY FEATURE TO DEMARCATATE ENTRY TO WIND STREET

CASTLE SQUARE

SWANSEA CASTLE

CAER STREET

LINE OF EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY

NEW APPROACH TO CAFE LICENSING

FORMAL PUBLIC SPACE FOR SEATING & EVENTS

ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF TREES TO INCREASE SUNLIGHT

STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT
This plan of Wind Street identifies some of the key opportunities to improve the street as a important component of the city centre experience and a safe and attractive destination and focus for the city's daytime, evening and night-time economy.
The following pages provide further description of these and other opportunities.

VEHICLE CONTROL BARRIER (PAS 68 RATED).

CONTROLLED ACCESS FOR BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS

ONE-WAY ACCESS FOR VEHICLES FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

REDUCED ROAD WIDTH & INCREASED PAVEMENT AREA FOR PEDESTRIANS AND SEATING

VEHICLE CONTROL BARRIER (PAS 68 RATED)

LINE OF EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY

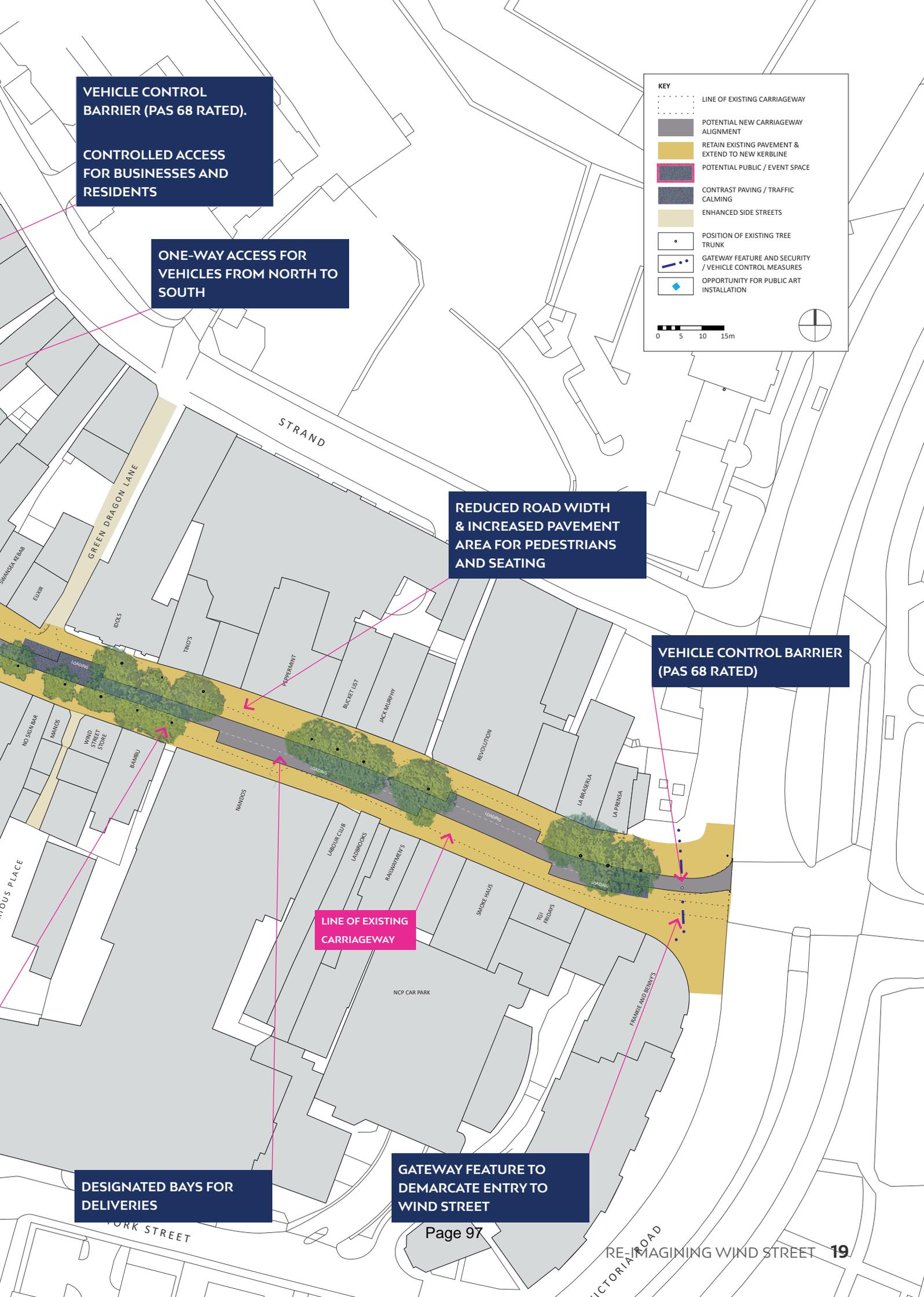
DESIGNATED BAYS FOR DELIVERIES

GATEWAY FEATURE TO DEMARCATATE ENTRY TO WIND STREET

KEY

- LINE OF EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY
- POTENTIAL NEW CARRIAGEWAY ALIGNMENT
- RETAIN EXISTING PAVEMENT & EXTEND TO NEW KERBLINE
- POTENTIAL PUBLIC / EVENT SPACE
- CONTRAST PAVING / TRAFFIC CALMING
- ENHANCED SIDE STREETS
- POSITION OF EXISTING TREE TRUNK
- GATEWAY FEATURE AND SECURITY / VEHICLE CONTROL MEASURES
- OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION

0 5 10 15m



5) STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

IMPROVED SECURITY MEASURES

Given the recommendations of WECTU regarding the security of Wind Street, the provision of PAS 68 rated vehicle deterrent measures are a high priority for this project. Potentially, these measures may need to be installed ahead of any future street improvements scheme. If the measures are installed prior to the main scheme, then they will have to be positioned in accordance with the future arrangements, i.e. a realigned road/junction arrangement based on a one-way system in the vicinity of the controls at each end of the street.

It is likely that the measures will comprise an in-ground, remote controlled rising bollard system and associated signage. The system that is currently installed is not remote controlled, and although not operational at the time of writing, they are to soon to be restored.



GATEWAY FEATURES & LIGHTING

It is anticipated that for consistency, the existing street lights will be replaced with the new city-wide standard street lighting. Beyond this, there is also the opportunity to help define the identity of Wind Street as a fun and exciting night-time destination through the implementation of gateway and other artistic features which may incorporate ornamental lighting and effects. These elements will also contribute to establishing a distinctive brand for the street which should be synonymous with the positive reputation of Swansea.

A popular existing feature of the street which is in operation throughout the year, are the LED pea lights set within the tree canopies. These are cheap to run but expensive to maintain and pose some practical difficulties in terms of pruning the trees where the branches are dressed.

Alternative options that allow easier and more cost-effective management should be explored.



ONE-WAY STREET

Through liaison with Swansea Council's highways team, the implementation of a one-way vehicle system was identified as a clear opportunity for the enhancement of Wind Street as a destination for the ENTE.

Wind Street currently has relatively low levels of vehicular traffic however, its road width is especially wide and also features extensive loading and parking bays. Changing the street's routing to a one-way system would allow a reduction in the road width and a significant increase in the amount of space available for pedestrians and outside seating. This would support the primary aim of the project and have negligible negative impact on general vehicle circulation across the city centre. Further analysis suggests that the optimal routing would allow ingress at the Castle Square junction to the western end of the street and egress at the eastern end, onto Victoria Road.

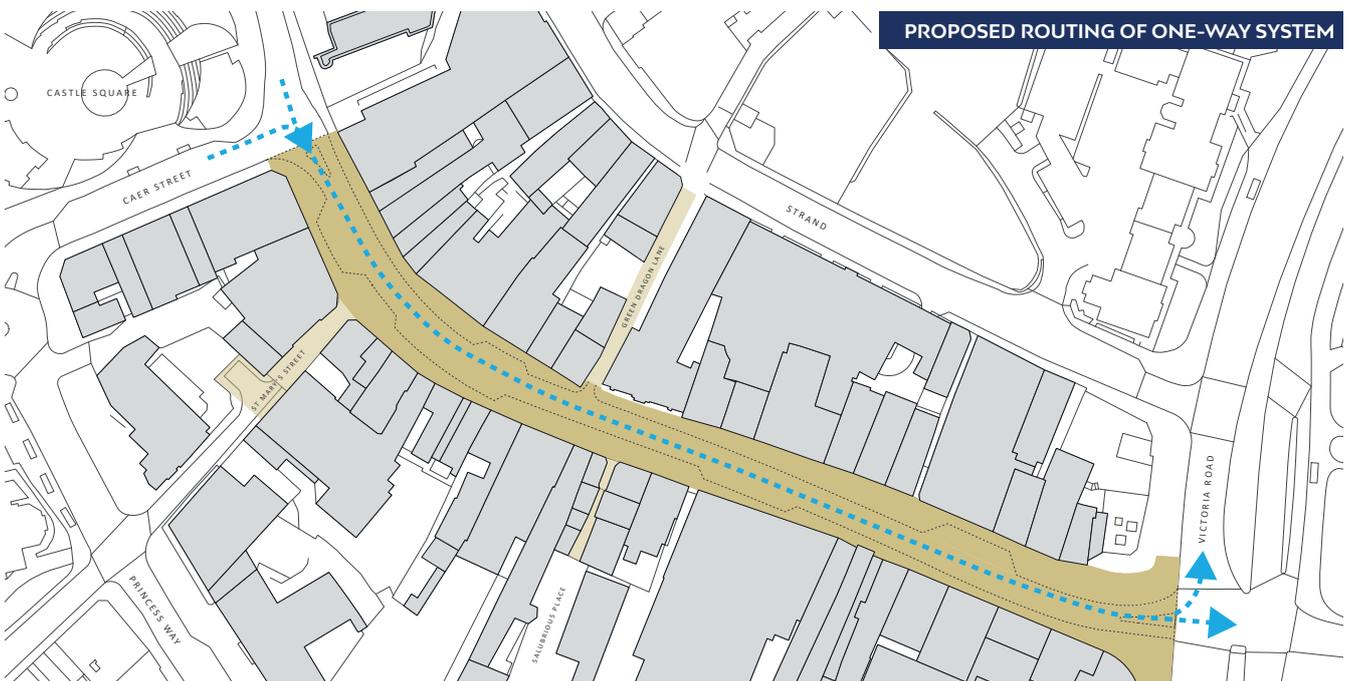
To make Wind Street a one-way street, a new Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) will be required. Where a TRO is relatively simple and attracts few objections, the process should normally take approximately 6-12 months. A TRO for Wind Street presented as part of the overall strategic vision would however, minimise the threat of significant objections being made.

A new TRO should address:

- Details of the restrictions including hours of road closures.
- Parking places (permits, disabled badge holders etc).
- Loading bays.
- Yellow lines, loading restrictions and taxi ranks.
- One-way streets, prohibitions of vehicles, turning bans and vehicle weight restrictions.
- Cycle lanes (in a one-way street, an exemption for pedal cyclists could be considered).

Although possible as part of a phased approach to the works (e.g. in conjunction with the implementation of new vehicle mitigation bollards), safety should be considered, as one-way traffic in the existing wide carriageway could increase vehicle speeds and should be avoided.

The new vehicle arrangements will also require a Road Safety Audit (Stages 1 to 4) to be carried out throughout the design process and post completion.



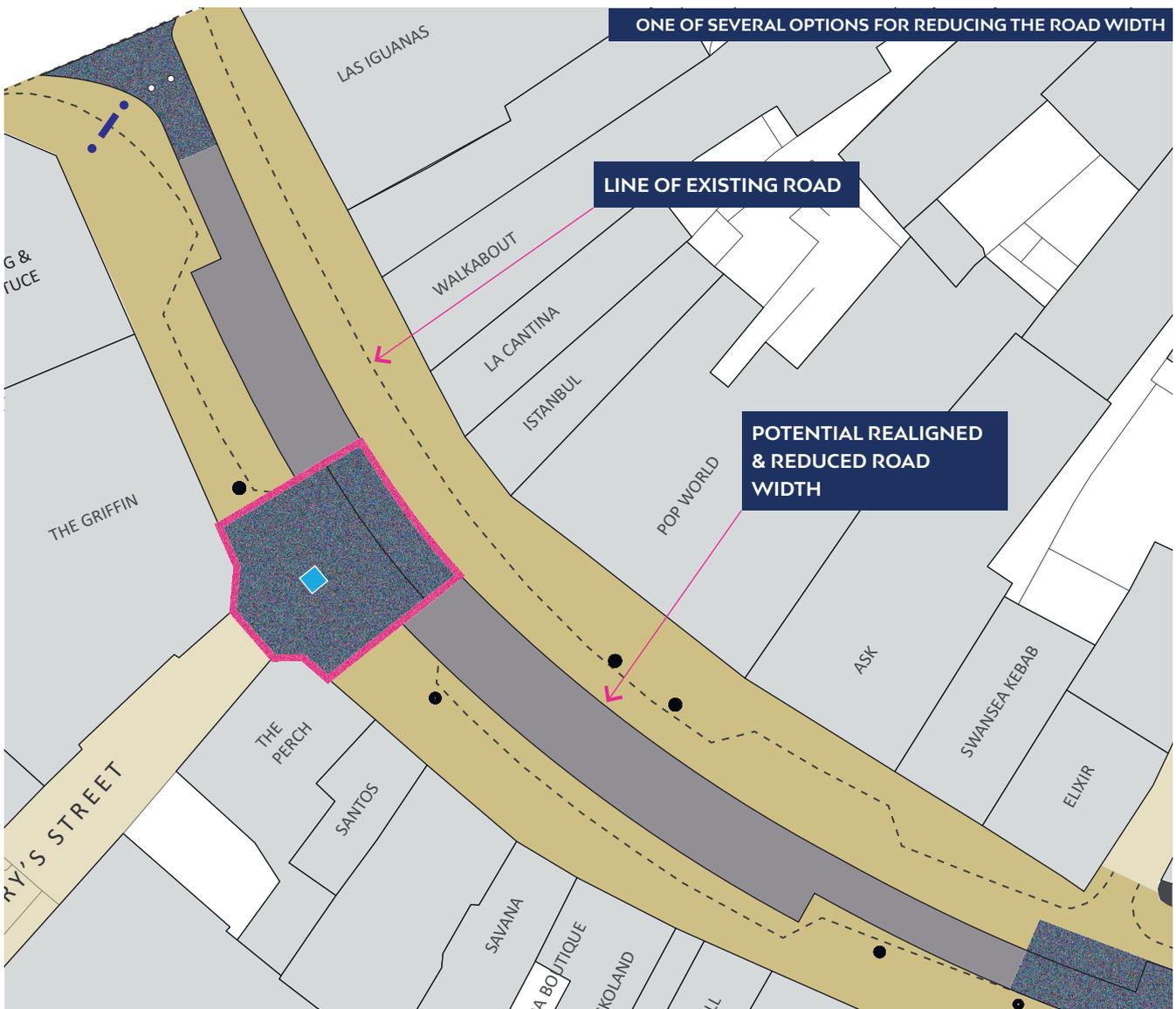
REDUCED ROAD WIDTH & INCREASED PAVEMENT AREA

The primary benefit of introducing a one-way system is the opportunity to realign the road and reduce its width to create a corresponding increase in pavement area.

Initial estimates suggest that this could equate to an increase from 50% of the area being for non-vehicle use, to approximately 70-75%. Of course, through ongoing management of a vehicle access and closure to vehicle traffic at certain times of the day and for key events, the entire street space can become a pedestrian environment.

This will allow a safer and more attractive and accessible pedestrian experience and, provide a significant opportunity for businesses to locate outside seating to expand their offer and collectively redefine the character of the street.

The precise arrangement of the road and pavement will be determined at subsequent detailed design stages however, there are opportunities to align the road, were unconstrained, to benefit most businesses without compromising their requirements for deliveries and servicing.



DEFINED EXTERNAL SEATING SPACES

The significant increase in the non-vehicle area will allow businesses to establish clearly defined outside seating areas to greatly increase their customer capacity and expand their offer. The seating areas could potentially be located either adjacent to the buildings or adjacent to the vehicle route however, for practical and security reasons early survey responses have indicated a general preference for the former, particularly among the businesses i.e. designated areas of seating and tables adjacent to the building.

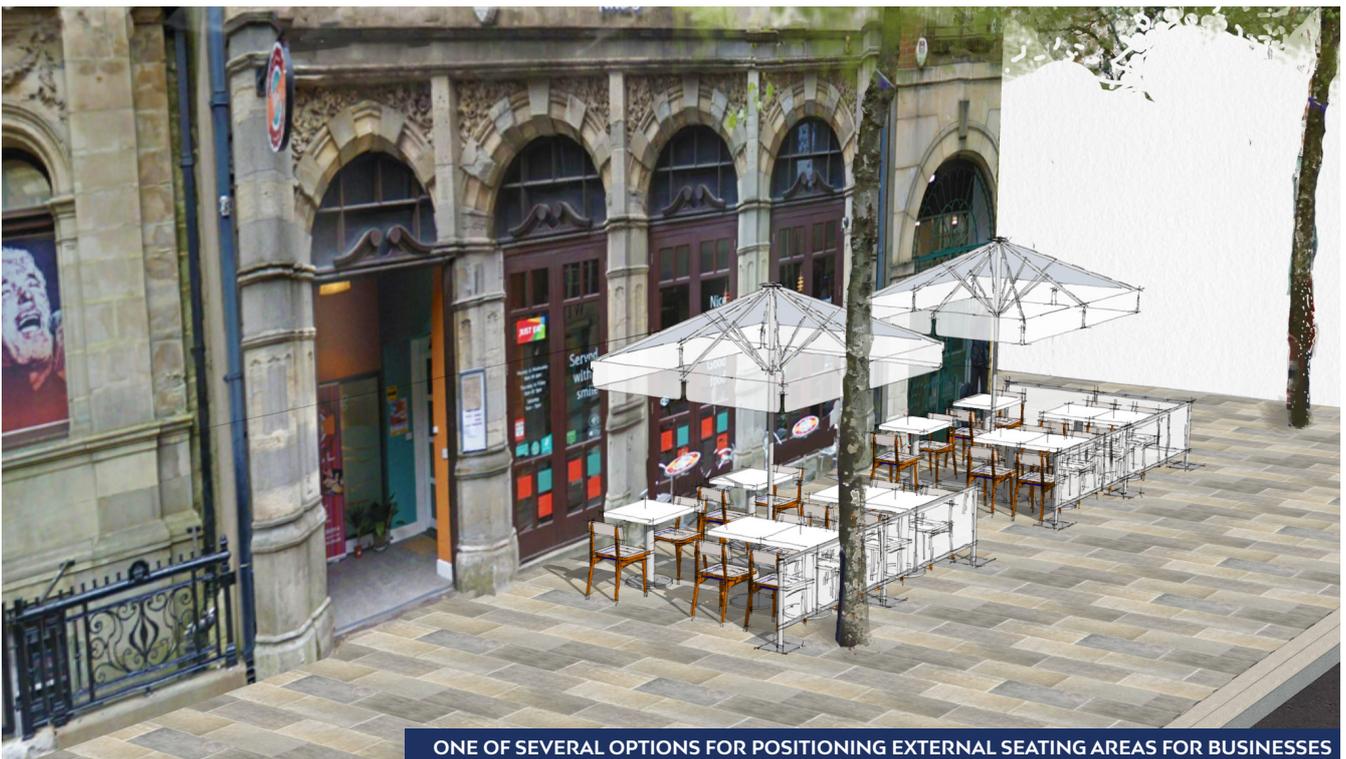
Although the provision of furniture will be the responsibility of the businesses, it is essential that protocols are agreed for the specification, use and management of all elements. This should include standards for fixing, securing or removing furniture so that it cannot be stolen, moved or used as a weapon. The use of canopies and enclosures should also be permitted to extend the seasons and times of day within which these spaces can be comfortably used. This also will require clear and agreed guidance as to the form and robustness of these components and must consider security especially with regard to the use of CCTV.

TREE MANAGEMENT

The street trees make a highly valued contribution to Wind Street's character, appeal and biodiversity in an urban landscape dominated by buildings. However, the trees also cast considerable shade when in leaf (approximately May to October/November) on what would otherwise be sunlit areas. As the *raison d'être* for this project is to enhance the street environment and encourage people to sit outside and enjoy the space, the reduction of access to sunlight is counter to that aim.

Therefore, the project should explore the opportunity of reducing the density of the tree canopies without compromising their biodiversity value and the integrity of their appearance, to allow more natural light into the space. Note that the trees already have a raised crown which is maintained to allow CCTV coverage.

An ongoing challenge to tree maintenance are the LED pea lights which are fixed around the tree limbs. Future strategies should consider an alternative system for these highly popular lights, which allows easy and more cost-effective maintenance of both the trees and the lights.



ONE OF SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR POSITIONING EXTERNAL SEATING AREAS FOR BUSINESSES

FIXED BOUNDARY SYSTEM FOR SEATING AREAS

There is potential to implement a proprietary system for a fixed boundary treatment to define the outside seating areas. Systems in use elsewhere comprise a permanent root anchor fixing set within paving, into which are fixed removable metal posts. A variety of infill panels are available which potentially could be branded for each business.

Although not essential, the benefit of such a system would be to accurately fix an unmoveable legal boundary to each seating area. If used universally, they would also create a uniform appearance to the street which may be considered appropriate to Wind Street's architectural and civic character.

Currently those businesses which have external seating areas, define the edges with a variety of movable and in some cases highly individualistic boundary treatments.



EXAMPLE OF A PERIMETER BOUNDARY SYSTEM

USE & MANAGEMENT OF PAVEMENT AREAS

Alongside the physical improvements, major benefits can be derived from the way the extended pavement areas are licensed, used by businesses and managed. The strategy is to increase the level of daytime and early evening business activity to encourage a relaxed leisure experience for city centre workers, families and visitors to the city. At night time, businesses will have the opportunity to create a different vibe by offering relaxed and sheltered seating areas for both eating and drinking customers. In addition, the extended use of the pavement areas creates potential efficiencies and increased revenue generating opportunities for Swansea Council.

To take full advantage of the physical improvements, a review and amendment of the Café Pavement License system is proposed. Swansea Council should consider:

- Unifying under one permit, the separate licenses for tables and chairs, smoking areas, A-boards and canopies/awnings. This offers potential efficiencies in reduced administration.
- Charge businesses a flat rate for the use of a defined floor area (m²) marked on a plan.
- Set fee at a level that achieves a return on investment from the physical improvements and encourages businesses to take up pavement areas. Cardiff Council has recently set a £40 /m² charge for a similar pilot for Mill Lane.

Whilst businesses will have the opportunity to adapt their operations and grow revenues using the pavement areas, the Council also has the potential to increase revenue and to make savings from a unified system. In the case of Cardiff, the commitment has been made to reinvest the income generated from Mill Lane over a set period of time into the regeneration and maintenance of the street and a similar approach is recommended for Wind Street. The option exists to use Wind Street as a trial area, and if successful to adopt the same approach in other city centre locations.

An important issue concerns the safe use of the pavements and the responsibilities of businesses. The Wind Street strategy is clear with the aim to encourage a more relaxed outside atmosphere, with customers seated for both food with drink. Allowing a large number of customers to stand outside ‘vertical drinking’ that is known to fuel consumption and rowdiness should be avoided. If adopted, a new form of Café Pavement License should be used to drive forward a new ‘modus operandi’ for Wind Street. Recommended conditions include:

- A street café license will only be issued to cafés, restaurants, public houses or other catering establishments that serve food and drink within the premises. Businesses requiring only small smoking areas should be specifically identified and controlled to prevent standing drinking areas.
- Areas must be used for seated customers only, and staff must manage the area at all times.
- All activities associated with the business must be contained within the agreed boundary, this includes all tables, chairs, parasols/awnings planters, barriers/fencing A-Boards etc.
- Furniture and a means of enclosure for the street café area can be semi-permanent and remain outside overnight so long as it is secured, stable and sturdy. It should not be capable of being lifted away or used as a weapon.
- Businesses are allowed to use the pavement areas later than 9.30 pm in accordance with the Premises hours of operation. Activity in the outside space must conform to terms and conditions of the premise licence, including off-sales.
- The licensee will be responsible for the cleanliness of the street café area at all times.
- South Wales Police will be consulted on all street café applications as part of the application process.
- Uniformity of the design of the external café areas will be encouraged.

It is not the intention of the agreement to supersede what premises are permitted to do under the conditions of their Premises License, but to allow the businesses to maximise the use the outside areas in accordance with it. In some cases, this may lead to businesses submitting a minor variation to change a Premises condition and

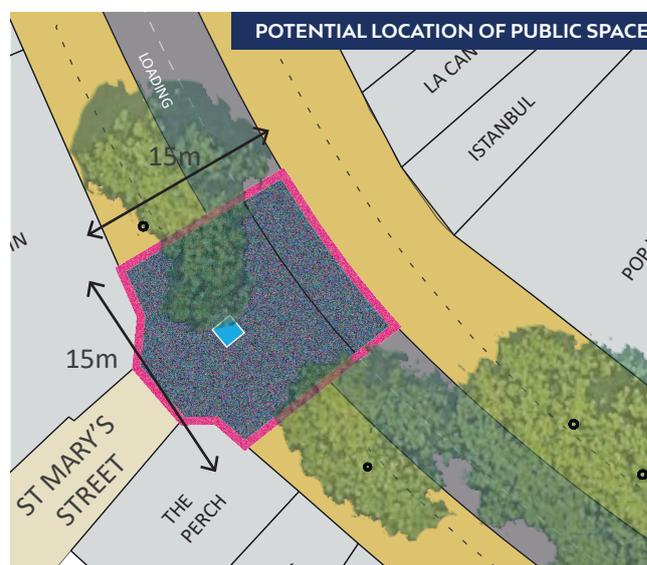
allowing more flexibility in the use the pavement areas. In addition, it is recommended that guidance is drawn up to confirm what permissions are necessary to use the pavement areas such as the need for planning permission for awnings and advertising, and the need for Listed Building consent where applicable.

Using Wind Street as a trial area presents the option to expand to the wider city centres where appropriate.

FORMAL PUBLIC SPACE

The reduced dominance of the vehicle route within the street space also presents an opportunity to create a more substantial formal public space. A likely location for this space would be where the street width widens at its junction with St Mary’s Street, with the side street allowing sunlight into the space. This area would enable the street to accommodate outdoor events comfortably and further enhance the identity of Wind Street as a place for festivities. The day-to-day function of the space would be to provide visitors with an opportunity to sit and enjoy the street environment in what is an otherwise linear space that has few opportunities for stopping.

The scheme should also provide appropriate furniture and infrastructure both here and in other locations throughout the street including seating, Wi-Fi access and pop-up power points to serve street markets and other events.



6) HAVE YOUR SAY

Support amongst businesses and residents for improvements to Wind Street has existed for some time. In recent years both groups have been asked to comment on proposals such as pedestrianising the street and restricting vehicle access.

A Swansea BID survey of businesses in 2016 established over 90% of respondents in favour of pedestrianisation. This was followed by a wider consultation exercise by Swansea Council whereby the views of local businesses as well as residents were tested and the servicing and access needs for the area were considered. The over-all results of which showed that 66% of the sample were in favour of pedestrianising Wind Street. Businesses agreed with the rationale to increase the prosperity of their business, diversify use of the area and extend patronage to families and other groups of non-users and change unfavourable perceptions regarding safety. However, there were some concerns about access to premises for daytime deliveries and access for elderly and the disabled.

The issues and design ideas developed through this study were discussed and tested with businesses, residents and stakeholders. Between January and October 2018, the following activities took place:

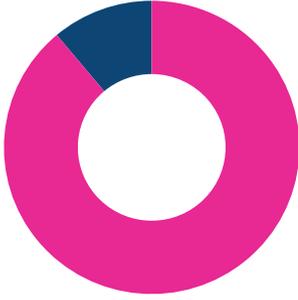
- Initial business and resident survey.
- Officer and stakeholder workshops and meetings.
- Councillor meetings and both Cabinet and Committee presentations.
- Stakeholder meetings e.g. Policing, Accessibility.
- Public exhibition of the draft proposals.
- Business, resident, user and stakeholder survey covering the draft proposals.

There has been a consistent and high level of support for improving Wind Street, and c250 people responded to the public exhibition and survey on the draft proposals. The responses generated an overwhelming level of support for the draft scheme and objectives with c90% support across the businesses, residents and stakeholders (for the full findings see Appendix).

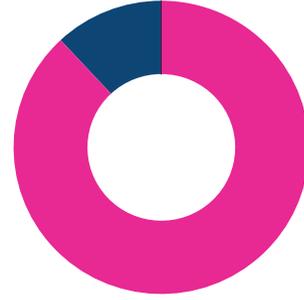
The following graphics illustrates responses to some of the key issues.

Note — the figures refer to business, residents, stakeholder and users combined

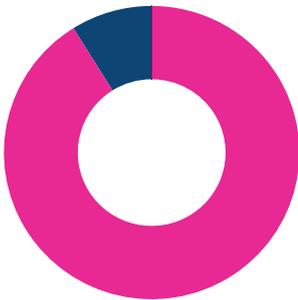




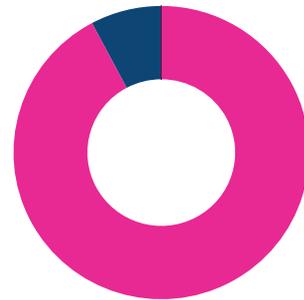
▶ 89% support for the overall vision and draft proposals



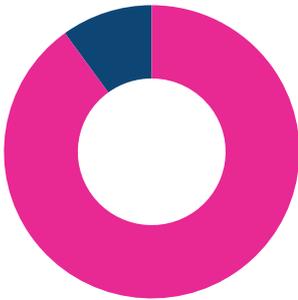
▶ 88% support for making Wind Street one-way



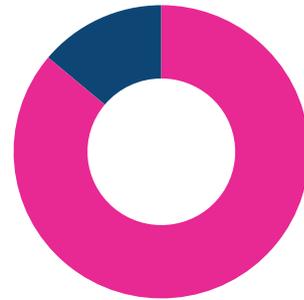
▶ 91% support for narrowing roads and widening pavements



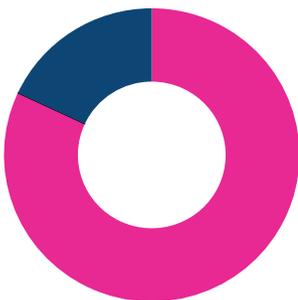
▶ 92% support for increasing outside areas for customer seating



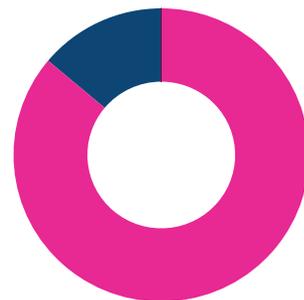
▶ 90% support for more public spaces for events and activities



▶ 85% support for Café Pavement License measures to encourage businesses to provide safe, relaxed outside seating



▶ 82% support for controlling vehicle access throughout the day



▶ 86% support for extending the 7pm-6am road closure period throughout the week

7) COST & BENEFITS

ESTIMATED COSTS

A key requirement of the feasibility study is to estimate the likely capital costs of the scheme's implementation. This will enable officers to explore opportunities for securing internal and external sources of funding, and potential models for the project's delivery either in full, or on a phased basis.

For this purpose, a range of concept schemes were developed and costed by the consultant team. The differences between the schemes mainly focussed on the layout rather than differences in the quality of materials and components, as the optimum strategies for many elements became self-evident through the process. For example, the quality and condition of the existing paving materials used in the street negates the need for their replacement – rather they should be retained and extended. It was also agreed that, new street furniture and lighting should match the preferred components used elsewhere in the city centre, rather than introducing new ranges.

The costing exercise was also tasked with considering implementation through varying levels of intervention which, could also become potential stages in a phased approach to the works. On this basis the works have been broken down into the following Bronze, Silver and Gold scenarios:

BRONZE

This is the 'do minimum' scheme which includes just the vehicle mitigation security measures at either end of the street and associated junction realignment works.

SILVER

This includes all the core components of the improvement scheme but excludes elements that are not essential to the basic operation of the street i.e. the gateway features and artwork, etc.

GOLD

This includes an optional series of elements that are considered to add considerable value to the effectiveness of the scheme such as gateway features, artwork, feature lighting and a boundary system for external seating areas.

A summary of the estimated costs for construction of the scheme are shown on the adjacent table:

NOTES REGARDING FIGURE CALCULATIONS:

The costing exercise was based on an agreed 'working' scheme to provide an approximation of the likely works, and that the precise design of the street will be determined at subsequent stages.

The costing exercise was undertaken in November 2018 and where possible has been informed by figures provided by Swansea Council.

There are potential efficiencies and savings should all the works be completed under one contract and that a delay to the commencement of the works is likely to inflate the overall cost.

* RISK/INFLATION figure as shown in the table includes estimated allowances for:

- Design Development Risks
- Construction Risks
- Employer Change Risks
- Other Risks
- Tender Inflation Estimate (2020 start)

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS

WORKS DESCRIPTION	WORKS (INC PRELIMS, O/H & FEES)	RISK/ INFLATION *	TOTAL FOR EACH SCHEME	RUNNING TOTAL (FOR COMBINED SCHEMES)
BRONZE				
VEHICLE MITIGATION SECURITY				
- INCLUDING PAS 68 AUTOMATED BOLLARDS / REALIGNED JUNCTION ARRANGEMENTS IN VICINITY OF CONTROLS				
SUB-TOTAL	£555,000	£125,000	£680,000	£680,000
SILVER				
KEY COMPONENTS OF THE IMPROVEMENTS SCHEME				
- INCLUDING REALIGNED ROAD LAYOUT / NEW ROAD SURFACE / RE-POINT EXISTING PAVING / NEW PAVING AREAS / REPLACEMENT FURNITURE / STREET LIGHTING, ETC.				
SUB-TOTAL	£652,000	£145,000	£797,000	£1,477,000
GOLD				
ADDITIONAL IDENTITY & MANAGEMENT COMPONENTS				
- INCLUDING GATEWAY FEATURES / PUBLIC ART / FEATURE LIGHTING / EXTERNAL SEATING AREA BOUNDARY SYSTEM				
SUB-TOTAL	£603,000	£134,000	£737,000	£2,214,000
	£1,810,000	£404,000	£2,214,000	



POTENTIAL BENEFITS

In addition to the many social, environmental, safety, security, operational and identity giving benefits of the proposed works, there are also numerous economic benefits that should be balanced against the capital outlay.

DESTINATION, BRAND & IMAGE

- A greater vibrancy for the daytime economy and strengthening the presentation of cities food and drink offer.
- Improvements that visually and operationally change mindsets, alter customer behaviours and generate a positive reputation for Wind Street and the wider transformation of the city centre.
- Safety measures that reassure visitors, encourage busy streets, and animate the evening and late-night economy.
- An enhanced level of visitor attraction for one of Swansea's most historic streets.

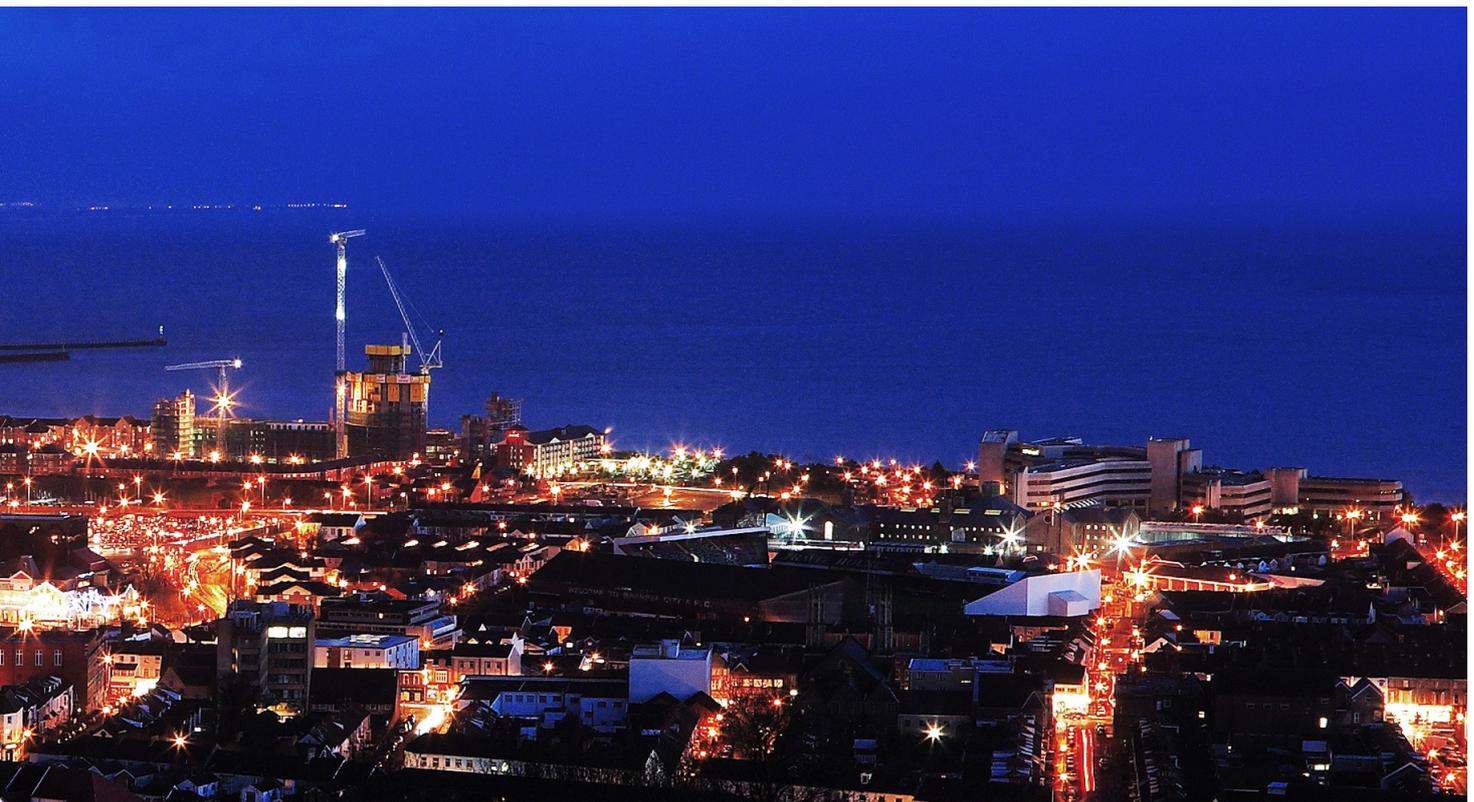


ECONOMIC

- Extended opportunities for businesses to trade during the day, strengthening turnover, encouraging investment in new formats, and generate new employment opportunities.
- Increased vibrancy attracting new food, drink and hospitality businesses and the occupation of available office space.
- Enhanced capital values and rental growth for property investors.
- A café pavement license system that has the potential to increase income and streamline processes. Subject to the final layout, design, set charges and level of business take-up, the potential income could be between £25k and £45k per annum.
- Physical and technological improvements (e.g. power supply sockets and WI-FI) generating new opportunities for the licensing of space to vendors, markets, pop-up entertainment and events.

MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

- A replacement automated bollard system that offsets the current £23k annual cost in executing the manual road closure plus the cost of repairs to the existing system.
- Removal the annual costs of repairing and maintaining cobbled areas of the road that were prone to deterioration, and the removal of insurance claims for trips and falls.
- Removal of the need for a pelican crossing, the annual cost of maintaining this infrastructure is approximately £20,000 p.a.
- The use and re-use of existing hardy and sustainable natural paving materials that have proven to be cost effective to maintain and replace.
- Improved and routine management of the street will increase natural light and maintaining good surveillance for the CCTV system.



8) DELIVERY CONSIDERATIONS

The following table outlines the key stages required for the implementation of the Wind Street improvements project as set out in this study. The stages are taken from the RIBA Plan of Work (2013). The programme is assumed to commence following the securement of funds and corporate approval, which is the next critical step in the realisation of the scheme.

CAVEATS & CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO DELIVERY

The following should be taken into account when reading this section:

- It should be noted that the timescale shown are indicative and there are numerous risks to the programme. For example, just one month has been allowed for client approvals and delays in this process could have a significant impact. Other risks to the project are listed at the end of this section.
- The programme is based on the delivery of all elements identified in the costs section, i.e. Bronze, Silver and Gold, under one contract. The separate implementation of these components will extend the programme. There would also potentially be further complications should the Bronze scheme be delivered in isolation as the access arrangements would be based on a one-way system which may necessitate temporary works to manage traffic in the existing street layout.
- The programme is based on a traditional contract and procurement route. It is assumed that the Council would prefer this approach however, a Design and Build method could potentially shorten the delivery time.

The following highlights the key features of each stage:

0: STRATEGIC DEFINITION

It is assumed that this feasibility study represents the project's Strategic Definition and therefore this opening stage is complete.

1: PREPARATION & BRIEF

The efficient delivery of the project thereafter will depend on the appointment of a project manager either through internal resources or as an external consultant representing the client body. Assuming that the project will be delivered through a traditional contractual route, the first stage will require the writing of a detailed brief for tendering a contract to appoint design consultants. Given the nature of the works involved, it is anticipated that the consultants would be led by an engineering practice and supported by a landscape / public realm design team.

2: CONCEPT DESIGN

As the feasibility study has already explored options for the street's layout in some detail, the concept design should continue this process to a resolved and agreed final proposal. This process must be supported by the commissioning of a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (RSA) to be carried out by external consultants and through continuous liaison with key officers at Swansea Council and BID. With regard to additional surveys, at this stage it is anticipated that these may include and not be limited to, below-ground intrusive surveys, a CAT scan of utilities locations, a basement survey, an update of the topographical survey and tree condition surveys.

A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) presented as part of the overall strategic vision will minimise the threat of significant objections being made. A 12-month period has been shown in the programme, with construction not due to commence until the TRO has been 'approved'.

At the end of Stage 2, the conceptual layout of the street will be resolved and therefore subject to public and stakeholder consultation to test and appraise the layout, demonstrate progress and complete the engagement process that was initiated during the feasibility study. This should ideally be coordinated with a media and PR strategy and the production of visualisations of the proposals.

3: DEVELOPED DESIGN

Following approval of the concept design, Stage 3 will see the development of the proposals to a technical level. This will include the detail design of the primary constructed components, drainage and finished ground levels. It should be noted that this stage may necessitate localised adjustments in the layout. Design development will be coordinated through liaison with the Planning, Conservation and Design team at Swansea Council and it is assumed that the general works will not be subject to planning approval with the exception of any gateway features or artworks. However, their design and any subsequent planning approval can be accommodated within the programme and outside the critical path.

4: TECHNICAL DESIGN

Stage 4 will comprise the final detailed design and specification of the construction works and preparation for the building contractor procurement process. This stage should also include a Stage 2 Road Safety Audit and highway authority sign-off.

5: CONSTRUCTION

The programme allows nine months for the construction stage based on normal working hours (i.e. not including night-time and holiday working) and allows 1 month for mobilisation and the agreement of stopping up orders etc. However, this is an approximation and the construction programme will be more accurately defined by the appointed contractor. The programme could also be significantly affected by the time of year, inclement weather, events and other external factors.

Given the nature of the business activities in Wind Street, careful coordination will be required to avoid the nuisance of noise, dust and restricted access during construction.

It is assumed that the consultant design team would be retained to help monitor the quality of the construction works.

6/7: HANDOVER / USE

Note that the scheme should be monitored following completion and liaison continued with businesses and other stakeholders regarding performance and issues. This will include a Stage 3 and 4 Road Safety Audit.

LIST OF RISKS

DESIGN RISKS

- Design errors and omissions
- Design process takes longer than anticipated
- Stakeholders request late changes
- Failure to carry out the works in accordance with the contract

EXTERNAL RISKS

- New stakeholders emerge and request changes
- Public objections
- Laws and local standards change
- Tax change

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

- Environmental analysis incomplete
- New alternatives required to avoid, mitigate or minimise environmental impact

ORGANISATIONAL RISKS

- Inexperienced workforce and staff turnover
- Delayed deliveries
- Lack of protection on a construction site

PROJECT MANAGEMENT RISKS

- Failure to comply with contractual quality requirements
- Scheduling errors, contractor delays
- Project team conflicts

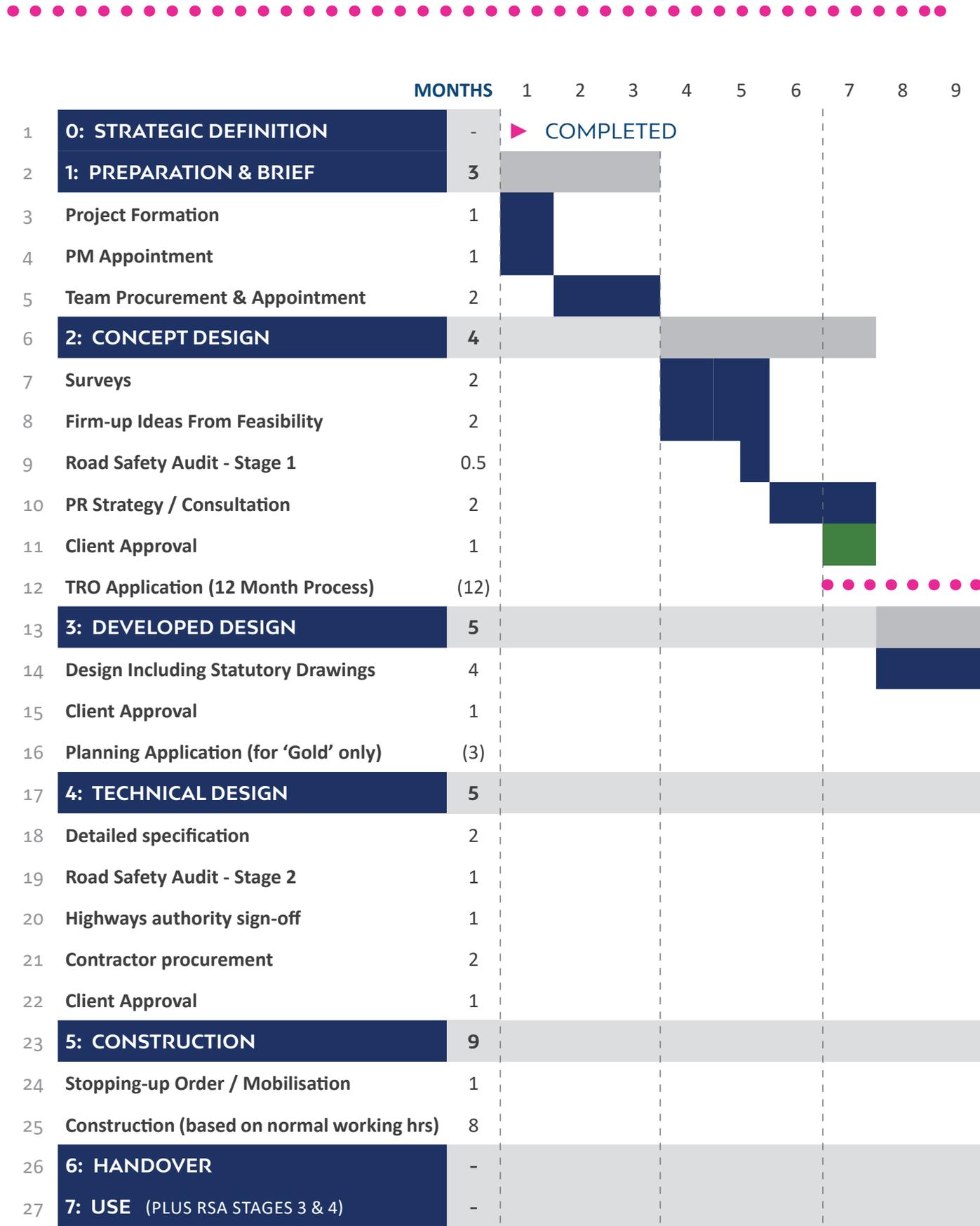
RIGHT OF WAY / STATUTORY RISKS

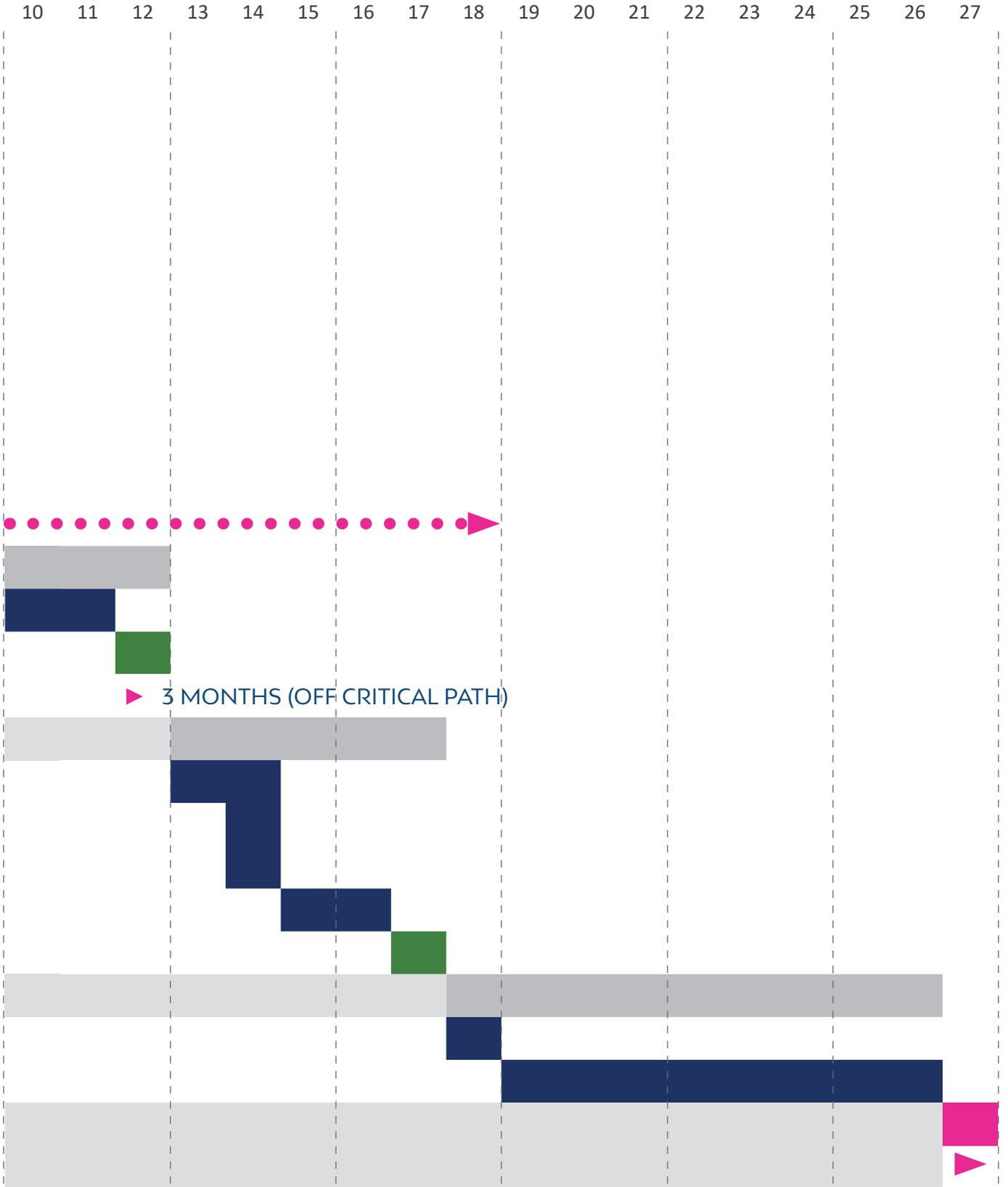
- Expired temporary construction permits
- Contradictions in the construction documents

CONSTRUCTION RISKS

- Building cost overruns
- Technology changes

9) TIMELINE





10) THE NEXT STEPS

Re-imagine Wind Street, with daytime open-air bars and pavement cafes doing a roaring trade, and a large number of restaurants operating alfresco. Evenings and late nights with crowded streets full of people who are busy and enjoying themselves, and a contemporary vibe that is pleasant and interesting. The renaissance of one of Swansea's most characterful streets will regenerate an existing destination whilst adding a new breadth to the leisure and entertainment offer at the heart of the city centre.

Regenerating Wind Street will not just happen, it requires vision that is planned, reviewed and converted into actions. This study provides the necessary vision that indicates the level of transformation that is possible, with clear recommendations on how to achieve the objectives.

A key finding of the study is that the business community, local residents and customers of Wind Street have given their overwhelming backing (c.90 %) for the new vision. They support the proposed physical and operational improvements that will extend patronage throughout the day and into the night; changes that encourage greater use by families and all age groups; opportunities for entertainment; improved safety and accessibility, and efforts to enhance the street's image and reputation.

Through the collaborative approach taken, key stakeholders including councillors, local authority officers, the Police, and interest groups have contributed towards the development of the proposals and local businesses, residents and general public have been consulted. The clear message is that the proposed improvements to Wind Street:

- Are considered necessary.
- Are aligned with current economic trends and aspirations for the future identity of the city centre.
- Must be sustainable and maintainable.
- Will help to reduce management costs.
- Will improve city centre management and the operations of the ENTE.
- Will encourage new investment.

From the positive feedback that the proposals have received, it can be concluded that the improvements to Wind Street are considered beneficial to the city's regeneration and are worth taking forward. However, the estimated costs set out in the study are not insignificant, and these are set out against the clear benefits of a scheme as a basis for exploring opportunities for securing internal and external sources of funding. Probably the biggest constraint will be the shrinking size of public sector budgets and reduced opportunities for regeneration funds. Therefore, to allow the level of ambition to match the availability of resources, three possible phases have been designed to provide the greatest level of flexibility.

Taking forward the Bronze Option will make Wind Street safer and more secure but is not transformational. The Silver Option provides the potential for increasing the prosperity of the business community and enhancing the initiatives of Swansea BID, whilst providing the opportunity to instil operational improvements and efficiencies for Swansea Council and its partners. The Gold Option is about lifting the bar even further with imaginative branding and communication strategies to create a destination that generates 'symbolic capital' and enhances the image and prestige of the city for residents and visitors alike.



Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: City Centre Management/ City Planning & Regeneration

Directorate: Place

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) Please name and describe here:

Delivery of the Wind Street Feasibility Study *'Reimagining Wind Street'*

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery	Indirect front line service delivery	Indirect back room service delivery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to	Because they want to	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

Please provide details below – either of your planned activities or your reasons for not undertaking engagement

A process of consultation with a wide range of internal and external stake-holders was undertaken as part of the development of the Feasibility Study, the information derived from which was used to help shape the development proposals. It is anticipated that a similar

approach will be undertaken in regards to the detailed design and implementation of the Study.

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
--	---	--

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL’S REPUTATION?
(Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low risk <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
--	---	--

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes No **If yes, please provide details below**

Various internal services will potentially be impacted by the delivery of the Feasibility Study. A number of key external partners will also be affected e.g. South Wales Police, Swansea BID etc. In regards to internal areas, these include but are not limited to the following:

- + Highways & Transportation - maintenance of the public realm, traffic management of the area and licencing of the outdoor café scheme.
- + Health & Safety (including Community Safety) - improved public safety of Wind Street and perception
- + Corporate Communications – development and implementation of a Project Communications Plan
- + Licencing – licencing of premises, taxi licencing/ ranks etc.
- + Parks and Waste – provision of bins, litter collection and street cleansing, commercial waste and recycling

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?
Please tick the relevant box

MOSTLY H and/or M → **HIGH PRIORITY** → **EIA to be completed**
Please go to Section 2

MOSTLY L → **LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT** → **Do not complete EIA**
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.

An EIA will need to be completed as part of the detailed design phase of the project led by the procured design team. Accessibility considerations will form part of the brief to the procured design team, informed by the detailed

EIA process. Following detailed design there will be specific consultation on key aspects such as traffic proposals, as well as further consideration by Cabinet prior to any final decision on implementation.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:
Name: Lisa Wells
Job title: City Centre Manager
Date: 20-5-19
Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Phil Holmes
Position: Head of Service for City Planning & Regeneration
Date: 21-5-19

Please return the completed form to accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk

Agenda Item 13.



Report of the Local Authority Governor Appointment Group

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Local Authority Governor Appointments

Purpose:	To approve the nominations submitted to fill Local Authority Governor vacancies in School Governing Bodies
Policy Framework:	Local Authority (LA) Governor Appointments Procedure (Adopted by Council on 26 October 2017)
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The nominations recommended by the Director of Education in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning and Skills be approved.
Report Author:	Gemma Wynne
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Stephen Holland
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. The nominations referred for approval

1.1 The nominations are recommended for approval as follows:

1. Mayals Primary School	Dr Felicity Padley
2. Pontlliw Primary School	Mr David Mathias
3. Seaview Primary School	Mrs Sue James

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications for the appointments; all costs will be met from existing budgets.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

4. Equality and Engagement implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 4.2 Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.
- 4.3 There are no equality and engagement implications associated with this report.

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Equality Impact Assessment Form

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – Appendix 1

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: Education

Directorate: People

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

(b) Please name and describe here:

Appointing Local Authority governors to schools in Swansea

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery	Indirect front line service delivery	Indirect back room service delivery
<input type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to	Because they want to	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18) →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees) →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

Please provide details below – either of your planned activities or your reasons for not undertaking engagement

This activity does not require consultation

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – Appendix 1

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (L)
--	---	--

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL’S REPUTATION?
(Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
---	---	---

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes x No **If yes, please provide details below**

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?
Please tick the relevant box

**MOSTLY H and/or M → HIGH PRIORITY → EIA to be completed
Please go to Section 2**

**MOSTLY L → LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT → Do not complete EIA
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2**

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.

There are no equality and engagement implications associated with this process. Under the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005, it is a statutory requirement for all schools to have Local Authority governors who are appointed by the Direction of Education in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning and Skills. The Councillor(s) representing the ward(s) in the catchment area of the schools’, the Headteacher and Chair of governors views will be sought to input into the decision-making and recommendations are taken to Cabinet for ratification as agreed by the Council Constitution.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:
Name: Gemma Wynne
Job title: Governor Support Officer
Date: 03/06/19
Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Nick Williams
Position: Director of Education
Date: 03/06/19

Agenda Item 14.



Joint Report of the Cabinet Members for Better Communities and Education Improvement, Learning & Skills

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Relocation of Lifelong Learning from Bryn House

Purpose:	This report sets out the proposed relocation of the Lifelong Learning Service from Bryn House Community Education Centre
Policy Framework:	Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 Adult Learning in Wales Policy 2017 Swansea Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy 2017/20, Sustainable Swansea Policy Swansea Council's Prevention Strategy 2017/20 Swansea Council's Corporate Plan 2018/22 Regional Employment & Skills Plan 2018
Consultation:	Cabinet Members – Better Communities & Education Improvement, Learning and Skills, Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that 1) the Lifelong Learning Service relocate from Bryn House, Walters Road, Uplands, SA1 4PS to the Civic Centre, with teaching delivered from alternative venues across the county.
Report Author:	Amy Hawkins
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Lucy Moore
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Swansea Council's Lifelong Learning Service (LLL) delivers accredited and non-accredited learning in Essential Skills, IT, Family Learning and Well-being courses.
- 1.2. During the 2017/18 academic year, LLL enrolled over 2,200 learners across 260 courses.
- 1.3. 73% of learners across all classes are female. Within the Essential Skills classes, 43% are Male and 57% are Female. 30% of learners are under age 49, 30% are 50 – 64 years old and 40% are over 65. 24% of learners state they have a disability with 57% of learners in the Essential Skills classes recording a disability.
- 1.4. The courses range from accredited Essential Skills classes in numeracy, literacy, IT and Employability skills, to non-accredited Well-being courses including Arts, Crafts, Textiles, Photography, Music, Yoga and Cookery.
- 1.5. The LLL Service comprises of 28 tutors and 7 back office staff with the majority being part-time, term-time only contracted Tutors. The team has 11.9 full-time equivalent staff.
- 1.6. The Welsh Government (WG) report, 'A Review of Adult Community Learning in Wales' (2016) recognises the benefits of lifelong learning as more than the learning activity itself:

'ACL provides opportunities for individuals to acquire new skills, achieve qualifications, progress onto further learning pathways, or directly into employment or volunteering. ACL also contributes to health and wellbeing, social inclusion, community cohesion and can act as a tool to tackle poverty.'

- 1.7. The LLL Service focuses on the priorities in WG's Adult Learning Wales Policy (2017); Essential Skills, Digital Skills, Employability Skills, Older Learners and Social Engagement and Engagement Activity and 'hook' courses.

2. Lifelong Learning Funding

- 2.1. The 2019/20 Lifelong Learning budget:

Income	
Swansea Council	£221,500
WG Grant	£177,700
Schools	£14,000
Course Fees	£70,000
Additional income	£95,000
Total	£578,200

Expenditure	
Salaries	£510,800
Premises	£25,800
Travel	£3,500
Resources	£38,100
Total	£578,200

- 2.2. The 2019/20 budget includes a £139,000 reduction in Swansea Council funding. Further cuts of an additional £118,700 in 2020/21 and £53,300 in 2021/22 were agreed prior to the LLL Service transferring from the Education Department to the Poverty and Prevention Department (now known as the Tackling Poverty Service within the Social Services Department) in May 2017.
- 2.3. Increased income is anticipated from WG in the academic year 2020/21, based on a new funding allocation formula based on population and prioritised on Essential Skills, Digital and Employability Skills.
- 2.4. The 19/20 budget includes an additional income target of £95,000 to mitigate the cut in the budget. This is an ambitious target, during 18/19 £57,800 additional income was secured, based on a cost recovery methodology.
- 2.5. In addition to securing additional contracts and income opportunities, the actions being implemented to reduce the expenditure and increase the income include; the maximisation of learner numbers per class, the reduction of non-contractual additional tutor hours where there is no additional income, the reduction of overhead expenditure and the implementation of full cost recovery on non-grant funded courses.

3. Premises

- 3.1. The LLL Service currently delivers courses from a number of community and Council venues including Bryn House Community Education Centre, Civic Centre, Portmead Action Resource Centre (ARC), Seion Newydd Morriston, St. Teilos, Canolfan Y Bont, Libraries, Swansea Well-being Centre, Lime Street Institute, Llwyn Y Bryn, Gower College (Gorseinon), St. Catherine's Church, Hazel Court, Friendship House, Glais Community Centre, Toronto Place and Montana Park.
- 3.2. Part of the team were based and delivered services from the former Daniel James School site, until July 2018, when the team had to relocate due to electrical issues on site. The teaching was relocated to other community and Council venues and staff are currently based in the ARC and Bryn House.

- 3.3. Bryn House (SA1 4PS) has been used since 1947 for the delivery and administration of Lifelong Learning provision in Swansea. The site is next to Gower College's Llwyn Y Bryn site and is the old Llwyn Y Bryn School Headteacher's house and grounds. Bryn House site includes a demountable building with two classrooms and toilets, car parking for 9 cars, a garden and the main two story building. The main building has a basement area, teaching kitchen, reception area, storage rooms, small teaching room, toilets on a landing accessed by stairs and offices on the second floor accessed by stairs only.
- 3.4. Bryn House is used for a variety of classes during term time. The Summer Term 19/20 classes:

Course	Hours per week	Classes
Calligraphy	4 hours	2 classes
Textiles	16 hours	8 classes
Art (Painting, Drawing, Printmaking)	10 hours	5 classes
Music (Guitar & Ukulele)	4 hours	2 classes
Cookery	16 hours	8 classes
Photography	4 hours	2 classes
Well-being (Meditation)	1.5 hours	1 class
IT	6 hours	3 classes
Essential Skills (Numeracy and Literacy)	various	various

- 3.5. Bryn House Class Timetable Summer Term 19//20

Morning	Afternoon	Evening (5pm – 9pm)
9 classes	11 classes	11 classes

- 3.6. Four of the cookery classes are delivered for partner organisations; Swansea Young Single Homeless Project (YSHP), Friendship House and Welsh Centre for Action on Dependency and Addiction (WCADA), with no charge. These organisations will be given the option to purchase this service from the new academic year 2019/20, unless alternative funding can be secured.
- 3.7. Three partner organisations use Bryn House for six hours per week, with no charge, these are the Embroiders' Guild, Wider Horizons, a self-directed group who have visiting speakers and Gower College who teach cooking with numbers to their learners. These organisations are aware of the potential relocation and once confirmed, will be given notice. The Third Sector groups will be referred to SCVS for funding advice.
- 3.8. A Fire Safety Report completed in 2014 highlighted a number of issues which need to be addressed. These issues have not been addressed and will need to be if the site continues to be used by staff and the public.

Item	Cost
New fire alarm system	£20,000
Basement ceiling	£10,400
Fire doors, kitchen and second floor	£3,400
Outside lighting	tbc
Boundary Wall (with Belgrave Flats)	tbc
Heating in demountable building	tbc
Total	£33,800+

- 3.9. As a short term measure, an office, storage space and basement in Bryn House have been emptied and additional fire doors are due to be added. These measures have allowed classes to continue during the Summer Term 2019.
- 3.10. In addition to the expenditure required in section 3.8, there is the potential of unknown additional expenditure on the site, due to the age, condition and suitability of the main building, grounds and demountable building.
- 3.11. Further investment identified in 3.8 is required if the site is to be used from 2019/20 academic year.

4. Risks

Risks: Lifelong Learning remaining at Bryn House			
Risk	Potential Impact	L/M/H	Mitigating Actions
Site could be shut with immediate effect due to safety measures not being implemented.	Loss of service	H	External sites to be utilised
Expenditure on the fire safety requirements will not create any further capacity.	No available funding Loss of service	M	
Age of the buildings may require further investment, in addition to expenditure identified in 3.8.	No available funding Loss of service Increased expenditure	M	
Limitations to the site in terms of access and suitability of spaces.	Status quo	L	External sites to be utilised.

Staff morale impacted due to location uncertainty and potential move.	Low staff morale	M	Communication plans, open dialogue.
---	------------------	---	-------------------------------------

Risks: Lifelong Learning vacating Bryn House			
Risk	Potential Impact	L/M/H	Mitigating Actions
Loss of learners due to any relocation.	Loss of income Learner dissatisfaction	M	New accessible venues. Communication plan for learners.
No suitable relocation options e.g. teaching kitchen, spaces for sewing machines	Reduced service Loss of income	L	Suitable relocation options being identified.
Alternative teaching space may increase costs, see 6.1.	Increased expenditure	M	Maximisation of Council buildings Negotiate rental prices
Potential increased class preparation time and increased associated costs e.g. accessing resources.	Increased expenditure	L	Securing suitable alternative teaching spaces. Securing suitable accessible teaching resource storage.
Health and safety implications of moving teaching resources e.g. heavy sewing machines.	Reduced service	L	Risk assessments completed Suitable alternative teaching space identified

5. Relocation Options

- 5.1. Back Office and Essential Skills Tutors can be relocated to the Civic Centre and the majority currently have agile equipment and plans are in place to transfer the remaining staff. Other Tackling Poverty Service team sites can be utilised including Caernarfon Way Offices in Bonymaen, the Phoenix Centre and the ARC Centre, Portmead.
- 5.2. Class relocation options include increased use of Community venues across the county, utilising Council buildings and the proposed Services in the Community Hubs. The reallocation of budgets from the running costs of Bryn House will pay for any new venue hire.

- 5.3. Once the decision on relocation is confirmed, alternative venues can be confirmed, communicated with learners and included in the 19/20 LLL class timetable.
- 5.4. Classes currently held at the Bryn House site would be relocated to various locations across the county providing greater opportunities for learning opportunities within communities. Depending on the required physical resources required to deliver each class, a wide range of venues could be utilised including: Community Centres, Cwmbwrla Centre, Victoria Park, Gower College, Schools, Civic Centre, Libraries, Friendship House, Canolfan Y Bont, Montana Park, etc. An assessment of options by class has been carried out and can be seen at **Appendix A**.
- 5.5. Further work is required to identify suitable alternative sites for 19/20 academic year delivery.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. Cost Benefit Analysis

As Is	
Health and Safety capital expenditure required	£34,000+
19/20 Running Costs of Bryn House	£25,800
Total	£59,800
Should Proposals Be Accepted	
Alternative Premises: 27* classes (54 hours) (approx. £12.50 p/hr) x 30 weeks)	£20,250
Reduction in running costs p/a	£5,550
*Four Summer Term classes are delivered through non-contracted additional hours and would not be repeated.	

- 6.2. The £34,000 figure for Capital Expenditure required should Bryn House continue to be occupied is a minimum figure and in reality is likely to be substantially higher. Some of the TBC confirmed figures, particularly around the boundary wall have the potential to be significant. There is currently no provision within the Capital Programme to fund substantial works at Bryn House.
- 6.3. The savings figure above are annual. Should the move occur in September there will be a part year effect in 2019/20
- 6.4. The site is valued at £250,000.
- 6.5. If the property is deemed surplus to Service requirements then the property will return to the Corporate Landlord. On the basis that no alternative internal demand for the property is identified then it will be programmed for disposal. This approach is in line with the Council's overarching disposal strategy and continued rationalisation of assets.

Any receipts for the disposal would form part of the current corporate capital receipt targets already in place. Whilst this process will be managed by Property Services the existing premises budget will need to meet the residual costs of holding the empty property until such time as any disposal is completed and then declared as a corporate saving.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

7.1. Relocating the LLL to secure the future delivery of the service is in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Swansea Policy and will further enable the Council to meet its obligations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

7.2. The proposal takes into account the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, 'five ways of working' as follows:

- **Long-term** - The proposal itself is a result of considering the balance between meeting the short-term needs of the Lifelong Learning Services delivered at the Bryn House site whilst safeguarding the long-term needs of both the service itself and the needs of service users and potential future service users. The proposal supports the long-term sustainability of the service and its ability to deliver services within the community.
- **Integration** – The proposal impacts positively on the Swansea Public Services Board Local Well-being Plan 'Working Together to Build a Better Future', directly supporting three of the interconnected objectives, namely; **Live Well, Age Well**, making Swansea a great place to live and age well, **Strong Communities**, to empower communities promoting pride and belonging, and **Sharing for Swansea**, working together with other services, sharing resources, assets and knowledge. The proposal supports the delivery of these objectives by enhancing the range of both formal and informal learning opportunities within communities. The proposal has a neutral impact on the remaining two objectives; Early Years and Working with Nature.
- **Involvement** – Stakeholder involvement is ongoing throughout the process of the relocation and establishment of relocated services. This includes the involvement of current service users, staff and partner organisations that are impacted by the relocation.
- **Collaboration** – The Lifelong Learning Service is collaborating with various existing and new internal partners as well as external organisations to establish the future delivery plan for services currently delivered at the Bryn House site.

- **Prevention** – This proposal is a preventative measure to reduce the ongoing increasing expenditure related to the upkeep of Bryn House and ensures the Lifelong Learning Service can more effectively allocate its available budget to the delivery of services in the community.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1. There are no legal implications.

9. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 9.1. The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 9.2. It is hoped that the impact of the proposals for those experiencing poverty or social exclusion would be positive as services delivered more locally would increase opportunity of access and engagement leading to greater participation.

A greater range of services and learning opportunities delivered within communities would increase the local provision for people to come together and interact through formal and informal learning. This would increase cohesion within communities.

- 9.3. At this point no full EIA is required, if equality issues are identified during engagement with service users and partners this screening will be revisited to identify if a full EIA is required. The EIA Screening form can be seen at Appendix B.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices:

- A - Relocation Opportunities
- B - EIA Screening Document

Appendix A: Relocation Opportunities

Class	Requirements	Relocation Options
Calligraphy	Tables & chairs Wifi / internet access Sink Well lit venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Centre or Council building
Textiles	Sewing machines Table & chairs Textile resources Wifi / internet access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Centre or Council building with storage • Cwmbwrla Centre • Victoria Park
Art – Drawing & Painting	Table & chairs Sink Wifi / internet access Well lit venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Centre or Council building • Cwmbwrla Centre • Victoria Park
Music	Chairs Access to teaching resources Wifi / internet access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Centre or Council building • Victoria Park
Cookery	Demonstration and practice kitchen Ingredients storage Wifi / internet access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmbwrla Centre (max 8 learners) • College • Secondary School
Photography	IT suite Wifi / internet access Printing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Centre • Canolfan Y Bont • Montana Park • Sketty Park Community Centre • Friendship House • Libraries
Well-being - Meditation	Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community building or Council building • Victoria Park
IT	IT suite Laptop/tablet storage Wifi / internet access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Centre • Guildhall • Canolfan Y Bont • Montana Park • Sketty Park Community Centre • Friendship House • Libraries
Essential Skills	Room Resources storage IT (tablets/PCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community building or Council building • Victoria Park
Storage Requirements	Storage requirements for teaching resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARC Portmead, Caernarvon Way, Bonymaen • Storage in Civic or Guildhall.

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).
Section 1
Which service area and directorate are you from?
Service Area: Lifelong Learning – Tackling Poverty Service
Directorate: Social Services

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy/ Procedure <input type="checkbox"/>	Project <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>
---	--	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

(b) Please name and describe here:

Summary

Lifelong Learning Service relocation – It is recommended that the Lifelong Learning Service including back office staff and learning delivery relocate from Bryn House, Walters Road, Uplands, Swansea SA1 4PS. It is proposed that back office functions are relocated to the Civic Centre while the delivery of learning opportunities that took place at Bryn House are delivered at a range of appropriate community venues across the county.

Background

Swansea Council Lifelong Learning Service delivers accredited Essential Skills classes in Numeracy, Literacy IT and Employability Skills as well as non-accredited Well-being courses including Arts, Crafts, Textiles, Photography, Music, Yoga and Cookery.

The Welsh Government report, ‘A Review of Adult Community Learning in Wales’ (2016) recognises the benefits of lifelong learning as more than the learning activity itself:

‘ACL provides opportunities for individuals to acquire new skills, achieve qualifications, progress onto further learning pathways, or directly into employment or volunteering. ACL also contributes to health and wellbeing, social inclusion, community cohesion and can act as a tool to tackle poverty.’

Bryn House has been used since 1947 for the delivery and administration of Lifelong Learning provision in Swansea. The site is next to Gower College’s Llwyn Y Bryn site and is the old Llwyn Y Bryn School Headteacher’s house and grounds. The Bryn House site includes the main two story building which has a basement area, teaching kitchen, reception area, storage rooms, small teaching room, toilets on a landing accessed by stairs and offices on the second floor accessed by stairs only. The site also includes a demountable building with two classrooms and toilets, car parking for 9 cars and a garden.



A Fire Safety Report completed in 2014 highlighted a number of issues that are yet to be fully addressed. If the site continues to be used by staff and the public then these issues will have to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Short term measures have been taken that allow classes to continue to the end of the Summer Term 2019, but these measures are not a sustainable long term solution.

The ongoing costs for the maintenance of the site is becoming restrictive to the effective and efficient delivery of the Lifelong learning Service. A plan has to be developed that protects the ability of the service to evolve and grow, providing relevant learning opportunities to meet the changing needs and demands of Swansea’s diverse population.

It is proposed that the back office and Essential Skills tutors can be relocated to Civic Centre whilst the delivery of classes would be delivered across a range of community venues such as Community Centres, Cwmbwrla Centre, Victoria Park, Gower College, Schools, Civic Centre, Libraries, Friendship House, Canolfan Y Bont, Montana Park, etc.

At the time of writing, engagement with various stakeholders including learners, tutors, staff, partner organisations and voluntary groups that are current users of the Bryn House site is underway. This engagement process will inform the future delivery of displaced services.

The engagement process will seek to identify the impact on current users accessing services at the Bryn House site so that appropriate mitigating actions may be put in place to ensure the continuation, growth, accessibility and sustainability of the services affected.

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery	Indirect front line service delivery	Indirect back room service delivery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to	Because they want to	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Older people (50+)	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers)	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

Please provide details below – either of your planned activities or your reasons for not undertaking engagement

Staff and service users will be engaged with to further understand the impact that the proposed relocation will have and so that any adverse impacts can be identified and mitigated.

Stakeholders include current users of the Bryn House Site:

- Swansea Council Staff, specifically the Life Long Learning Service and its staff operating at the site.
- Members of the general public who participate in learning opportunities provided by the Lifelong Learning Service at the site.
- Partner organisations (Public Sector, Private Sector, Third Sector) who are involved in the delivery of provision at the site.
- Cabinet Member for Better Communities (People).
- Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills.

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low visibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
---	---	---

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL’S REPUTATION? (Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
---	---	---

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes No **If yes, please provide details below**

If the property becomes surplus to requirements then it would return to the Corporate Landlord for reallocation/disposal.

Various venues managed by Cultural Services, Social Services and Education would be positively impacted by greater demand and use of a number of their venues to deliver learning opportunities

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?

Please tick the relevant box

**MOSTLY H and/or M → HIGH PRIORITY → EIA to be completed
Please go to Section 2**

**MOSTLY L → LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT → Do not complete EIA
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2**

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.

The Lifelong Learning Service provides learning opportunities for residents of Swansea aged 16 yrs and above. Current service users of all ages above 16 yrs who participate in activities at the Bryn House site will be accustomed to the site and the facilities available at the site. This also includes members of community groups who have been granted access to the site for meetings and activities, as well as members of staff.

For users who suffer with a physical disability or ailment, it is likely that full access to the site is restricted due to the dated design and consideration of access features. Greater delivery of learning opportunities in communities, utilising more modern buildings with more suitable access features would likely increase accessibility to services.

It is hoped that the impact of the proposals for those experiencing poverty or social exclusion would be positive as services delivered more locally would increase opportunity of access and engagement leading to greater participation.

A greater range of services and learning opportunities delivered within communities would increase the local provision for people to come together and interact through formal and informal learning. This would increase cohesion within communities.

For other protected characteristics the impact is expected to be neutral.

At this point no full EIA is required, if equality issues are identified during engagement with service users and partners this screening will be revisited to identify if a full EIA is required.

At this stage there are no significant adverse impacts on protected characteristic groups identified.

If engagement with stakeholders identifies any issues that impact on equality, then this EIA screening will be revisited.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:
Name: Anthony Richards
Job title: Poverty & Prevention Strategy and Development Manager
Date: 11/6/19
Approval by Head of Service:
Name: Amy Hawkins
Position: Tackling Poverty Service Manager
Date: 19/6/19

Agenda Item 15.



Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure Management

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Residents Parking Policy Changes

Purpose:	To set out proposed changes to the Councils Residents Parking Policy.
Policy Framework:	Highways and Transportation – Residents Parking Policy
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal, Customer Contact Centre.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) Cabinet approve the proposed changes to the Councils Residents Parking Policy detailed in this report.
Report Author:	Gavin Newman
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report includes an overview of the Residents Parking Scheme and how it currently operates. The report also sets out recommendations to the existing policy that seek to make the scheme more operationally efficient and resilient against misuse.
- 1.2 Parking Services consists of the management of off street car parks, Civil Parking Enforcement (on street parking restrictions), the abandoned vehicle service, and the Park & Ride sites.

- 1.3 Under the Traffic Management Act 2004 the Council has a statutory duty to manage the highway network in a way to minimise congestion and reduce air pollution. Practically this translates into three key benefits of a clear and consistent policy approach to parking as follows:
- Economic viability – effective management and enforcement of on and off road parking increases the availability of parking spaces by ensuring the turnover of spaces (and thus shoppers or visitors).
 - Safety – effective and consistent enforcement discourages motorists from stopping/parking at locations which could compromise the safety of pedestrians, cyclists or other motorists.
 - Congestion – Appropriate capacity and effective management/enforcement of parking will deter indiscriminate parking, tailbacks and queues in and around the city and district centres
- 1.4 The approach to parking strategy, policy and delivery in Swansea is in line with national, regional and local economic, planning and transport strategy and with that of other Local Authorities.
- 1.5 Part of the daily enforcement schedule includes the enforcement of Residents Parking bays.
- 1.6 Swansea Council operates an on street Residents Permit scheme. Most streets approved for the scheme have up to 50% parking spaces allocated for residents permit bays, which can be for sole use or mixed use i.e. time limited for non-permit holders. The exceptions are the two Controlled Parking Zones in Sandfields and St Thomas. The kerb side space in the CPZs are totally restricted as indicated above.
- 1.7 The rules of the current Residents Parking Scheme are set out in its policy which was approved by Cabinet in July 2012.

2. Residents Parking Scheme

- 2.1 Residents Parking was introduced by the Council in 1989 with the aim of managing parking in residential areas to help residents park near to their homes. This is especially helpful to residents near to busy shopping and business areas where long term free parking is at a premium.
- 2.2 There are 368 Residents only parking locations across Swansea.
- 2.3 Whilst there is no statutory obligation to provide Residents Parking schemes, the reality is that in certain areas, residents would experience difficulty in consistently being able to park within close proximity of their property.

- 2.4 The service is run by Parking Services (Highways & Transportation) with the Customer Services team providing a customer contact element dealing with new permit applications, renewals and carrying out checks to ensure applications are compliant with the council's residents parking policy, with parking services staff providing technical support.
- 2.5 There are currently approximately 9000 permits issued, 2000 of these are second permits.
- 2.6 In August 2016 the Council dispensed with the issue of paper based permits, to be displayed on vehicle windscreens, and moved to virtual permits. The software package used to operate the virtual permit system is called MiPermit, it has been developed by Chipside who also provide the back office software used by Parking Services for Civil Parking Enforcement.
- 2.7 A virtual permit works in the same way as a paper one in that it is specific to a Residents Parking area and a vehicle. The permit is virtual in that all the information that would have been shown on the permit is held electronically, allowing Civil Enforcement Officers, to determine if a vehicle has a valid virtual permit, by entering a vehicle's registration number into their handheld computers, during their patrols.
- 2.8 Benefit of Virtual Permit system - Since the introduction of MiPermit there have been some notable benefits and also some problems highlighted. The most notable benefit is that MiPermit is a self-serve online system which has reduced the footfall into the Civic Centre Contact Centre. However a large number of residents need support when applying in person. They have two months from the date of application to produce the approved documentation. There has also been an increase in telephone enquiries in Customer Services but there has also been a saving achieved on paper, printing and postage costs.
- 2.9 Area for improvement - The main disadvantages of the current scheme appears to relate to the checking and verification of a resident's documents. In order to obtain a permit the resident must provide proof of residence, the approved documentation must be manually cross checked by a member of the customer service team. This is not only time consuming but if a problem is identified the resident needs to be contacted in order to explain what they need to do next. This is very time consuming and often residents don't reply to the letters. If no evidence is received within two months or contact cannot be made with the resident, the permit will be cancelled.
- 2.10 Upon cancellation of the virtual permit, it is possible residents could receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN), as a result of routine enforcement patrols resulting in appeals and confusion and unnecessary administrative work. Residents, who have received a PCN, will make contact with the Council either through the customer service staff then they have to check the process and explain they have not provided the

necessary documentation for a permit. They then have another two months to produce the documentation. Drivers with a PCN tend to appeal and this increases workload of the PCN Processing Team.

- 2.11 After cancellation for not providing the documents for example, a resident could go back into the system and open another account and the whole checking process starts again.
- 2.12 How does the application process work? - Once an online application is completed MiPermit produces a virtual permit, on the council's database and issues a confirmation email to the applicant, requesting that the applicant abide by the terms and conditions of the scheme, to provide the required evidential proof of residence and vehicle ownership.
- 2.13 When applying for permit the applicant is required to be a full time resident of the property to provide a Council Tax number to set up an account. However, residents of a HMO properties who are not liable for Council Tax, need only supply their tenancy agreement. These requests are validated by Customer Service staff and a permit issued by the Council, once it is confirmed the applicant qualifies.
- 2.14 The rules of the current Residents Parking Scheme are set out in its policy which was approved by Cabinet in July 2012.

3. Proposed Policy Changes

- 3.1 Under the current policy residents are required to provide the following documents to obtain a permit:-
 - V5 document
 - Driver's Licence or an utility bill with the Swansea address
 - Electoral Register entry at the address

These documents can be uploaded through the MiPermit website or presented at the Contact Centre. Documents can also be posted to the contact centre for verification.

The existing Residents Parking Policy can be seen in Appendix A.

- 3.2 Resident checks against the electoral register are only carried out on an ad hoc basis due to compliance issues between the two existing software systems. These manual checks require a lot of officer time.

In order to ensure that the permit criteria remains robust against misuse it is necessary that some changes be introduced.

It is recommended that the documents be changed for residents holding both UK and Overseas Licences.

UK Licence holders

- V5 document
- Driver's Licence
- Certificate of insurance

Under the amended policy UK residents would not be required to provide a utility bill or a council tax number or be on the Swansea electoral register. The V5, Driver's Licence and Certificate of Insurance would all need to display the Swansea address.

Overseas Licence holders

- Copy of their overseas licence
- Utility Bill to prove the address
- Proof of valid insurance. (actual document or certificate)
- V5 at the Swansea address after 6 months

Under the current policy overseas licence holders do not initially have a V5 document so would provide a utility bill as proof of address.

The address on the insurance documents will need to match the address that the permit it's being applied for.

Currently when a resident applies for a new permit they have a grace period of two months to provide all of their documents. This means that a resident can effectively park in a residents parking bay for this period even if they are not resident. This currently leaves the scheme open to abuse. Under the revised policy it is recommended that there is no grace period and that a permit will only be issued on receipt of all the requested documents being submitted. A Residents Parking Permit will only be issued on receipt of the necessary documents being checked by an officer.

The proposed Residents Parking Policy can be seen in Appendix B.

- 3.3 MiPermit have been instructed to change the application process so applicants will be able to upload images of their documents. These images will be checked by the parking team, once checked and approved the system will automatically issue a virtual permit. The applicant will then receive a text or email notification that their permit is live, providing a valid entry has been made. If the required uploaded documents are not correct the application will be rejected. A text or email will be sent to the applicant advising them what they need to do in order to complete their application. Residents who do not have access to a computer will still be able to apply at the contact centre and get assistance from a member of staff there.
- 3.4 All residents will be notified by email of the changes to the policy at least one month prior to their permit expiring. Where the resident does not

have an email address a letter will be sent to their address. This will enable residents to supply the new documents when renewing their permits.

- 3.5 In situations where residents are forced to move through no fault of their own and they are at risk or vulnerable, a temporary electronic waiver will be issued until such time they can obtain a permit. This is to be authorised by Head of Service on a case by case basis.
- 3.6 Currently Blue Badge holders are able to park in Resident Parking Areas without a permit for up to 3 hours provided their blue badge and clock is displayed. Removal / delivery vehicles are also exempt providing of course loading or unloading is observed by a Civil Enforcement Officer.
- 3.7 In the Parking Controlled Zones of Sandfields and St Thomas there is no unrestricted space so all applicants would be affected by the 3 hour maximum stay period for non-permit holders. Whilst not an official Controlled Parking Zone all kerbside parking in Mount Pleasant is also restricted. This would effectively mean that there would be no parking available for new residents moving into one of these streets. For these new residents the council could issue an electronic waiver for new residents in the controlled zones for up to 10 working days to overcome this issue. This would give new residents only 10 days to get their documents changed to their new address and submit them to the Council. If no documents were submitted the waiver would cease and the vehicle could be issued with a PCN.

4. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 4.2 In order to comply with equality regulations an Equality Impact Assessment screening form was completed with the agreed outcome that a full EIA report was not required.
- 4.3 The screening form can be found within Appendix C

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Whilst these policy changes will not directly achieve any direct financial savings they will streamline the process which will provide savings in officer time in administering the service.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Appendix A | Existing Residents Parking Policy |
| Appendix B | Proposed Residents Parking Policy |
| Appendix C | EIA Screening Form |



City and County of Swansea

Resident Parking Policy – Approved by Cabinet on 5 July 2012

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Residents only parking schemes are intended to reserve a portion of the road space exclusively for residents and their visitors, when the availability of on-street parking is limited by non residents wishing to park in the street.
- 1.2 Residents only parking schemes are not effective, and will not be introduced, when there is little external demand but where levels of car ownership amongst residents mean that parking demand exceeds the number of parking spaces. Residents parking schemes help to manage limited parking spaces – they do not create additional parking spaces and do not guarantee any resident a space outside their property.

2. Criteria for assessment

- 2.1 Streets for which residents parking facilities are requested will not be surveyed to assess whether they meet the criteria below, **unless funding is available to implement measures if the street qualifies.** Requests for Resident Parking schemes will be held on file to be assessed and considered once funding has been identified.

3 Criteria for implementation

- 3.1 The Council may implement a Residents Parking scheme subject to all the following conditions being satisfied:
- 3.2 That the street or area must regularly exceed 75% parking saturation for at least four periods, daytime or evening, per week. (In the event that the street does not reach this level of parking saturation but does exceed 60% then a scheme of “Limited Waiting, Resident Permit Holders exempt” may be introduced.)

- 3.3 There is evidence of significant levels of parking in the street by non residents.
- 3.4 That the majority of properties have no off-street parking available within reasonable proximity of the property.
- 3.5 That the majority of properties have no scope to establish vehicular access on to the property (including circumstances where application(s) for cross-over(s) has / have been declined) and no scope for providing parking facilities within the property's boundaries.
- 3.6 Parking can be accommodated without unacceptable impact on general traffic flow and buses.
- 3.7 There is funding available to advertise and implement the measures.

4. Provision

- 4.1 The allocation of residents parking bays shall take up no more than 50% of parking spaces. Where parking saturation is between 60% and 75%, limited waiting bays with exemption for residents permit holders may be provided. The extent of provision within a street will be considered on a case by case basis in an effort to meet the needs of residents and visitors alike.
- 4.2 A maximum of two permits per household may be issued, each to be endorsed with the vehicle registration number. Each permit will be valid for a maximum of one year.
- 4.3 Lost, stolen or destroyed permits can be replaced at a cost of £25 per permit.

5. Criteria for Permit issue

- 5.1 Permits shall be granted to bona fide car owning full time residents of the street concerned. An applicant will be deemed to be a full time resident if the appropriate name and Swansea address appears on the V5 (vehicle registration) document and **either** his / her driving licence **or** a utility bill, and that his / her name also appears on the Swansea Electoral Register.
- 5.2 The same criteria (as in 5.1) above) apply to foreign nationals.
- 5.3 A permit shall be issued for a goods vehicle with a maximum gross weight (mgw) no greater than 3500kg, subject to the owner providing written confirmation, from the employer, of authorised out of hours use (e.g. for standby arrangements) and the vehicle being no more than 2.35m high and 5.35m long.

- 5.4 Company car users will be able to qualify for a residents only parking permit, provided that their employer confirms in writing that the vehicle is essential for their work and that they have to take the vehicle home.
- 5.5 Where a Disabled Person owns a vehicle but is unable to drive and therefore uses a nominated driver, a permit shall be issued to the nominated driver for the nominated driver's address. To qualify the Council requires a letter of authorisation from the disabled person (registered keeper) and a copy of the ownership / sales documentation from the Motability Company confirming where the vehicle is kept.
- 5.6 Residential complexes with private parking will not be allocated permits for on-street residents only parking bays.
- 5.7 Houses converted into more than one unit (e.g. a house split into flats) after 1st January 2011 will be treated as a single unit – i.e. a maximum of two permits for the whole house on a first come, first served basis. Permits will be issued only where no off-street parking is provided or achievable.
- 5.8 Residents of properties who have no off street parking facilities and are prevented from parking outside their property because it abuts a principal traffic route or is situated at a junction controlled by traffic signals, or at a roundabout and covered by a Traffic Order preventing parking may be granted a permit for an adjacent street in which residents parking is provided, subject to there being sufficient spare capacity in those residents parking bays.

6. Other related permits

- 6.1 Holiday Visitor Permits – a two week holiday permit can be issued to visitors who reside outside of the City & County of Swansea boundary, including owners of second homes in Swansea. An application form must be signed by the occupier or owner of the Swansea property or the person being visited. A maximum of four permits per year will be available; for a duration of 2 weeks per permit, with a maximum of two permits to run consecutively. Only one permit will be allocated to an address at any one time.
- 6.2 Holiday companies that rent properties can apply for holiday permits for customers at a charge of £25 / week on receipt of a written request. No reduction in charge will be given for stays shorter than 1 week.
- 6.3 Family Visitor permit – A family visitor permit shall be issued for use by designated relatives of a resident who requires significant levels of care and support, **provided that no more than one residents only permit has been issued for the property.** A maximum of two registration numbers may be displayed on the permit. These permits will be valid for a 12 month period from date of issue.

- 6.4 A doctor's confirmation of the need for the permit is required on application and on renewal. However, where the doctor intends to impose a charge for this service, then production of a blue badge as supporting evidence will be considered as an alternative to the doctor's confirmation of the applicant's disability.
- 6.5 Care Attendant Permits - These permits will be issued to organisations / companies providing care, on receipt of a signed application form. The applicant must confirm that the carer is the primary person treating the resident's physical needs. This permit will be valid for a period of twelve months from the date of issue and will cost £25 / year.

7. Charges

- 7.1 The charges in this policy are subject to annual review.

Appendix B – Proposed Residents Parking Policy



Swansea Council Proposed Resident Parking Policy

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Resident's only parking schemes are intended to reserve a portion of the road space exclusively for residents and their visitors, when the availability of on-street parking is limited by non-residents wishing to park in the street.
- 1.2 Resident's only parking schemes are not effective, and will not be introduced, when there is little external demand but where levels of car ownership amongst residents mean that parking demand exceeds the number of parking spaces. Resident parking schemes help to manage limited parking spaces – they do not create additional parking spaces and do not guarantee any resident a space outside their property.

2. Criteria for assessment

- 2.1 Streets for which residents parking facilities are requested will not be surveyed to assess whether they meet the criteria below, **unless funding is available to implement measures if the street qualifies.** Requests for Resident Parking schemes will be held on file to be assessed and considered once funding has been identified.

3. Criteria for implementation

- 3.1 The Council may implement a Residents Parking scheme subject to all the following conditions being satisfied:
- 3.2 That the street or area must regularly exceed 75% parking saturation for at least four periods, daytime or evening, per week. (In the event that the street does not reach this level of parking saturation but does exceed 60% then a scheme of "Limited Waiting, Resident Permit Holders exempt" may be introduced.)
- 3.3 There is evidence of significant levels of parking in the street by non-residents.

- 3.4 That the majority of properties have no off-street parking available within reasonable proximity of the property.
- 3.5 That the majority of properties have no scope to establish vehicular access on to the property (including circumstances where application(s) for cross-over(s) has / have been declined) and no scope for providing parking facilities within the property's boundaries.
- 3.6 Parking can be accommodated without unacceptable impact on general traffic flow and buses.
- 3.7 There is funding available to advertise and implement the measures.

4. Provision

- 4.1 The allocation of residents only parking bays shall take up no more than 50% of parking spaces. Where parking saturation is between 60% and 75%, limited waiting bays with exemption for residents permit holders may be provided. The extent of provision within a street will be considered on a case by case basis in an effort to meet the needs of residents and visitors alike.
- 4.2 A maximum of two permits per property may be issued, each to be endorsed with the vehicle registration number. Each permit will be valid for a maximum of one year.

5. Criteria for Permit issue

- 5.1 Permits shall be granted to bona fide car owning full time residents of the street concerned. The applicant must hold a full UK Drivers licence.

- V5 document
- Driver's Licence
- Certificate of insurance

The address on these documents must match the address in which the permit is being applied for.

- 5.2 The criteria for foreign licence holders is the same criteria (as in 5.1) above) but they need to provide the following documentation

- Copy of their overseas licence
- Utility Bill to prove occupancy of the address
- Proof of insurance, insurance to be held at that address
- V5 at the Swansea address after 6 month residency.

- 5.3 A permit shall be issued for a goods vehicle with a maximum gross weight (mgw) no greater than 3500kg, subject to the owner providing written confirmation, from the employer, of authorised out of hours use

(e.g. for standby arrangements) and the vehicle being no more than 2.35m high and 5.35m long.

- 5.4 Company car users will be able to qualify for a resident's only parking permit, provided that their employer confirms in writing that the vehicle is essential for their work and that they have to take the vehicle home. This needs to be confirmed on each application. This would also apply to other company vehicles for example Council Vans or other liveried vehicles.
- 5.5 Where a Disabled Person owns a vehicle but is unable to drive and therefore uses a nominated driver, a permit shall be issued to the nominated driver for the nominated driver's address. To qualify the Council requires a letter of authorisation from the disabled person (registered keeper) and a copy of the ownership / sales documentation from the Motability Company confirming where the vehicle is kept.
- 5.6 Residential complexes with private parking will not be allocated permits for on-street residents only parking bays.
- 5.7 Residential properties with multiple apartments or rooms, without private parking will be allocated a maximum of two permits per property. These being issued on first come first served basis.
- 5.8 Houses converted into more than one unit (e.g. a house split into flats) after 1st January 2011 will be treated as a single unit – i.e. a maximum of two permits for the whole house on a first come, first served basis. Permits will be issued only where no off-street parking is provided or achievable.
- 5.9 Residents of properties who have no off street parking facilities and are prevented from parking outside their property because it abuts a principal traffic route or is situated at a junction controlled by traffic signals, or at a roundabout and covered by a Traffic Order preventing parking may be granted a permit for an adjacent street in which residents parking is provided, subject to there being sufficient spare capacity in those residents parking bays. NB this calculation to the total number of space measured against the current number of permits issued at the time of the application.
- 5.10 In the Parking Controlled Zones of Sandfields and St Thomas there is no unrestricted space so all new residents are affected by the 3 hour maximum stay period for non-permit holders. Whilst not an official Controlled Parking Zone all kerbside parking in Mount Pleasant is also restricted. In these situations a virtual waiver would be issued for new residents in the controlled zones for up to 10 working days to overcome this issue. This would give new residents only 10 days to get their documents changed to their new address and submit them to the Council. If no documents are submitted the waiver will cease and the vehicle could be issued with a PCN.

6. Other related permits

- 6.1 Holiday Visitor Permits – a two week holiday permit can be issued to visitors who reside outside of the City & County of Swansea boundary, including owners of second homes in Swansea. An application form must be signed by the occupier or owner of the Swansea property or the person being visited. A maximum of eight permits per year will be available; for a duration of 1 week per permit, with a maximum of two permits to run consecutively. Only one permit will be allocated to an address at any one time.
- 6.2 Holiday companies that rent properties can apply for holiday permits for customers at a charge of £25 / week on receipt of a written request. No reduction in charge will be given for stays shorter than 1 week.
- 6.3 Family Visitor permit – A family visitor permit shall be issued for use by designated relatives of a resident who requires significant levels of care and support, **provided that no more than one residents only permit has been issued for the property**. A maximum of two registration numbers may be displayed on the permit. These permits will be valid for a 12 month period from date of issue.
- 6.4 A doctor's confirmation of the need for the permit is required on application and on renewal. However, where the doctor intends to impose a charge for this service, then production of a blue badge as supporting evidence will be considered as an alternative to the doctor's confirmation of the applicant's disability.
- 6.5 Care Attendant Permits - These permits will be issued to organisations / companies providing care, on receipt of a signed application form. The applicant must confirm that the carer is the primary person treating the resident's physical needs. This permit will be valid for a period of twelve months from the date of issue and will cost £25 / year.
- 6.6 In situations where residents are forced to move through no fault of their own and they are at risk or vulnerable, a temporary electronic waiver will be issued until such time they can obtain a permit. This is be authorised by Head of Service on a case by case basis.

7. Charges

- 7.1 The charges in this policy are subject to annual review.

Appendix C – EIA Screening Form

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – 2017/8

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: Parking Services

Directorate: Place

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) Please name and describe here:

The Council is proposing to make changes to its current Residents Parking Policy. The current policy was introduced in July 2012. Since the introduction of this policy the way that the Residents Parking Scheme operates has changed. In 2016 the Council stopped issuing paper permits and replaced these with virtual. Under the paper system residents would send copies of the required proof of address and proof of ownership documents. Applications could also be completed at the Contact Centre.

The new Virtual Permit System allows residents to upload copies of their evidence electronically via the MiPermit website. This can be done at home or via the self-service terminals in the Contact Centre. Assistance by a member of the Contact Centre Staff can still be provided if required. Customers are also able to call the MiPermit helpline or the contact centre for assistance.

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery	Indirect front line service delivery	Indirect back room service delivery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to	Because they want to	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – 2017/8

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

Please provide details below – either of your planned activities or your reasons for not undertaking engagement.

These proposed policy changes have been put together in consultation with some Elected Members and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure. Information will be put on the Council's website and also on notice boards within Council buildings. The Contact Centre Staff and Telephony team will also be on hand to assist with applications and answer any questions. When a permit is due for renewal the resident will be written too with the instructions on how they will need to apply for a new Residents Parking Permit.

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – 2017/8

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility
 (H)

Medium visibility
 (M)

Low visibility
 (L)

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION?
(Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk
 (H)

Medium risk
 (M)

Low risk
 (L)

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes No If yes, please provide details below

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?

Please tick the relevant box

MOSTLY H and/or M → HIGH PRIORITY → EIA to be completed
Please go to Section 2

MOSTLY L → LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT → Do not complete EIA
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.

These proposed policy changes will make the Residents Parking Scheme less open to abuse. Since the introduction of MiPermit in 2016 residents have been able to self-serve and complete applications and changes through the MiPermit website or app. For those residents that do not have access to the internet or are unable to use it a telephone helpline service is in place. Residents can also visit the Contact Centre and complete an application either independently or assisted if required.

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form – 2017/8

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:
Name: Richard Mears
Job title: Parking Manager
Date: 17/06/19
Approval by Head of Service:
Name:
Position:
Date:

Please return the completed form to accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk

Agenda Item 16.



Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment

Purpose:	To update members and senior officers on the requirements and findings of the 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment
Policy Framework:	Children & Young People's (CYP) Plan / Poverty Strategy
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The findings of the 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment are noted. 2) Agreement be given to allow the findings to be released as a public summary.
Report Author:	Stephen Cable
Finance Officer:	Annick Wilkes
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the 2010 Child & Families (Wales) Measure 2010, a duty was placed on all Wales local authorities to 'secure sufficient play' in recognition of its contribution to addressing poverty.
- 1.2 The Duty on all authorities to '*secure sufficient play as far as is reasonably practicable*' requires the completion of a Play Sufficiency Assessment every 3 years and the publication of any findings including actions to meet sufficiency.
- 1.3 To date, assessments have been completed in 2013 and 2016.

2. The 2019 Assessment

- 2.1 As with the previous assessments, the 2019 Assessment lead was the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager within the Poverty Prevention Service.
- 2.2 The assessment was undertaken internally between July 2018 and March 2019, in part as no funding is automatically attached to the assessment, and partly as it is recognised that undertaking the assessment generates links and opportunities for collaborative working.
- 2.3 The assessment featured extensive consultation with children & young people, parent/carers, professionals and the general public, as well as several stakeholder working groups representing the protected characteristics.

3. Key Findings

- 3.1 The assessment is based around a series of indicators for which a RAG assessment allows each authority to state if an indicator is fully met, partially met or unmet.
- 3.2 Whilst some indicators were changed from 2016 to 2019, the majority were unchanged or could be compared to previous and this presents a picture of improvement over the 3 year period.
- 2016 45 Green, 44 Amber and 2 Red**
2019 51 Green, 41 Amber and 1 Red
- 3.3 Given that this has taken place during a period in which capacity within play, as with other areas, has reduced, this is testament to how play is reaching more policy and agenda than previously.
- 3.4 The Assessment is comprised of 9 ‘matters’ or areas, for which an overall RAG grading is required.

Matter	RAG Grading	Comment
A – Population		<i>No indicators associated</i>
B – Providing for Diverse Needs	Amber Partially Met	Excellent work on supporting access to play. Very hard to fully meet.
C – Space for Children to Play	Green Fully Met	Achieved by collaborative working with colleagues in Planning, Highways, Housing, Cultural Services
D – Supervised Provision	Green Fully Met	A broad range of supervised provision in place
E – Charges for Play Provision	Green Fully Met	Support for those who require it and much provision available at little or no cost
F – Access to Space/ Provision	Amber Partially Met	Some good work in place but traffic / transport remains a deterrent to play
G – Securing & Developing the Play Workforce	Green Fully Met	Increasing recognition of the wider play workforce, including families
H – Community Engagement & Participation	Green Fully Met	Swansea’s approach to Children’s Rights is key to this

1 – Play within relevant policy & implementation agenda	Green Fully Met	Excellent examples of embedding play into policy and practice of teams and services
---	--------------------	---

3.5 **Impact of the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant (AWPOG)** – The report highlighted the impact of year end funding from Welsh Government (WG) in each of the last 3 years that has allowed for gaps identified in the assessment to be filled. It is recognised that the picture would be very different without this.

3.6 **Need to Develop Strategically** – Given the focus on sufficiency, the assessment found that the biggest strides had been made in addressing how much, rather than why and this is why it is recommended to update Swansea’s Play Strategy to give direction and context to the work.

3.7 **‘The Lost Boys’** - One of the most telling realisations during the undertaking of the assessment was that in many areas, 2018 saw a major impact on children getting out to play. There were no boys, attending sessions. There has long been a concern over how video games were detracting from play, but 2018 was the year it had most effect in Swansea.

Significantly, the arrival of the latest popular video game saw many boys in particular no longer leaving their bedrooms.

3.8 **Play within the Third Sector** - Given that Swansea’s Third Sector Play Association, Play Right, closed in March 2016, at the time of the last assessment, after 40 years representing play outside of the local authority, it is interesting to consider the impact.

3.9 **Continuing to Reclaim Play** The 2016 Assessment talked quite proudly of how play was being ‘reclaimed’ and the impact this had in a sustainable way due to incorporating play’s value into existing policy and procedure rather than providing compensatory play – at cost. This must continue to be a priority.

3.10 **Play’s Value Recognised** – Increasingly play is being seen as an essential element to include in the development of policy and practice. Historically, play was an after-thought or not considered relevant but significant examples of collaborative work with colleagues in Planning, Highways, Housing, Cultural Services among others show the mutual benefit of valuing play within the development of services.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 The 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment presents a relatively positive picture of how play is valued and provided for within Swansea.

4.2 The 1 ‘red’ area which Swansea does not achieve is in extending its insurance cover to support community projects. Additionally, other areas such as opening school grounds for play are proving problematic to develop due to implications of public accessing schools.

- 4.3 With increased pressure on resources and funding, if anything play's impact has increased over the past 3 years and that is predominantly due to the work undertaken to sell the message of play to internal and external colleagues so that its impact is felt across a range of services.
- 4.4 This and the efforts to 'reclaim play' rather than focus on, often costly, compensatory play opportunities, makes play within Swansea a good example of a sustainable and impactful approach.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 The public summary will be produced following approval of the Assessment.
- 5.2 The implementation action plan (See pages 179-190 of Toolkit) will be overseen by the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager, reporting to the CYP Board via Swansea's Play Network, a cross-sector group comprised of those involved in play across Swansea.
- 5.3 It is intended that the majority of actions will be implemented by either the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager or the Play Development Officer, who now sit within the Vulnerable Learner Service in the Education Department, alongside internal and external colleagues.

6.0 Equality and Engagement Implications

- 6.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 6.2 The Play Sufficiency Assessment and associated All Wales Play Opportunities Grant was previously subject to a full EIA and the assessment itself is based around indicators reflecting each of the protected characteristics.
- 6.3 Additionally, access and inclusion within play is an area that Swansea has long given due regard to, with previous assessments bringing about significant developments such as work on 'gender stereotyping of toys' and the introduction of Swansea's first wheelchair swing in Victoria Park in 2017.

- 6.4 The Play Sufficiency Assessment included focus group work with both the Play Access Group (addressing access to play for those who are disabled or have additional needs) and the BAME Family & Play workstream.
- 6.5 The United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which Council has embedded into the Authority's Policy Framework, particularly Article 31 – the Right to Play, sits at the heart of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and consultation and engagement with children and young people was extensive over the 6 month period (see consultation results, pages 7-14 of appendix).
- 6.6 All consultation and engagement for the assessment allowed for responses and engagement through the medium of Welsh, while Menter Iaith Abertawe were engaged in the assessment to ensure due regard to play in the Welsh language.
- 6.7 The public summary of the Play Sufficiency Assessment will be produced in plain language to support accessibility by children & young people, those with English as a second language as well as adults with learning disabilities, in response to the presentation by Swansea People First at the Equalities Representatives Meeting earlier this year.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The Play Sufficiency Assessment includes an action plan for securing sufficiency (see appendix), although these are predominantly based on 'officer time' actions – noting point 4.3 which identifies the sustainable approach to developing and advocating for play.
- 7.2 Welsh Govt. has traditionally provided the end of year All Wales Play Opportunities Grant to support play sufficiency. Between 2017 and 2019 this brought an additional £343,000 (2017 - £106,138, 2018 - £90,000, 2019 - £147,000) into the local authority.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 There is a legal duty on the local authority to undertake the assessment and release the findings via hard copy and on the council website.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: Appendix A - 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment Toolkit
Appendix B – Play Sufficiency EIA

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: City & County of Swansea

Name of responsible officer: Stephen Cable

Job title: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager

Date of completion:

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 31st March 2019



Conducting the Assessment – Play Sufficiency Assessment

As well as establishing a baseline of provision, the Play Sufficiency Assessment will enable the following:

- Identification of gaps in information, provision, service delivery and policy implementation
- Support the establishment of evidence to give an indication of distance travelled in relation to play sufficiency
- Highlight potential ways of addressing issues relating to partnership working
- The input and involvement of all partners increasing levels of knowledge and understanding
- A monitoring system which will involve and improve communication between professionals
- The identification of good practice examples
- Increased levels of partnerships in assessing sufficient play opportunities
- The identification of actions for the Securing Play Sufficiency Action Plan which accompanies the Play Sufficiency Assessment

A template has been produced to support a corporate appraisal of the matters that need to be taken into account as set out in the Statutory Guidance. The indicators listed within each matter are provided as sample indicators which should be amended to meet local issues as appropriate.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment must demonstrate that the Local Authority has taken into account and assessed the matters set out in The Play Sufficiency Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2012 and Statutory Guidance.

As well as providing baseline information, the Assessment can include examples of current practice that the Local Authority wishes to highlight.

Local Authorities might consider structuring the Play Sufficiency Assessment in the following way and as a minimum address all the identified sections.

Principle Statement

This section should be used to articulate the Local Authority's acknowledgement of the value and importance of play in the lives of children.

The City & County of Swansea has a long-held and proud history of valuing and providing for children and young people's play opportunities as an essential component of their healthy development.

Introducing the Children's Play Officer post in the late 1990's and a Children's Play Team shortly after, Swansea's original Play Strategy was developed in 2003, as a cross-sector partnership document, with its 5 objectives being;

- 1 To ensure there are high quality, appropriate, accessible and resourced play opportunities for all children and young people across Swansea.
- 2 To put play in the spotlight, advocate for and on behalf of children and young people, their need to play, and promote greater awareness of the role of play in child development and benefits of play for everyone.
- 3 To consult, observe, involve and work in partnership with children and young people and other agencies in the planning and delivery of the strategy and play service.
- 4 To raise the quality of playwork practice, by promoting the development of training and appropriately qualified staff.
- 5 To increase the value of play spaces in Swansea in terms of design, location and maintenance so they meet the needs of children and young people.

The Strategy has been subject to 3 year action plans to implement the Strategy in 2007, 2010 and 2014, the latter being heavily influenced by the PSA.

Significantly, the Strategy has not been updated since 2014, but this was primarily due to a recognition that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and associated action plan had largely superseded the strategy although this might benefit from a re-think.

CCS recognises the benefits of cross-sector working and Swansea is additionally fortunate that the third sector has had a strong presence and commitment to play, although the closure of Play Right in 2016, has had an impact especially given that it was the area's third sector play association having been in existence (including in its previous incarnation as West Glamorgan Play Association) since the mid 1970's*.

Additionally, Swansea demonstrates its commitment to the embedding of Children's Rights in all of its work. Swansea was the first LA in Wales to do this and sets out arrangements for implementation in its Children and Young People's Rights Scheme. These two areas go hand in hand as Swansea's approach to play is that it is a child-led process by which children learn about the world around them including identifying their own values and beliefs, which naturally echoes children's rights.

In practical terms, there is a very close working relationship between play and children's rights, with every Play Network meeting having an agenda item of Advocating for CYP and Play led by the CCS Children's Rights Officer. Additionally, 5 members of the Play Network sit on the Children's Rights Network.

Alongside this recognition of people being every child's right, Swansea is rightly proud of what it has achieved to ensure that every child has this right met, regardless of need or personal circumstance. Significant progress on addressing inclusion and cohesion has been made, with some very positive results.

In the 10 years from 2005 to 2015, Swansea's approach had been very much driven by play's role as an essential element of community engagement and regeneration. The principle has been of play being delivered 'in the community, by the community' wherever

possible. Support was available to develop this, or direct delivery exists to compensate where this wasn't happening.

It is noteworthy that during that time responsibility for play moved amongst a range of services and directorates. From Recreation within Culture & Tourism, it moved to Community Regeneration in 2007, and again into Education Effectiveness in 2011. Throughout the 6 years from 2013 to 2019 it has sat within Early Years under Prevention & Early Intervention, latterly within the newly formed Poverty & Prevention Service.

Whilst the responsibility for developing play lies with the Children's Play Team, there is a general recognition across the authority of the positive impact of play. This is something that has increased significantly in recent years and now play sits high on the agenda in a range of cross-departmental policies and initiatives.

Context

This section should describe the methodology used to undertake and approve the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan and any consultation with partners on the Assessment/Action Plan. It should also list the key; partners that engaged with the process And identify any challenges in undertaking the Assessment. It should describe the mechanism that the Local Authority proposes to use to take forward the identified actions for the action plan.

Responsibility for completion of the 2019 PSA lay with the City & County of Swansea's Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager, supported by the LA's Play Development Officer.

The funding available to undertake the assessment was used to cover costs for these two officers to engage with relevant officers and organisations and lead on consultation and engagement sessions. Additionally, relief playworkers were brought in to support the undertaking of consultation with service users. A member of the team, Janine Elworthy, supported the two officers in the latter part of the Assessment to complete desk research and input consultation findings and support the identification of trends and issues.

The remainder of the funding to undertake the assessment went towards engagement including the highly successive 'Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea' Seminar on 15th March 2019.

As mentioned in 2016, the 2013 Assessment had been commissioned to Swansea University and whilst this had the benefit of supporting an impartial assessment and not impacting on officer time, there was a recognition that undertaking the assessment provided an invaluable opportunity to generate links and a greater understanding. So, even with the additional funding to support the undertaking, it was felt that the benefits of direct officer involvement outweighed the negatives.

Initial preparation involved identifying relevant officers within the LA that could act as leads on each specific point within the matters. The 2013 and 2016 findings were used to provide context.

In addition, the following specific consultation sessions and events were held;

- National Playday Event – Wed 1st August 2018
- 'Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea' Seminar – Friday 15th March 2019

The following focus groups took place

- Play Access Group – January 2019
- Play Network Action Planning Session – 13th February 2019

The following officer/stakeholder engagement sessions took place;

- Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea – Friday 15th March 2019
This session was delivered by The Children's Play Team in part due to the funding received from Welsh Govt to undertake the Play Sufficiency Assessment in partnership with ARUP, Rethinking Childhood and Playful Minds, who detailed how other cities across the globe had looked to develop a child-friendly approach to designing their city.

The event was delivered at full attendance capacity with a very pleasing range of services, knowledge and experience including senior officers with influence from Planning, Highways and Environment. Many of whom took inspiration from the event. This will lead to some key developments and opportunities that will need to be built upon between now and the next assessment in 2022.

Information on the opportunity to contribute to the Assessment through consultation events and questionnaires was placed on the local authority's website, as well as distributed to the local press

Additionally, previous research was referred to;

Four Ways Children Say Their Well-being Can Be Improved – HAPPEN (Swansea University) November 2018

- Spoke to 2,000 9 to 11 yr olds in South Wales and asked them what they would change in their area to make themselves, their friends and their family healthier and happier. 4 most common changes were;
 - 1) More Places to Play
 - 2) Create local places where they can be active
 - 3) Clean up the streets
 - 4) Make roads safer

Big Conversation – Views on Swansea City Centre

Responsibility for the ongoing implementation of the 2019 Assessment lies within two areas;

Within the Local Authority – The lead for Children's Play sits with the Poverty Prevention Service within Social Services. The PSA will be approved at Cabinet level.

Across Swansea – The cross-sector Children & Young People's (CYP) Board will receive the Assessment and associated action plan for consideration. The Play

Network, which feeds into the CYP Board will lead on monitoring and implementation, feeding issues and key developments up to Board level.

Partnership working

This section should demonstrate to what extent the following (and others) were involved in the undertaking of the Assessment and the development of the action plan:

- Town and Community Councils
- Third sector organisations, particularly play associations and play providers
- The private sector if appropriate
- Community groups

Town and Community Councils

The Children's Play Team has worked closely with a range of town and community councils, including supporting Mawr and Gorseinon Councils with grant funding and support to deliver local play opportunities.

Third sector organisations, particularly play associations and play providers

The third sector was significantly involved in the undertaking of the assessment as they work very closely alongside the local authority in developing play.

The private sector if appropriate

The private sector predominantly sits outside of the Play Network and the strategic approach to play within Swansea. The exception to this being the umbrella organisations such as Clybiau Plant Cymru and Early Years Wales (formerly WPPA) who contribute towards workforce devt. and development support for clubs that are members of their organisation.

There are several organisations providing play opportunities such as Limitless, Go Air and Play Zone and, whilst Play Zone sat within the Play Partnership (as the Play Network was previously known) they now operate largely outside of the coordinated approach the play.

In March 2019, Exist Skateboard Park attended the Childcare Networking Event and expressed a willingness to work closer and this will be explored over the coming year.

Community groups

The active engagement of community groups has traditionally been a major strength of delivery within Swansea, particularly when play sat within the Community Regeneration Service of the Regeneration Dept. This, however, has reduced in recent years, in part due to the reduction in capacity of play development to support groups, but, from feedback received, is also largely due to increased bureaucracy which takes community volunteers away from what made them want to get involved.

It is notable that the legacy of Swansea's Big Lottery Child's Play funding was that each of the 3 areas included within the project, Montana Park, Morriston and Penclawdd continued to operate play provision long after the funding ended in October 2014. However, in early 2019, the community volunteer who took on the Montana Park project has had to close the project, while Penclawdd is also facing difficulties. Even the most successful area, Morriston, which successfully gained its own Lottery funding and has played a key role in delivery over the past three years, sees its funding come to an end later in 2019 which will put its future delivery in question, although supporting its continuation will be a key priority.

Additionally, the development of Friends of Parks groups, largely resulting from budget savings within Cultural Services, has seen an increase in community-led play. Indeed, several of these Friends groups have, or are currently in the process of, brought funding for play into the area. Accordingly, the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant funding was opened up to Friends of Parks groups in recognition of their contribution, while it is hoped to extend training and awareness sessions to members of Friends of Parks groups.

A significant strength of play provision in Swansea over the past 20 years has been the involvement of community volunteers. The play projects that are supported generally involve a proportion of volunteers taking on roles relating to direct delivery or behind the scenes. Whilst the number of volunteers now setting up and leading on projects has reduced (we often hear due to increasing bureaucracy and paperwork requirements), during 2018/19 over 170 play volunteers supported local provision.

In recognition of this, every December, these volunteers are invited to the Mansion House for the Community Play Volunteer Awards hosted by the Lord Mayor, for which they all receive a certificate and memento.

It is pertinent to mention the role of PTA's, who have been engaged during the past three years, particularly around the discussion on opening of school grounds for play.

Consultation and participation

This section should describe how the Local Authority has:

- Obtained the views of children with regards to the play opportunities they currently access, how they would like the community to better support them to play and what barriers stop them from playing
- Obtained the views on play provision from parents, families and other stakeholders
- Analysed the information and how it has been used to inform future plans

As part of the National Playday celebrations at the National Waterfront Museum on Wednesday 1st August, a Play Sufficiency consultation area was set-up to encourage children and their families to give their views on play in Swansea.

As an added incentive, everyone who completed a questionnaire was put into a prize draw for a family swim at the LC (leisure centre).
All results on the day were fed into the overall PSA consultation process.

A Partner Planning Session was held on Thursday 18th October 2018 to bring together those whose roles contribute to compliance with the Duty (see appendix 1). Representation on the day included; (From the Local Authority) Child & Family Services, Children’s Play Team, Early Years Progression, Health & Wellbeing, Family Information Service, Housing Operations, Parks & Cleansing, Library Service, Life Stages Team, Road Safety, Planning, Transport Strategic Team, (From the Community / Third Sector) Ethnic Youth Support Team (EYST), Gower College Swansea, Interplay, Menter Iaith Abertawe, Morryston Playscheme, Play Access Group, Play & Leisure Opportunities Library, Play Network, Swansea Council for Voluntary Services

The Play Access Group met on Monday 12th November to look at the relevant sections of the PSA around access to play, to assess the current picture and identify areas for improvement.

Through HAPPEN^{1,2}, our Welsh primary school network, we asked over 2000 children in South Wales, what they would change in their area to make them and their friends healthier and happier. An article based on these responses is written in The Conversation³. A significant proportion of these responses were from pupils in Swansea (1413 pupils). Between 2017 and 2018, these pupils were asked what they would change in their area to make them healthier and happier? Responses were collated into themes and these are presented in Table 1. 19% of pupils responses were centred around parks, play and space.

Table 1. % of responses according to each theme .

Theme	% of responses (n=1413)
Behaviour	1.8
Car Parking	0.6
Clean Streets / Area	10.9
Community Facilities	3.7
Diet Factors	6.6
Environment	4.5
General Safety	2.8
Health Facilities	1.1
Home Environment	1.4
Other	6.1
Parks/Play/Space	18.8
Pathways	0.6
Physical Activity (Personal)	8.6
Road Safety	7.2
Smoking/Drugs/Alcohol Prevention	2.2
Social	3.4
Sports Clubs/Facilities	19.8

The top codes within the parks/play/space theme were to have a park, have more parks, improve existing parks, have a playground/play area and have more green space.

A report from Public Health Wales revealed that ‘while almost all parents in Wales (97 per cent) think it is important for their child to play outdoors every day, nearly a third of children under-five (29 per cent) aren’t getting the time outdoors that they need’, (Public Health Wales⁵, 2017). The PSA 2019 indicated that more outside play opportunities were a popular desire for adults and children alike. Most children rated the park as their favourite place to play.

The summer 2018 consultation held at Swansea Waterfront Museum agreed. Overall, respondents reported that they were happy with play opportunities in Swansea. The most common answer to the question 'What would you like to see more of in Swansea?' was Splash pools (24%), followed by more parks (18%).

In answer to 'What makes Swansea a great place to play?' both Beaches, and Parks were the most popular answer with 28% respectively. We also asked, 'What are the barriers to play in Swansea?' Residents reported that Cost (25%) and A Lack of Equipment/Opportunity (38%) were the biggest barriers when accessing play. From the summer consultation it was clear that free play activities were the preferred option for families.

Further to this, we have asked 757 children between 2017 and 2018, how safe they feel playing in their area. Table 2 table shows these responses. We asked these children, on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being not very safe and 10 being very safe), how safe do you feel playing in your area?

Table 2. % of pupils reporting how safe they feel playing in their area on a scale of 0-10.

Safe Play	% of pupils (n=757)
0	1.1
1	0.5
2	2.8
3	6.2
4	1.1
5	6.3
6	4.5
7	7.5
8	15.1
9	18.0
10	37.0

Through another project ACTIVE⁴, based on the provision of vouchers to encourage physical activity among 12-13 year olds, we are finding that teenagers choose to spend their vouchers on fun, social and informal activities such as trampolining, laser tag and the waterpark (slides and surfing). The take home message from ACTIVE is that

providing more local opportunities for teenagers to 'play' in fun, unstructured and social activities promotes participation and changes attitudes towards activity.

1. Todd C, Christian D, et al (2016) Developing HAPPEN (Health and Attainment of Pupils involved in a Primary Education Network): working in partnership to improve child health and education. *Perspectives in Public Health*.136:115-116
<https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1P3-4064704611/in-practice>
2. www.happen-wales.co.uk
3. Todd C and Brophy, S. Four ways Children say their well-being can be improved
<https://theconversation.com/four-ways-children-say-their-well-being-can-be-improved-104195>
4. (Active Ref)
5. Public Health Wales, (2017) Nearly a third of under-fives aren't getting enough outdoor play
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/news/45907>

The PSA questionnaires were circulated to all Swansea schools via a link in the Schools Newsletter in January 2019

Swansea continues its long-held commitment to working with children and young people, by delivering services that impact upon them. This can best be demonstrated by its embedding of the UNCRC into its work, ensuring all policies and procedures give due regard to children's rights. The questionnaire specifically asked questions about whether play opportunities in Swansea were sufficient for CYP's needs, how they could be better supported to play, and what barriers were stopping them from achieving this goal. Where possible, questions were open ended to ensure children's voices were accurately represented.

The questionnaire was made available bi-lingually on the council's website and distributed to;

- All Primary and secondary schools
- All community play projects
- The Play Network including the various sub-groups
- All provision delivered by the Children's Play Team

Consultation events were also carried out at;

Chinese new year event - Swansea Waterfront Museum
ALN events
Swansea Bay Asylum seeker group
Ethnic Youth Support team

Child & Young People Findings

Of the 237 responses from Children & Young People, 181 were between 5-10 years old, 47 were between 11-14 years old, 4 were 15+ years old, and 2 were between 0-4 years old.

It may be pertinent to note that the percentage of older respondents in the 2019 research was significantly lower than in 2016, with the majority in 2019 being below 10 years old. Sample numbers are marginally smaller also, which would likely have had an effect on the findings;

2016-	0-4 (8) 2.5%	5-10 (152) 47%	11-14 (142) 44%	15+ (7%)
2019-	0-4 (2) 1%	5-10 (181) 76%	11-14 (47) 20%	15+ (2%)

Based on the responses to the CYP questionnaires, there was a universal recognition of the value of, and need to, play. The majority of CYP reported feeling 'Happy' when given enough opportunity to play. A very small number reported feeling 'Lonely' whilst playing, and this did somewhat correspond with the same children that reported playing computer games, although numbers of children reporting playing computer games was small, this could warrant further consultation.

51% of CYP felt they had sufficient / enough opportunities to play in 2016. The 2019 survey found that this had increased to 79%.

The headline issue in 2016 was the presence of what CYP refer to as 'druggies'. In 2019, the issue of dog mess, and unsavoury characters were not considered to be the largest barriers for children when accessing play, although safety in general was a key barrier for children of all ages. In answer to the question 'What stops you from playing' the top three considerations for children were; Too busy (29%), Nobody to play with (27%), When it's not safe (26%). It would be reasonable to assume that the lower average age of respondent could have had some effect on this outcome, however, there was no reference to drug taking from any respondent in this years survey, and very few relating to dogs/dog mess. 31 of the 237 CYP respondents reported 3 or more barriers to play, including those shown above.

In terms of their local area, slightly lower 168 (76%) felt they had enough opportunities to play where they lived, than 79% locally. Parks continue to feature highly in favourite places to play, although that figure has decreased significantly since 2016. From just over 50% in 2013, and 59% in 2016. In 2019 only 28% of all CYP included parks as one of their favourite places to play (Although, 57% of CYP considered an outdoor environment, such as Park, Garden, Yard, 'Vetch', to be their preferred places to play), and a significant number of CYP, (104, 44%) considered more parks and play areas to be something they needed to help them to play more often.

In 2019 CYP who identified themselves as having a disability made up nearly 8% of the responses, (Slightly lower than 10% in 2016), they recorded a similar percentage to 2016 that felt they had sufficient access to play at 63%, compared to 64%. This positivity is reaffirmed when considering that 64% of CYP with disabilities felt they had sufficient opportunities to play where they live, compared to 23% in 2016. Whilst not from a particularly large sample, and with many from a consultation group, there is sufficient deviation from the 2016 report to deduce that disabled CYP's play opportunities in their local area have significantly improved since 2016.

Children and young people from the BAME community accounted for 16 (7%) responses. They recorded a response of 63% feeling they had enough opportunity to play where they lived, similarly to the overall CYP findings.

In 2019 the Traveller community were less well represented than in 2016, with just 4 responses, compared to 22 responses in 2016. There was insufficient data to make comparisons this year. Whereas the 2016 consultation coincided with a period in which the Play on Wheels team were regularly visiting the official site, by 2019 however the Play team now only attends these sites during the winter months, when opportunities for play are diminished.

Despite some grounds for positivity, it is clear whilst children value play, especially outside, it might not always be what they are getting, although levels of sedentary behaviour have reportedly improved in Wales over recent years, this change has mostly be significant within schools, in 2018 it was reported that ‘only 15% of children and young people meet daily recommended levels of activity’ Source: Happen. Whilst this year’s finding are quite positive overall, it remains the case that 29% of CYP report hardly ever, or never ‘going out to play and hang out with friends’, Source: PSA 2019.

Professionals

Professional questionnaires were completed by 11 individuals this year, the majority of which were from Teaching assistants rather than specifically from play workers. Due to insufficient data it is difficult to draw specific conclusions although it may be pertinent to note that whilst professionals unanimously agreed that the role of the play worker was becoming more essential, only 50% of respondents felt that the play worker role was recognised and valued, and only 30% of professionals felt that CYP had enough opportunities to play.

Parent/Carers

In 2016, 45 parent/carers completed a questionnaire with a very telling balance result that only 14 (31%) felt their children had enough opportunities to play.

In 2019 however, this number had increased significantly to 137 parent/carer respondents. 60% (75 of 124 responses to the question), were satisfied with their children’s opportunities to play. Parent/carers recorded parks (50%), play areas, play clubs, beaches, and home, as being where their children liked to play. Of the recorded answers, 82% of parent/carer respondents chose to put an outdoor environment as a preference for their child in seeking play opportunities. 61% of parents/carers felt that ‘More Play clubs’ were a priority in helping their children to play more often. When asked to rate the quality of play opportunities a small majority of parents/carers rated the quality as poor (36%), in comparison to 29% who reported the quality of play opportunities in their area as high. Less than 5% of parents/carers considered play not to be important in children’s development.

Welsh PSA

45 Welsh primary students responded to this survey, unfortunately however the findings are largely inconclusive due to the quantity of non-responses. Feedback from the questionnaire considered that the translation could be made more child friendly. It

was felt that some of the terminology used could have been simpler or more conversational, i.e. 'teulu' instead of 'perthnasau', or 'ofnus' instead of 'petrus'. Of the 24 participants who responded to the question 'Do you have sufficient opportunities to play', 63% of respondents stated that they do, leaving 37% who said that they did not, paralleling other findings across this year's consultation.

Conclusion

Overall, the 2019 consultation into play has shown some promising results regarding CYP's opinions on play in Swansea. Overall 78% of CYP feel they have enough support from adults to play, and 79% of CYP feel they have enough opportunity to play. Of the 36 (15%) respondents who reported insufficient opportunities to play more parks and play areas, and more people/ friends to interact with were considered to be prime barriers. Even children who reported sufficient opportunities to play considered this under the question 'What would give you more opportunities?'. Comments such as; 'More people, more places', and 'More people to interact with', featured here for both groups. The majority of children requested more play clubs, or more parks and play areas as one of the things they most desired to help them to play more often and as considered above, a large proportion of children noted safety, time, and a lack of other CYP to play with as being the main barriers to play.

The vast majority of CYP reported sufficient support from adults to play. Interestingly, CYP who reported insufficient opportunities for play were not significantly more likely to report insufficient support from adults to play. They were however, more likely to indicate a desire for 'More play clubs' than those that were happy with their opportunities to play. It is evident from the consultation that the barriers to play reported in 2016 are no longer pressing concerns for CYP, or Parents and Carers, a lack of opportunity and a lack of interaction are of a more likely concern to CYP in 2019. It is evident that the majority of children and young people under ten years old are sufficiently happy with the play opportunities they are afforded, they would just like to see more of what they already have, and be allowed the time, and freedom, to enjoy them. It is a credit to CCS commitment towards play, and the UNCRC's rights, that this is the case in 2019. Early years programmes, and FP curriculum in schools could also have had a positive effect on these conclusions.

Equally promising evidence from the report shows that the majority of CYP and parents and carers feel that children have good opportunities to play in Swansea. Despite financial challenges it is evidently a credit to all the agencies working in Swansea that considerable barriers to play in 2013 and 2016 are no longer key issues for families in 2019, however, as previously eluded, the percentage of older respondents in the 2019 research was significantly lower than in 2016. Smaller sample numbers, and a perceived lower age of respondent, is likely have had an effect on the findings, as well as the consideration that the majority of the sample was conducted at scheduled events, or targeted play sessions. That could have over exaggerated the responses but does not negate the considerable improvements in findings since 2016. Further consultation with children age 11+, and with those that are harder to reach will be required to gain a clearer understanding of the barriers facing them in accessing play opportunities in Swansea.

CYP Data key:

What do you like to play:

Sports- Football, Rugby, Swimming, Basketball, Netball, Badminton, Tennis
Art- Painting, Drawing, Glueing, Dance, Singing, Crafts, Acting, Performing
Computer games- Fortnite, XBOX, Ipad, Road Blox, Tik Tok, Phone
Active games - Parachute games, Tag, Hide and seek, Mob, Trampoline, Gymnastics,
Bowling, Cops and robbers, Skipping, catch, kerbside, Dodge ball
Board games - Monopoly, Marble run,
Card games - Uno
Playing - Playing, Games, Lego, Play dough, Dolls, Toys, Truth or dare, Quizes
Structured activity - Scouts, Beavers, Play sessions, Play group, Cooking
Risky play – Riding motorbikes, Zip line, Riding horses, Killer Clown, Climbing, Forest
school, Scooting, Biking, Hoverboard
Role play – Spiderman, Being an animal, Imagination
Hang out – Hanging out, Chatting, Talking
Paid activities – Go air
Messy play – Mud
Sensory – Lights, Music

Maximising resources

This section should provide an overview as to how partners currently use their existing budgets to support children's access to play opportunities. It should identify how budgets have been reprioritised as part of the 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessments and subsequent plans.

Please use this section to highlight what has changed since the 2016 Play Sufficiency Action Plan in terms of how resources are allocated.

Please also highlight how Welsh Government programmes have been used locally for the provision of play and how they have addressed priorities from your 2016 play sufficiency assessment:

The Local Authority's dedicated core funding for the Children's Play Team has marginally increased from £92,400 in 2015/16 to £94,800 in 2018/19, which predominantly reflects cost of living increases.

This, in itself, should be recognised as 'comparatively positive' at a time when budgets are generally reducing. It is likely that the statutory responsibilities arising from the PSA have contributed to the case for play as, significantly, this funds the two posts that are instrumental in undertaking and implanting play sufficiency, the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager* and Play Devt. Officer.

It is noteworthy that the role of Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager has replaced that of Children's Play Officer due to the growth of the role to incorporate both play and

childcare sufficiency. As a result, this role has inevitably adapted to be 50% play and 50% childcare, i.e. Swansea Council core funds 1.5 full time play development posts in 2019 as opposed to 2 posts in 2016.

Additionally, it is worth noting that play currently sits within the Poverty Prevention Service, which has seen a marginal increase in overall budget during this period.

The funding received via the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant has been extremely beneficial in terms of ongoing play delivery.

A quote from colleagues in Parks & Cleansing that we often refer to, is 'If we hadn't apportioned what we have with PSA funding, we would be having to put chains on gates!'. Essentially, the PSA funding has prevented parks and play areas from closing, as well as having supported the sustainability of many a play project.

The Families First programme in Swansea continues to support projects that offer a 'playful approach' to supporting families. This has also been key in that it funds the vast majority of direct provision, although by definition this means that the focus needs to be on family-centred work that aids prevention and early intervention, rather than supporting play from a children's rights perspective.

The Play on Wheels team, delivering peripatetic play opportunities via a 40 foot Playbus and transit van, are predominantly funded through Families First and, accordingly, have diversified into provision that supports the family. The team's dedication has seen the development of highly successful programmes such as Fresh Air Families, Play Unravelling (in partnership with Family Play) and The We Play sessions. This is as well as continuing to support play in Swansea Prison, with home schooled children, STF units, Travellers site...and of course Swansea wide open access play opportunities during the school holidays.

Additionally, the Family Play Support Workers (two posts, totalling 31 hours pw) have been developing their service offering Stepping into Play training with accreditation and most excitingly the Theraplay service.

It is noteworthy that, at the time of the first PSA in 2013, both posts were Play Development roles, supporting community projects, so the many benefits to targeted families has come to the detriment of community play projects.

During the last few years the current Play Development role has had to 'morph' to become more strategic. The officer has been looking at more strategic ways of working with internal partners especially, to maximise impact and play opportunities by extending understanding of the importance of play within the authority. This has been as well as face to face play support, play training delivery, community play area consultation, team supervision, quality assuring settings, PSA and CYP grant admin and execution, event organisation...the list goes on!

Family Play have pioneered the use of Theraplay within the section. This is an exciting new service for Swansea. Theraplay is a unique type of play therapy designed to support families to re-establish attachment and uses play to repair relationships damaged through trauma. Theraplay has its basis in psychology and combines with

play to support families at risk of break down, addressing many of the challenges raised in the Aces report.

Family Play delivered training on Theraplay to Childcare professionals during the Healthy Hearts conference.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and local Well-being Plans

This section should identify how the Play Sufficiency Assessments form part of the local needs assessment and to what extent the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan are integrated into the Well-being Plan and Public Service Board.

In 'Working together To Build a Better Future', the Local Wellbeing Plan produced by Swansea Public Service Board Under Section 4, Building Stronger Communities, it states; We want to make Swansea a vibrant, tolerant and welcoming place. A place where everyone has equal access to opportunities and feels truly proud to live, work and play.

To achieve this, we need people to feel like they belong and feel safe. Swansea must be a place where people's backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and valued.

Swansea's Tackling Poverty Strategy 2018-20 Delivery Plan includes an Objective under section A) Children have a good start in life to '*Achieve sufficient play opportunities in line with statutory requirements*' where the RAG status of each matter is reported.

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

This section should identify the lead director and lead member for children and young people's services. It should also describe the Play Monitoring Group or equivalent. Along with a list of members, please describe how the group has been facilitated and the benefits and challenges of the group.

Responsibility for undertaking the Assessment falls within the remit of the Poverty Prevention Service, via the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager. Accordingly, the Local Authority includes KPI's relating to play sufficiency within its targets.

The Play Network continues to directly monitor the implementation of the 2016 Play Sufficiency Action Plan. As of 31st December 2018 the wider membership stands at *** (see appendix 2). This include those contributing to both the full Play Network and its sub-groups.

At a time when partnership groups are finding it increasingly difficult to retain momentum due to reduced capacity, the Play Network and its sub-groups continues to buck the trend, although increasingly over the past three years, occasional meetings are cancelled due to lack of availability.

In turn, the Play Network reports progress to the Children & Young People's (CYP) Board. During 2018, the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager presented to the CYP Board on the Play Network and its role in coordinating a strategic approach to play. It is notable that this was regarded well as an example of how partnership working can work and make a real impact.

Criteria

This section contains the “matters that need to be taken into account” as set out under section 10 of the Statutory Guidance.

The Criteria column: sets out the data that needs to be available and the extent to which Local Authorities meet the stated criteria.

The RAG status column: provides a drop down box, whereby the Local Authority can show its assessment of whether that criterion is fully met; partially met; or not met. These have been given Red, Amber Green markers, which appear as words in the drop down boxes. *(In the “RAG status column”, Double click on the word STATUS – this will bring up drop-down form fields options, use the arrow down key until the status required RED, AMBER or GREEN- is at the top then press ok)*

Red, Amber Green (RAG) status is a tool to communicate status quickly and effectively.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	Fully met
Criteria partially met.	Partially met
Criteria not met.	Not met

The 2019 column enables the local authority to indicate the direction of travel with the insertion of arrows.

The Evidence to support strengths column: should be used to provide the reason for the chosen criteria status and how the evidence is held.

The Shortfall column: should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully meet the criteria.

The Identified Action for Action Plan column: should be used to show the Local Authority action planning priorities for that Matter.

The Comments section: asks some specific questions for each matter that should enable you to give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance. It also provides the opportunity to identify challenges and how they might be overcome.

Matter A: Population

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should provide an overview of population and demographic data used locally to plan for play provision.

Information should also be included regarding:

- Ages of children
- First language Welsh speaking children
- Cultural factors (such as other language)
- Gypsy Traveller children
- Disabled children

What has changed in terms of population and demographic trends since Play Sufficiency Assessment 2016?

(Changed from 2016 – no specific measures)

How has/will the Local Authority use its population data to plan for sufficient play opportunities locally?

Swansea's Research & Information Team provide updated demographic information based on Census data.

The information is used to identify any trends or potential areas of need, with examples being;

- Prevalence of children with disabilities in particular areas to support the location of inclusive play equipment
- Child & young person population in remote areas such as The Gower and Mawr wards to identify whether support would be beneficial
-

Have there been challenges?

A major strength of Swansea is its cultural diversity. As a City of Sanctuary, it benefits from being comprised of an extensive mix of cultures, backgrounds and beliefs. Whilst not a 'challenge' as such, it certainly needs to be a consideration that provision reflects the demography of the area it is intended to represent.

Equally, the ever-changing make-up of the area, including the fact that the Census was last undertaken for 2011, means information may not always fully reflect demographic breakdowns.

How can these be overcome?

The application form for the Children & Young People’s (CYP) Fund asks applicants to demonstrate how they plan to meet the needs of all local children & young people including considerations towards recognising cultural diversity.

Comments

RAG Status for Matter A

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about how the Local Authority and partners aim to offer play opportunities that are inclusive and encourage all children to play and meet together.

RAG Status:

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	X
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
B11 page 183	The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Consultation for the 2019 Assessment included engagement by the Play on Wheels team at sessions on the Gower and within Mawr ward</p> <p>It is recognised that these areas take up a large percentage of Swansea geographically, but are populated by significantly small number of people, particularly children and young people.</p> <p>Feedback from children & young people and their</p>	This continues to be Amber but has regressed since 2016 due to the continued focus on delivery during priority (generally urban) areas and the closure of provision in rural areas such as Mawr and Gower	<p>B11a Ensure continued service delivery in Gower and Mawr wards</p> <p>B11b Look to prioritise play areas within these wards when upgrading or during any discussion on future rationalisation</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 184				<p>parents living in these areas is that they feel isolated, often without other children within a safe walking distance and services being harder to access.</p> <p>The Play on Wheels team within the local authority looks to take play provision out to these areas in recognition of the need attached.</p> <p>Additionally, many of the fixed play areas on the Gower are owned by community councils</p> <p>It is, however, noted that, particularly for those children living on the Gower, many have amazing beaches, woodland and other natural play opportunities within reach. This, in comparison to the fact that we know many children within the more</p>		<p>B11c Look to provide opportunities for natural play experiences for children in those areas where access to beaches and woodland are limited</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 185				<p>deprived areas of Swansea such as Blaenymaes, Townhill and Penlan have never been to the beach, despite having it relatively close by.</p> <p>Since the last assessment the Play Dev Officer worked closely with and supported, through planning, training, interviews etc, MAWR Community Council to develop 3 week long summer playschemes in the villages of Felindre, Garnswllt and Craig Cefn Park. These playschemes are still running successfully supported by the CYP Play Fund</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/ Play Dev Officer</p>		
B12	The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER	Whilst Swansea is recognised as a predominantly English speaking area, it is	Many services delivered, including much of the work of the Local Authority,	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 186				<p>recognised that particularly in the North of the area, there are many first language Welsh speakers and the play service needs to reflect that.</p> <p>The development of the Welsh Language Act and the Active Offer have both increased recognition of the need to value the Welsh language.</p> <p>Play Schemes Gellionnen (Clydach) Gellionnen play scheme has been running for many years throughout school holidays in a Welsh school in Clydach. Here we provide play opportunities for children through the medium of welsh. It is regularly well attended by local children some of whom are not first language welsh. Pontybrenin (Gorseinon)- New for 2018</p>	<p>take place without a member of staff who has identified themselves as either fluent Welsh speaking or bi-lingual.</p> <p>The work of Menter Iaith Abertawe is invaluable but still suggests there are certain play environments where Welsh is welcomed and very few projects report</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 187				<p>Menter Iaith Abertawe have trailed a new location in 2018, offering a welsh play scheme in Gorseinon. The scheme has been well received by the school, its pupils and the parents. It is run similarly to Gellionnens play scheme and all play is led by the children.</p> <p>Playground Games (English Schools) We offer 10 sessions per school offering training sessions to each class teaching them various playground games in Welsh. The school is then sent a pack containing more games to play to incorporate the Welsh Language.</p> <p>Messy Play Sessions During School Holidays we offer Messy Play sessions through the medium of welsh.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Menter Iaith Abertawe can offer Welsh language awareness training, and sessions to play projects to help the staff use more Welsh within their settings. These sessions include introducing Welsh songs, stories and activities within settings.</p> <p>Under the Playful Schools Grant a whole school, intensive play project was rolled out in Ysgol Llogyn Fach. Whole school staff - including governors, teaching and support staff and parents received Play training. Loose parts were introduced at play time with support from H&S department. The school developed a Play Policy and associated risk benefit policy.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Child & Youth Devt. Officer Menter Iaith Abertawe		
B13	The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Swansea is a diverse area with a great number of cultures, however it benefits from representative organisations who are effectively engaged</p> <p>The capacity to support the BAME (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic) Family & Play Workstream has reduced which has had an impact but The Play Dev Officer feeds into the regional BAME network ensuring play is kept on the agenda.</p> <p>The Ethnic Youth Support Team (EYST) receive grant funding from the Local Authority to run playschemes for families from Ethnic minorities which are extremely successful. Additionally a member of</p>	Reduced number of BAME Family & Play workstream meetings due to capacity.	B13a Ensure that representative groups continue to be engaged and are effectively ensuring the views and needs of those they represent are included

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>EYST attended consultation and engagement sessions as part of the 2019 PSA to ensure the needs and wishes of minority groups were recognised.</p> <p>POW/Fam Play /PlayDev have successfully kept engagement with the BAME communities alive through the Fresh Air Families, Play Unravalled and Stepping into Play projects. Particular of note is the high BAME attendance on the Stepping into Play course that supported participants to acheive a level one in The Importance of Play.</p> <p>The Play Team additionally facilitated partnership work between The African Community Centre and Swansea City of Sanctuary to run their own playgroup together and whilst this is not still running due to</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 191				<p>absence of 3rd sector funding it was a good example of how play is used in Swansea to support collaboration.</p> <p>A major area of progression since 2016 has been with the engagement of the Chinese community who have enjoyed a close working relationship with the Play on Wheels team.</p> <p>The Play Unravelling programme (Family Play & POW teams) was delivered through translation in 4 different languages, in Hafod School. This inclusive play project was quoted as, “the most effective play programme the school has had’.</p> <p>Family Play delivered the Stepping In To Play Programme and upskilled parents of the Chinese Community to receive Level 1</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 192</p>				<p>in Play and Child Development.</p> <p>Family Plays intensive Therapeutic play sessions have worked with families seeking asylum. Using play as a tool to support the processing of trauma and as a method of integration into the community.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Devt. Officer</p>		
1014	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.	AMBER	AMBER	<p>As stated in 2016, Swansea has a long history of recognising the need to ensure disabled children and young people have their right to play fully met. Interplay was established in the mid 1980's as the local charity to support access to play.</p> <p>A significant development between 2016 and 2019 was the introduction of</p>	In 2016, a major strength was representation of the local inclusive play sector in the Disability Strategy Group. This group no longer meets, leaving a gap in coordination, although it is currently hoped to set up a variation on this group over the coming months.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 193				<p>Swansea’s first wheelchair swing</p> <p>The Play Access Group, established to ensure issues of access to play for disabled children & young people was given due consideration, continues to meet and ensure due consideration is given.</p> <p>In 2018/19, the funding available to support children & young people with disabilities and additional needs to access play was combined with services commissioned via Child & Adult Services to provide a more coordinated and all-encompassing product that meets all needs.</p> <p>As part of the planning process for this, a range of consultation and engagement took place</p>		<p>B14 *We are now looking to develop the space surrounding the wheelchair swing after feedback from parent carers. This will include improving accessibility, a wheelchair appropriate trampoline, flush roundabout and basket swing. We are funding this phase 2 of the project through the PSA Grant. Play Dev has also been in touch with the new vendors of the local café premises that housed accessible changing toilets nearby to the play area and they have confirmed the changing toilets are being retained in the revamped business. Play Dev will monitor.</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 194				<p>including a child & young person session facilitated by Interplay and a session for parent/carers.</p> <p>Projects funded during 2018/19 were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YGG Pen-y-Bryn Playscheme. A holiday scheme for pupils of the school for children with additional needs. - Ysgol Crug Glas Playscheme. A well established and regarded holiday project for those children & young people with more profound needs, and their siblings. - Interplay SWAT (support workers available today) workers. This was a specific initiative developed to ensure that, where possible, all children, regardless of need, can attend their local 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 195				<p>playscheme. It provides a pool of specialist support workers who can provide 1:1 support where a community project identifies that this is required to ensure a specific young person can gain access.</p> <p>- Buddies Playscheme. Delivered by Local Aid, this 2 week holiday scheme is intended for those children & young people who cannot access other specialist provision.</p> <p>- Play & Leisure Opportunities Library. This project works with the whole family that is affected by a child with a disability. It runs Pop in & Play sessions as well as a lending library for inclusive play equipment and resources. Additionally, in 2015, it opened up Hafan-y-Mor, a new location at</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Singleton Hospital to provide better links.</p> <p>The development of the Play & Leisure Opportunities Library is testament to both the passion and commitment of local people, but also the recognition of the importance of this work. In the past few years it has developed from largely volunteering work out of the kitchen of one of the organisers to an organisation that can attract considerable funding.</p> <p>The 2016 Assessment identified Home Schooled children as a priority group and, whilst this isn't specifically an issue around disability, it is frequently the case that a child's needs result in them being home schooled. In the past 3 years, as a result of the PSA, the Children's Play</p>		<p>B14b Continue to support home schooled families to access play</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Team have delivered a range of opportunities to home schooled families.</p> <p>It is recognised that after-school and an opportunity for disabled children to play safely with their peers is a priority. Currently Interplay provide an after-school club, while SCVS administer a 1-2-1 scheme. Children can access the 1-2-1 Special Needs scheme (provided setting is registered). This is funded via the LA.</p> <p>In terms of children with profound multiple needs, there is a recognition that they will be excluded from any provision that doesn't have either a nurse on site or someone trained to administer necessary medication. The Crug Glas Playscheme has a nurse on site at all times, but this is an exception.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 198				<p>It is not just those children & young people with additional needs that are affected. There is a recognition that siblings and other young carers will see a detrimental impact on their play opportunities and this will have further implications. Many projects offer play opportunities for siblings and young carers.</p> <p>Speaking to disabled children & young people, the key issue seems to relate to being able to spend time around their peers and to be able to 'hang out'.</p> <p>At the same time, parent/carers are looking to challenge 'age appropriate play'. There have been examples of families being told their child's choice of play is not age appropriate, i.e. for a younger age.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 199				<p>Following the development of the Key Considerations Document, for consideration of disability access, PSA grant money was ringfenced to purchase inclusive and accessible equipment to improve play experiences for children with disabilities. All play space upgrades or developments are required to be as accessible/inclusive as possible whilst also providing challenge and variety.</p> <p>Whilst Interplay has experienced considerable funding cuts in recent years, the LA has revised its grant to them to purely state 'Core costs' which can support additional grant applications.</p> <p>Play on Wheels/Fam Play/Play Dev offer capacity attended additional needs sessions with their Fresh Air</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 200				<p>Families sessions – these sessions offer sensory, muddy, cookery over a fire, experiential play in a safe environment.</p> <p>Play on Wheels run We Play sessions specifically for children and families with additional needs. The team also work and have worked closely with STF settings to support play opportunities and improve play knowledge.</p> <p>Through the new Theraplay service provided by Family Play families are able to access intensive therapeutic play support with many referrals including families with children with disabilities.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Access Group/Play Dev Officer</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
B15	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion	GREEN	GREEN	<p>B15 Evidence</p> <p>All play projects are required to have to have at least one playworker who has completed the compulsory Disability Awareness training. This training promotes inclusivity.</p> <p>Play projects and providers are given a list of resources available to them in supporting C&YP with disability, which includes where necessary, the opportunity for a specialist playworker to attend the play session with the C&YP to support them and enable them to attend mainstream play opportunities.</p> <p>Cultural awareness training is also provided for all community play projects.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 202				<p>The Play on Wheels play bus has wheelchair access, a welcome poster in many different languages, posters to learn sign language, Braille dolls, dolls of different ethnicity, traditional dress from different cultures, sensory toys, swings for which cater for different physical abilities and specialist toys provided by Traveller Education which help teach traveller children about their culture.</p> <p>The Play & Leisure Opportunities Library provides sensory equipment for loan. Whilst this is primarily for parent/carers, it would be beneficial to allow community projects to access this.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		<p>B16a Increase awareness in accessible provision</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
B16	There is a well known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children	AMBER	AMBER	<p>B16 Evidence</p> <p>There is no mechanism as such for identifying a need for separate provision, however, the emphasis is on “choice”, that is, if the child wants to attend mainstream provision the LA looks to find ways of making this happen.</p> <p>This is made possible utilising the SWAT (Support Workers Available Today) scheme delivered by the LA in partnership with Interplay. This allows all mainstream projects to request a support worker where they feel a child's needs require it.</p> <p>C&YP with a disability are not refused entry to mainstream play opportunities. The Playworker that has completed Disability Awareness training decides</p>	It is felt that this is not publicised enough	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 204				<p>whether the play opportunity is suitable for the child with or without additional support, or whether the provision is not suitable.</p> <p>Whilst the C&CS Play Team and Interplay emphasise inclusion and choice for C&YP with disability, there is also separate provision available where a child has a profound need and mainstream opportunities are not appropriate. This includes Ysgol Crug Glas playscheme which is run by Interplay.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		B17 Update access audits to include access to equipment and facilities within each area
	B17	Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken	GREEN	GREEN	Each park and play area has an access audit that highlights key entrances and considerations around physical access	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		
B18	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites	GREEN	GREEN	<p>B18 Evidence</p> <p>The permanent traveller site at Morganite in Morriston has a fixed play area which is maintained by the local authority.</p> <p>Additionally, the Play on Wheels team regularly take the play bus to this site to provide additional play opportunities. This takes place in partnership with the Traveller Education Service.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>The ability to go to the tolerated traveller site to deliver play opportunities is based on having a mutual trust and any incident which impacts on this trust can jeopardise the relationship.</p> <p>At the time of submission, Play on Wheels are not currently visiting the site, although it is hoped that this can be rectified.</p>	B19 Investigate joint working between the Young Carers Service, Young Adult Carers project and the play sector
B19	The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER	<p>B19 Evidence</p> <p>In addition to the work of the LA in supporting young carers/Young Adult Carers, Swansea Ymca, young Carers service (aged 8-18) and Swansea Carers centre, Young Adult Carers project</p>	<p>Whilst there is a clear means for ensuring young carers/young adult carers are listened to, it appears their play needs may not be fully met and</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 206				<p>(aged 16-25) undertakes extensive consultation with young/young adult carers and highlighted a range of consistently experienced issues. Most notably for the PSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sibling carers can feel resentful towards the child with needs due to the amount of time parents need to spend with them. - they feel they have little or no quality time as a family - Family decisions are centred around the child/person with care needs E.g. where to go on a family day out or are cancelled at short notice due to appointments or the health of the cared for person - In lone parent families (or if one parent works) Children/ siblings carers often 'act up' in a parental role - Bullying is an issue 	<p>there is an opportunity for some focussed work.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 207				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family relationships are at high risk - Emotional health and wellbeing most likely will be effected - Opportunities to socialise or access out-of-school or community activities can be difficult - isolation and loneliness associated with their caring role resulting in a lack of engagement with community including play related activities <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Young Adult Carer Project Manager Swansea Carer's Centre</p>		
B20	The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for	AMBER	GREEN	Whilst the overall status remains at 'Amber' this is one of the areas that has specifically benefitted from increased profile as a result of the PSA.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 208				<p>As stated in 2016, at the time of the first assessment in 2013, there wasn't a great amount of focus that had been placed on the requirements of (LGBTQ+) children and young people, and it led to significant developments.</p> <p>Between 2016 and 2019, inspired by work for the 2016 Assessment, Swansea held its first Gender Stereotyping seminar facilitated by Play Dev, Access to Services and the Rights Team. The seminar was very well received and attended by at least 80 mostly internal front line staff from Play, Education, Sports, Parenting teams.</p> <p>Knock-on impacts include an increased consideration when Swansea Council was involved in the Mr X campaign to give presents</p>	<p>The gender stereotyping agenda was picked up by senior management including the Director of People with the view of it being taken forward on a higher management level – sadly due to the moving on of The Director it appears there have been no further developments on the subject which is quite disappointing due to the commitment at officer level.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>to disadvantaged children during Christmas 2018. It was identified that an option needed to be in place to ensure a child who didn't associate themselves with a specific gender wouldn't receive a bag of 'traditional boys or girls toys'</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Devt. Officer</p>		

Page 209

Providing for Diverse Needs

How has data been used (or how will the data be used) to address the barriers that children with diverse needs face in accessing inclusive and accessible opportunities for playing?

Swansea is rightly very proud of the work it has undertaken to ensure play is accessible to all and this is reflected in the work of the Play Network and its Play Access (Disability) and BAME Family and Play workstreams. These workstreams and the links they generate allow us to gain a clear picture of need and allow a response.

Whilst not 'data' as such, the main source of information gathered continue to be the views of those with diverse needs and this ensures the service provided meets needs. One of the most rewarding developments between 2016 and 2019 has been the introduction of Swansea's first wheelchair swing in a public park, which followed recommendations in the 2016 PSA and was supported by All Wales Play Opportunities Grant Funding.

Have there been challenges?

Capacity issues have impacted upon engagement and significantly on the coordination of the BAME Family and Play workstream, which has only met a handful of times in recent years. This has been very much due to the ‘revolving door’ of funding, staff and changes in the 3rd sector BAME organisations.

How can these be overcome?

The reduced capacity of the BAME Family & Play workstream has been off-set by providing additional opportunities to engage in the wider Play Network for representative organisations, as well as the Play Devt. Officer feeding into representative groups.

Comments:

We would like to note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment has, since 2013, initiated conversations on subjects that may not have received as much consideration, with the play needs of LGBT children and young people being a particularly pertinent example. Progress made since that time may not have happened without firstly appearing as a PSA indicator.

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 5 Greens, 5 Ambers and no Reds, compared to 4 Green, 6 Amber and no Red, with the change being in terms of recognising the needs for those LGBTQ+

Page 2 of 10

Matter C: Space available for children to play: Open Spaces and Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

The Local Authority should recognise that all open spaces within their area are potentially important areas where children can play or pass through to reach other play areas or places where they go.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Open Spaces

Page 211

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
C22	The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Planning Services undertook an extensive Open Space Assessment and work that Play and The Play Spaces Group (facilitated by Play) has fed into this while all had been consulted throughout.</p> <p>Each ward within the authority has a specific play ward map detailing green</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				space and formal play areas. Source: Senior Planning and Spatial Data Officer / Play Spaces Group		
C23	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing	GREEN	GREEN	C23 Evidence The LA has undertaken an extensive GIS based Open Space mapping assessment. Outputs from the OSA directly inform the LDP process by identifying specific surpluses or deficiencies within communities. In areas of limited open space, it is important that the creation of new provision is encouraged and that existing spaces are retained and improved where possible. Valuable existing facilities should be protected whilst the provision of new and		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>improved open spaces should be facilitated.</p> <p>Source: Senior Planning and Spatial Data Officer / Play Spaces Group</p>		
C24	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety	GREEN	GREEN	<p>The LA has undertaken access audits at each of its parks and formal open spaces. The results of these assessments are placed on the LA website to advise users of the most accessible access points.</p> <p>The LA work with SAFE and the Play Access Group in relation to access issues.</p> <p>Source: Senior Planning and Spatial Data Officer / Play Spaces Group</p>		
C25	The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales	GREEN	GREEN	Swansea's Open Space Strategy has been largely developed during the period from 2016 to 2019. Led by Cabinet, this has involved collaboration between officers in		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Planning, Play, Cultural Services and Environment.</p> <p>The Strategy includes a standard based on the Fields in Trust standards.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
<p>C26 (Changed)</p> <p>Page 214</p>	<p>The Local Authority undertakes and actions play value assessments in public open space</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The RAG (Red, Amber, Green) assessments completed for fixed play areas traditionally focussed on number of items and longevity, but increasingly it includes a play value assessment within it. Saying that all new play spaces and significant upgrades are assessed for play value albeit informally Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/Play Dev Officer</p>	<p>There is no play value assessment for public open space other than fixed play areas</p>	
<p>C27</p>	<p>Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for</p>	<p>RED</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>From 2018 we identify all areas of FIT deficiency that are council owned and then</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children's play			<p>identify brownfield sites within them.</p> <p>There are only two sites within FiT deficient areas. (See Appendix (**)). The first in Penllergaer and the second a public space in the SA1 area but neither were considered suitable for development.</p> <p>Source: Senior Planning and Spatial Data Officer</p>		

Page 21/5

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
NEW?	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing	STATUS	AMBER	Repetition from C23		
C28	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all	GREEN	GREEN	C28 Evidence		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 216	designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>Parks Officers use the PSS Live database to record all designated play space in the LA and what equipment, if any, is in each play space. The database also includes the condition and quality of each item, faults identified and rectified and record of all inspections. This database is partially funded through The Children’s Play Team whenever possible</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Parks Response Officer/Play Dev Officer</p>		
C29	The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	<p>C29 Evidence The Children's Play Team and Parks Services have worked closely to develop a play value assessment that identifies the respective play benefits to each play area working to a set of criteria.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>This goes alongside the existing access audit and the RAG grading of play areas in terms of condition and lifespan to give an overall picture.</p> <p>Source: Parks Operations Officer / Play Development Officer</p>		
<p>C30</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 217</p>	<p>The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>Each Swansea park has an access audit available on the council website which details which entrances are most suitable from a physical perspective.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>Getting knowledge of the A to Z of parks and their accessibility needs to be something that needs to be improved</p>	<p>C30 Improve Parks Accessibility A-Z</p>
<p>C31</p>	<p>The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>C31 Evidence As noted above, each LA play space is assessed based on 3 criteria - condition, play value and accessibility, to give an overall assessment.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 218				<p>The Children's Play Team and Parks Services have worked closely to develop a play value assessment that identifies the respective play benefits to each play area working to a set of criteria.</p> <p>This goes alongside the existing access audit and the RAG grading of play areas in terms of condition and lifespan to give an overall picture.</p> <p>Source: Play Devt. Officer / Parks Operations</p>		
C32	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces	GREEN	GREEN	<p>C32 Evidence Play Development Officer in partnership with Parks have undertaken a RAG grading of all play parks, trym trails, LAPS, LEAPS, NEAPS, MUGAs, BMX tracks and skateparks in the authority. This assessment focussed on the quality of the equipment.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 219				<p>There is ongoing dialogue with Play, Parks and Planning to really drill down to what is sufficient LAP/LEAP/NEAP – this is to assist ourselves and developers with masterplanning potential new communities proposed in the county.</p> <p>Source: Parks Response Officer and Play Development Officer</p>		
C33	The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds	GREEN	GREEN	<p>C33 Evidence</p> <p>The smoke-free playgrounds initiative has now been rolled out across all LA owned playgrounds.</p> <p>Additionally, the LA launched its first smoke-free beach at Caswell in April 2016.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
C34	The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs	AMBER	AMBER	Where 'No Ball Games' signs are requested, housing	It does need to be emphasised that	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 220	to encourage more children playing in the community			<p>liaises with the Children’s Play Team to assess appropriateness. Where it is recognised that ball games should be discouraged, signs are erected but requests are turned down where play should be encouraged.</p> <p>There is a well-established link between the play sector and housing with the Housing Operations Manager (West) regularly attending Play Network meetings.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Housing Operations Manager (West)/Play Dev Officer</p>	there are occasions where, upon consultation, the use of no ball games signs, or similar, is supported. An example being an area where balls were being kicked against walls in a residential complex for older people. An alternative area was identified.	<p>C34a Investigate potential for ‘Ball Games’ signs in identified green spaces</p> <p>C34b Play Dev Officer to deliver Play awareness session to Council Tenant Group</p>
	C35	The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community	AMBER	AMBER	This was the subject of much discussion during the previous Assessment with a dissonance over whether it would support play as opposed to being unnecessary as theoretically all parks are play spaces.	This is an area that has seen a backwards step since the 2016 Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 221				<p>Given the use of ‘No Ball Games’ signs to provide a negative sounding reference to play, it seems there is an opportunity to offer a positive alternative by highlighting children are at play. This could happen in green spaces or perhaps in neighbourhoods with the likelihood of children playing out.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		<p>C35b Include a media campaign as well as potential leafleting to raise awareness.</p>
C36	<p>The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children’s play when any disposal decisions are made</p>	GREEN	GREEN	<p>There is an evidenced requirement for the Children’s Play Team to be consulted and respond on any proposals that might impact on play. Most significantly in recent years has been the sale of school land with a reduction in playing field space for which the team’s comments have been incorporated.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		
C37	The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields	GREEN	GREEN	<p>The ongoing developments with the disposal of school playing fields is an example of where the statutory duty around play sufficiency is used to ensure effective consultation takes place and that the play needs of children and the impact of any reduction in play space is considered a key consideration.</p> <p>Additionally, by engaging officers from the Children’s Play Team, developments indirectly include consultation as the team incorporate any feedback received with their response.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
NEW?	The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when	NEW	GREEN	Swansea developed its own ‘Key Considerations’ document to be used on		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 223	refurbishing or developing new playgrounds			<p>upgrades and new playgrounds. It was developed in partnership with the Play Access Group to ensure it effectively considered the requirements of a range of need. As a result, all new and upgraded play areas meet minimum DDA requirements. This document has been used as good practice in the Play Wales Toolkit 'Creating Accessible Play Spaces'</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		

Open Spaces

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments / Green Infrastructure Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play?

Swansea has benefitted from a strong working relationship between those sections responsible for the Open Space Assessment. The Play Spaces Group comprises Planning, Outdoor Leisure Operations, Parks & Cleansing, Environment and the Children's Play Team.

Additionally, the development of an Open Space Strategy ([See Appendix **](#)) has seen an agreed understanding and increased joint working in terms of its Green Infrastructure Strategy and the PSA.

Link to Play Wales Creating Accessible Play Spaces – with example of Swansea’s good practice Key Considerations Document
https://issuu.com/playwales/docs/creating_accessible_play_spaces?e=5305098/55847588

Have there been challenges?

Any challenges have arisen from reduced capacity with fewer officers available to take on the same, or increased, responsibilities. Long term illness and retirement for two of the principal officers involved in the Play Spaces Group have inevitably had an impact.

How can these be overcome?

In part, these will be overcome by supporting those who are taking on, or have recently taken on, key roles. Additionally, the existence of internal groups such as the Play Spaces Group can support a continuation of good practice.

Comments:

Page 224

Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

How has the local authority considered all issues of accessibility in play space development?

The existence and effective usage of the Key Considerations document, and the requirement to engage with the Play Access Group, ensures accessibility is recognised as a beneficial requirement, rather than a consideration.

The opening of Swansea’s first wheelchair swing in a public park, funded by the Play Sufficiency All Wales Opportunities Grant has made a clear statement that play is everyone’s right and, as such, provision should be in place to allow everyone access to play.

Play Dev carries out community consultation with regards to most play space development either supporting Community Councils, Parks or Friends of groups – This usually entails involving school councils.

A good practice case study was highlighted in The Children’s Commissioner for Wales ‘Spotlight Report – Article 31’.

<https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/publications/article-31-spotlight-report/>

Play Dev Officer has also anecdotally noticed that during consultation children are getting fairly clued up with regards to accessibility needs of themselves, their peers and siblings and are not afraid to be vocal about it.

Another observation that highlights the strong communication and links between Parks and Play is that a ‘traditional park’ is now considered to contain a flush accessible roundabout, basket swing, accessible trampoline, zip wire etc as a matter of course. Considering accessibility and inclusivity is becoming second nature to parks colleagues who may not have seen it as their responsibility previously.

Have there been challenges?

Whilst potentially not classed as ‘unstaffed designated play spaces’, the use of school grounds for play outside of school hours remains a source of much debate (See Matter I)

There is a dissonance between the values and approach of play to allow community access to key play opportunities available at schools and the priority of other council services to minimise the risk caused by members of the public on school grounds.

How can these be overcome?

This area has been the subject of extensive consultation and engagement with relevant officers across the authority. At the time of submission, it had been determined that it was for individual schools to determine and legislate for risk at their individual school, although local authority officers could advise.

Comments

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 12 Greens, 5 Ambers and no Reds, compared to 10 Green, 5 Amber and 1 Red, with the change being in identifying potential for brownfield sites to be developed (and an additional target)

Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aim to offer a range of supervised play provision.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Playwork provision

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D38	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance	GREEN	GREEN	<p>D38 Evidence</p> <p>The Family Information Service holds a database of CIW registered play provision together with Out of School Childcare Clubs (After School & Holiday).</p> <p>The Children's Play Team keeps updated lists of all projects that receive funding via the CYP Fund.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Family Resources Manager</p>	Those play projects that do not receive funding or support from the Local authority, or operate outside of CIW Registration are not part of the list of projects retained by the Local Authority, unless they are LA run, e.g. at a Leisure Centre, or run from a school site via a third party lettings agreement.	D38a Develop closer links with those holiday play / activity clubs operating outside of local authority support and CIW registration

Page 227

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 228					<p>This has been picked up under both the Play and Childcare Sufficiency Assessments, with a recognition that those holiday play / activity clubs operating outside of support and/or registration should work closer with the local authority to ensure quality.</p>	
D39	<p>The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance</p>	GREEN	GREEN	<p>D39 Evidence The local authority directly provides a range of play opportunity, including staffed play provision and designated play space.</p> <p>Play on Wheels provides open access play, as well as targeted play support sessions for families and identified priority groups. Utilising a 40 foot Play Bus</p>	<p>Due to the nature of the funding for the Play on Wheels and Family Play support teams, delivery must focus on intervention which reduces potential for supporting the right to play.</p> <p>Nevertheless the Play on Wheels</p>	<p>D39a Produce user friendly evidence of play team impact on both early intervention and ensuring every child's right to play and look to gain support for both elements.</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 229				<p>and a transit van, it takes play opportunities across the Swansea area.</p> <p>Play on Wheels delivered 183 sessions for 3042 children & young people during 2018/19 and 191 sessions for 5821 children during 2017/18. The reduction is due to an increased focus on longer term intervention.</p> <p>The service has evolved significantly in recent years to be demonstrating more measurable outcomes from longer term support as part of early intervention and prevention. This has increased recognition and appreciation of its work and impact.</p> <p>The Children's Play Team oversee play opportunities within the area and are responsible for ensuring that</p>	<p>Team still manages to deliver quality open access play sessions during the holidays and when possible afterschool during term times.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>it provides a rich, varied and accessible play environment.</p> <p><u>Play team’s Achievements 2016- 2019</u> <u>FAF – Fresh air families</u> Hosted by Llys Nini, and working in partnership with Forest School SNPT, this service offers free outdoor forest school play sessions for children and their families. Run as a six week programme during term time, or as single sessions over the holidays, predominantly for targeted groups. Some groups who have benefitted from this programme include; EYST (Ethnic youth support team), HUFU (Hands up for downs), Parents as partners, The Chinese in Swansea group, Foster Swansea, Swansea home educators (SHED), and Families with children who</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>have additional learning needs (ALN). Feedback- One mother claimed ‘we have enjoyed making new friends....and have been inspired by the play sessions to spend more time outside’</p> <p><u>We Play</u> This is another 6-8 week programme delivered to targeted CYP in schools across Swansea. We work with junior and infant STF. ‘We work with children with a range of need including attachment disorder, ASD, ADHD, Global Development Delay, speech and learning needs’ Source - Play team. ‘We were able to connect with a young boy with autism and high anxiety after weeks of him coming down and leaving straight way. Dad came down and said that he had stayed, interacted and took part</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 232				<p>more each time and the sessions have helped the family go from a 1 (little play and engagement) to an 8 on distance travelled which is a huge difference. It has helped the families engage in quality time'. This also enables the Play Team to be in a position to signpost relevant organisations, like; SNAP, NAS Swansea, Joining the Dots, Swansea Autism Movement and the Toy Library.</p> <p><u>Family play HMPS</u> The Children's Play Team has been collaborating with Swansea's Prison Service, to provide family play sessions within the prison setting, since 2009. This innovative service started by providing Christmas family fun days but, due to high demand, we were asked to provide sessions more regularly. To date we have</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 233				<p>successfully run 60 family play days, reached 618 families, 1049 children and 1257 adults. Our service operates during each school holiday providing a much needed and highly thought of service.</p> <p>Since starting this project, staff have accessed specific training to enable us to deliver play sessions within the prison setting. This training has included <i>'Adverse childhood experiences'</i>, <i>'The Hidden Sentence'</i> and we have attended the <i>'Supporting Young Parents in Prison'</i> conference in 2017, Source Play Team. Since 2009, over 2000 parents and CYP have benefited from this provision.</p> <p><u>The role of The Children's Play team to date</u></p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 234				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building up relationships with staff and clients and advocating for play as an integral part of child and family development. • Highlighting the importance and positive impact of family play sessions on health, mental well-being, behaviour and family continuity to all those attending the session • Liaising with the Family liaison officer within the Prison • Providing a wide range of ability appropriate equipment that encourages families to play together • Informal staff and volunteer training on the session 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 235				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming families, making them feel comfortable and relaxed • Chatting to families about worries and concerns; helping and signposting where appropriate. • Giving prisoners and families, a voice through consultation and feeding these wants and needs back into the next Family Play Day. • Securing funding for the Prison to buy their own equipment ensuring project sustainability. • Role modelling with parents/carers how to develop relationships, skills and bonds through play 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Devt. Officer		
D40	The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	<p>D40 Evidence</p> <p>The Play Development Officer conducts scheduled training and responsive training to ensure partners are supported in providing a rich play environment. Training needs are identified through the work streams of the Play Network as well as through Quality Assurance inspections. The Play Development Officer and Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager also deliver Play Training across all sectors through the Early Years Development training programme. These have recently concentrated on outdoor play for childcare settings</p> <p>The Children & Young People's (CYP) Fund</p>	<p>Prior to the first PSA in 2013, there had been up to 4 Play Devt. staff at any one time which allowed for comprehensive support for partners and community play projects.</p> <p>Whilst the status remains at Amber the level of support has significantly reduced over the past few years due to capacity.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 237				<p>supports around 20 play projects each year through funding and access to training and support.</p> <p>The Children’s Play Team provides partners with information and ideas about where to obtain relevant equipment to enable a rich play environment.</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders revealed that the majority were satisfied with the LA support to ensure that they were providing a rich play environment.</p> <p>The Play Development Officer continues to deliver basic play training to CCLD (Children's Care, Learning & Devt.) students (all levels) in Gower College as well as external partners including the ABMU.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 288				<p>With the new CIW requirements for childcare settings to have staff qualified to an appropriate level in playwork – Play Dev has been supporting Gower College to deliver its Transition to Playwork course.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Devt. Officer</p>		
D41	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	AMBER	AMBER	<p>As with 2016, the play provision delivered by the local authority does not lend itself to being CIW Registered, but National Minimum standards, particularly around qualifications are complied with, while Play on Wheels also works to the quality assurance for Swansea based on NMS.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D42	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Due to the seasonal or transient nature of much play provision, it is not a requirement to be CIW registered but this is encouraged as good practice and projects are advised on NMS and compliance.</p> <p>There are two projects Bishopston Playscheme and Brynmill Playscheme, as well as the Ysgol Crug Glas Playscheme for children with additional needs that are registered with CIW.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	It is inevitable that with much provision operating on a seasonal or part-time basis that projects cannot commit to CIW registration	
D43	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	AMBER	AMBER	<p>D43 Evidence</p> <p>At the current time, few projects delivered by the LA's partners are registered, although all are subject to the quality assurance the LA provides. This quality assurance was developed to</p>	Traditionally, play projects in Swansea have operated outside of CIW registration requirements. This is generally considered due to finding requirements	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 240</p>				<p>reflect the National Minimum Standards so as to check that unregistered provision was meeting requirements.</p> <p>The Ysgol Crug Glas Summer Playscheme for children with profound special needs, delivered by Interplay, is registered with the CIW.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>of registration hard to comply with due to the seasonal nature of their work.</p>	
D44	Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme	AMBER	AMBER	<p>All projects supported by the CYP (Children & Young People’s) Fund are subject to a quality assurance visit from members of the Children’s Play Team. The QA was developed by the team to reflect the requirements of CIW inspection, with additional good practice elements.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>Capacity to QA has reduced in recent years with fewer staff available to visit projects</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D45	The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.	GREEN	GREEN	<p>D45 Evidence</p> <p>The LA places the emphasis on the quality of the project regardless of whether it is a private sector organisation or not. All sport and recreational projects that are allocated funding must meet the appropriate local and/or national criteria (Community Chest) before being considered for funding and must also demonstrate that the project is sustainable.</p> <p>The Authority also ensures that any external staff delivering recreational opportunities is appropriately qualified and DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) checked.</p> <p>Source: Physical Activity Development Manager and Development & Outreach Manage</p>	It would be beneficial to have links with the private sector play providers	D45a Re-establish links with private sector play providers

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D47/48/49?	Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities	GREEN	GREEN	<p>During 2018 a review of Creating an Active and Healthy Swansea Action Plan took place, it has been redeveloped to reflect both local and national key influences. The delivery of this plan is the key operational responsibility of Swansea Council's Leisure Partnerships Sport and Health Service and is evidence of contributions to increasing free play and recreational activities.</p> <p>Sport, Physical activity and active recreation contribute significantly to a cross-section of Well-being goals defined in the Well-being of Future Generations Act, Swansea Councils sustainable development corporate plan and in the Local Well-being plan.</p> <p>Swansea council provide and/or facilitate a range of</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>recreational activities through the Sport and Health team and community centres, as well as sports pitch provision through parks.</p> <p>The local authority continues to receive funding from Sport Wales which is ring fenced for providing recreational activities. A large number of community chest funding involves provision for children.</p> <p>Sport Wales School Sport Survey 2015 and 18 – tracks sport participation trends, and provides Swansea with evidence to shape sport policy and plan delivery of opportunities across Swansea.</p> <p>Source: Health & Wellbeing Manager</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D50	The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children	GREEN	GREEN	<p>In addition to Creating an Active and Healthy Swansea Action Plan Active, Swansea Council Sport and Health team and their partners develop activities to increase levels of sport and physical activity participation in all sectors of the community. This involves direct delivery of activity as well as capacity building within local clubs, communities and facilities to maximise participation.</p> <p>Sport and health aim is to widen participation in sport and all programmes delivered are targeted at increasing physical activity based on chief medical officer guidelines. A key focus of Sport and Health delivery lies around the development of Physical Literacy in young people working with key partners</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 246				<p>across the authority to achieve this. Programmes such as parklives encourage unstructured openly accessible recreational activities in the outdoors to encourage physical activity and connection with the natural environment. (parklives)</p> <p>Recent commissioning of local authority leisure centres have seen Freedom leisure - providing opportunities for children to participate in recreational activities as part of their direct programme of delivery and as a venue for community use.</p> <p>Source: Health & Wellbeing Manager</p>		
	D51	The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children	GREEN	GREEN	Our museums, galleries and theatre provide a board range of free activities for children and	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>families as well as a programme for local school children. These activities include a focus on engaging children from asylum seeking families, children with autism, looked after children and families living in poverty. During the 6 months from March to September 2018 we have engaged with 5000 school children, including 3605 children from our most deprived areas and 11,838 children and families in our free early years sessions. The Fusion Programme looks to remove barriers to inclusion and this year has run a programme for low income families to see film and theatre, welcoming over 400 children in venues across Swansea. We also partnered up with the Parklives summer programme getting out into</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>parks across the city making over 200 kites with local families.</p> <p>Cultural Services have provided over 300 bus tickets to families on low incomes in order for them to attend free cultural events that aren't within walking distance.</p> <p>In 2018 721 Boys completed the Summer Reading Challenge, and 861 Girls completed, with the boys figures up by 3% on last year's figures.</p> <p>Also we ran 572 events during the summer holidays, with 6154 children and 4298 parents attending, again the attendance figures were up by 2.25% compared to last year.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 249				<p>The last 3 National Play Day events have been held in partnership with the National Waterfront Museum with Swansea Museum supporting and participating in the event. The Museum reported that the 2017 event had been the most successful attendance wise at the museum in the previous 18 months.</p> <p>Source: Cultural Community Coordinator / Children & Youth Librarian/Play Dev Officer</p>		
	D52	The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children’s opportunities for leisure and association	GREEN	GREEN	Swansea Young People Services Youth Hubs Evolve Youth Hubs, are an open Access provision, for young people aged between 11years – 18 years, they are situated across 4 geographical areas, across the City and County of Swansea at Stadwen, Gorseinon,	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Blaenymaes and Townhill. The Hubs have Youth workers, who provide and facilitate a safe environment within which young people can relax, have fun, feel secure, supported and valued. Young people have access to informal learning opportunities, information and guidance around a whole range of issues, meaning that they are better informed about life choices and the opportunities that are available to them. By engaging through the opportunities provided, young people can learn to take greater control of their lives and be supported to recognise and resist the damaging influences which may affect them. A fundamental aspects of open access Youth provision, is that young</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>people should choose to engage and access the provision when it is required or needed by them, the workers build trust and retain a voluntary relationship with young people.</p> <p>We also acknowledge that the open-access youth Hubs offer, may, at times, be the only means of connecting with some young people and supporting them to re-engage in areas such as their education. Open-access provision also has a role to play, by offering a mechanism to identify potentially vulnerable young people and provide early intervention support, through lead work process.</p> <p>Types of activity provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and crafts • Themed projects. • Life skills workshops 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information, advice and guidance • Signposting <p>Expected outcomes for young people, who engage and participate through open access provision can be identified under three broad themes.</p> <p>Active participation: – young people enjoy and achieve – young people make a positive contribution – young people have a voice – young people have the right to have their voice heard and opinion taken account of.</p> <p>Youth Work in Wales: Principles and Purposes – young people have improved well-being – young people enhance/develop their practical skills – young people learn to manage risk.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Wider skills development: – team building – communication – problem solving – decision making – influencing others.</p> <p>Source: Area Team Leader, Swansea Youth Support Services / Evolve</p>		

Page 253

Supervised play provision

Where the Local Authority has assessed settings as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSAs), how have these settings been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

The links between Childcare and Play, particularly in relation to sufficiency, are inevitably as close as ever given that the two sit within the same team and the respective assessments are undertaken by the same officer.

In terms of the quality of play within traditional childcare settings, there have been major developments, where there is a range of play training included within the Early Years Training booklet that is available for childcare settings. Additionally, the 2017 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment identified outdoor play as the main thing that pre-school children in childcare settings, so, for the past 2 years, the Children’s Play Team has developed an Outdoor Play grant with accompanying training

How has provision that is not part of the CSA been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

As stated above, a quality assurance scheme was developed for Swansea that reflects the National Minimum Standards in recognition of the fact that most provision was operating outside of registration. This, and the training associated with funding helps to ensure quality of settings working alongside the local authority.

Have there been challenges?

A reduction in community led playschemes due to time commitments on individuals and volunteers.

How can these be overcome?

As detailed above, there is an increasing recognition that there are many play or activity clubs operating without links to either the local authority or CIW and this needs to be addressed.

Comments:

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 7 Greens, 6 Ambers and no Reds which is identical to 2016 with no changes.

Matter E: Charges for play provision

The Local Authority should consider which play opportunities involve a charge and the extent to which the Local Authority takes these charges into account in assessing for sufficient play opportunities for children living in low income families as set out in the Statutory Guidance.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
E53 Page 255	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families	GREEN	GREEN	This information is made available via statistics from the local authority's Research & Information Team who can provide a breakdown by age for all lower super output areas and wards that allows for the identification of need. Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		
E54	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation	GREEN	GREEN	As E53		
E55	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of	GREEN	GREEN	As E53		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children living in rural areas					
E56	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.	GREEN	GREEN	As E53		
E57	The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Much of the provision supported via the CYP Fund allows for play to be delivered free of charge where it is considered a charge would be prohibitive.</p> <p>All of the Play on Wheels delivery is without charge.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
E58	The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision	AMBER	AMBER	<p>E58 Evidence</p> <p>The majority of play provision takes place at either community centres or similar, schools or buildings owned by projects, e.g. Family Centres.</p> <p>Grant funding via the CYP Fund supports provision to be available at no / low cost.</p>	<p>There is no definitive list of no cost / low cost premises.</p> <p>Additionally, there is a current inconsistency across both community centres and schools in</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>The Family Information Service provides this information for families.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Family Resources Manager</p>	<p>terms of hire charges.</p>	
<p>E59</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 257</p>	<p>The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>E59 Evidence</p> <p>The Local Authority allocates grant funding to a range of play providers, primarily through the annual Children & Young People's (CYP) Fund.</p> <p>It is significant that there is a higher proportion of disabled CYP living in poverty and also historically some parent/carers have been asked to pay an increased fee if their child needs a higher level of care. This has ceased happening but there is potential for it to return, or children to be turned away, if a project cannot fund their attendance.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>However, children can access the 1-2-1 Special Needs scheme (provided the setting is registered). This is funded via the LA.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/ Family Resources Manager</p>		
<p>E60</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 258</p>	<p>The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>RED</p>	<p>This target could arguably have been classed as Red in 2016.</p> <p>In 2018, the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager approached First Travel with a view to reaching a deal on discounted bus travel vouchers / cards that could be allocated to families to encourage them to access play and other family-related activities.</p> <p>The proposed 5% discount offered was considered unviable as the administrative cost for</p>	<p>As stated, plans to offer a discounted travel card were unsuccessful due to the limited discount offered.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				processing would cancel out the discount. Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		

Charge for play provision

How is the Local Authority ensuring that children have access to no or low-cost provision?

The Children & Young People’s (CYP) Fund has traditionally existed to support play projects to provide services without charge, but increasingly in recent years, the emphasis has been placed on projects demonstrating sustainability including by charging for play. There is a recognition, however that in some of the more deprived areas, this is not realistic and as a result grants tend to reflect full costs.

In terms of unstaffed play, there are many play areas and parks which can be enjoyed without charge. As part of the 2016 Assessment, a check was made of whether indirect costs, e.g. parking, would be prohibitive and it was noted that the only play areas with pay & display parking were destination parks, therefore all would have a neighbourhood park available without cost.

Have there been challenges?

The increased pressure on council budgets has seen a clear and detrimental change in that, previously, grant funding offered to play projects allowed them to offer play without charge, whereas now the focus is on sustainability, therefore projects are encouraged to provide play at a cost.

*Due to the spread and impact of austerity further up the affluent ladder several open access play sessions have turned into play ‘events’. This has an impact on the fairly small Play on Wheels team.

How can these be overcome?

* The Play on Wheels Team overcomes these event type play sessions by working strategically in partnership wherever possible...Parklives is a good example of the partnership working. This provides more staff and additional opportunities for children and families.

It is highly unlikely that, in the near future, there will be the opportunity to offer play without charge, universally, however it may be that a voluntary contribution can be encouraged so there is a move towards sustainability without preventing those in financial difficulty from attending.

Comments: It is becoming more apparent that it is not simply those recognised as experiencing deprivation who are crying out for low-cost/no cost play opportunities. Increasingly, the free sessions put on are attended by families considered to be more affluent, so they are having to provide play opportunities on a minimal budget.

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 6 Greens, 1 Amber and 1 Red, compared to 5 Green, 3 Amber and no Red, although it is noted that no matters could have been 'scored' the same both years

Matter F: Access to space/provision

The Local Authority should consider all the factors that contribute to children’s access to play or moving around their community.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	X
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F61 Page 261	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The LA has an up to date record of these zones</p> <p>Since the 2013 Assessment, Swansea has introduced a further 33 20mph limit areas;</p> <p>2013-14 x 12 2014-15 x 6 2015-16 x 15 2016-17 x 1 area scheme 2017-18 x 4 2018-19 x1 area scheme planned to date</p> <p>LA Officers liaise with Police (Go Safe) for enforcement of 20mph limits and zones</p>	<p>Dedicated budget was available however this is no longer provided by the Authority. Now LA relies on external grants or funding from s106/s38 planning agreements (New build) or other internal funding streams.</p> <p>Dedicated GIS mapping layer of 20mph limits and zones (linked to play areas) would be beneficial in</p>	<p>F61a Provide GIS mapping layers of 20mph limits and zones in longer term when staff resources allow.</p> <p>F61b Play team and Road safety team to work together to plot likely “play traffic” and any potential areas for conflict with road users.</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				particularly outside or on route to schools. Source: Road Safety Officer	providing overall data for CCS.	
F62	The Local Authority has an identified mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities	AMBER	GREEN	The Road Safety team have undertaken a thorough assessment of safety both prior to, and following installation of speed reduction and other measures. A number of new crossing facilities have been provided in communities in order to reduce the negative effect of segregated communities on busy roads and junctions where child pedestrians access local play and community facilities. Source: Road Safety Officer	The information can be used to inform decisions on play opportunities, but would benefit from being subject to a mapping against areas of high play 'traffic'	
F63	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of	AMBER	AMBER	The Council's Road Safety Plan is currently being developed. Pressure is increasing from members (via requests from	Limited budgets are prioritised to areas with highest number of KSI collisions and casualties with the aim of collision	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 263	safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists			<p>communities) to extend the arrangements to residential areas.</p> <p>The LA is committed to the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 and the well Being Future Generations (Wales) act 2015. The LA has successfully obtained funding during 2018-19 which is likely to extend for the next 3 years to enhance facilities to increase walking and cycling, thus supporting these Acts.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/ Road Safety Officer</p>	<p>reduction. Areas with perceived risks (i.e. zero or low collisions) would not necessarily be a high priority for measures</p> <p>Feedback from the public highlights that congestion on main arterial roads means car users are increasingly finding alternative ways such as rat runs through residential areas, often past schools.</p>	
	F64	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas	AMBER	AMBER	LDP policy T 2 on Active Travel requires new development to enhance walking and cycling access on site or by off-site contributions.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>As part of the Active Swansea Plan, walking and cycling is encouraged.</p> <p>All new schemes include measures to increase dedicated routes and links for cyclists e.g. New Kingsway scheme</p> <p>Source: Principal Planning Officer / Road Safety Officer</p>		
65	There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Areas with perceived risks (i.e. zero or low collisions) would not necessarily be a high priority for measures. However areas identified for improvement that would encourage play opportunities, walking and cycling could be investigated.</p> <p>National standards Cycle Training continues being delivered by external contractor to a specified</p>	Funding of schemes that reduce perceived risk.	

Page 264

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				number of Year 6 pupils solely funded by the WG 2016-17 =850 2017-18=1000 2018-10=900 Source: Road Safety Officer / Transportation Officer		
F66	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards	AMBER	AMBER	National Standards Cycle Training Levels 1 & 2 delivered by external source to a proportion of Yr 6 pupils solely funded by road safety grant Source: Road Safety Officer		F66 Target for 2019-20 = 1029
F67	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children	GREEN	GREEN	Kerbcraft has been delivered in Swansea since 2000 and the road safety team has dedicated officers who deliver sessions throughout the 3 academic terms 2016-17=1606 2017-18=1382 2018-19=1700 Source: Road Safety Officer	Kerbcraft relies solely on funding from the WG	F67 - Target for 2019-20 =1755

Page 265

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F68	The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Play Streets were originally developed within Swansea during 2015 and largely delivered via Play Right. Their closure in 2016 impacted upon this but Interplay has taken some of this on and continues to deliver Play Streets in 2019.</p> <p>The Local Authority Highways section have been proactive in developing a system for Play Streets either on an ongoing basis or for one off closures. In 2018, one off Play Street closures took place in Mount Pleasant and Ravenhill.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>The use of Play Streets is largely dependent upon having a proactive community member or group.</p> <p>Perhaps a more realistic option would be to look at positive enforcement within identified residential estates to encourage playing out</p>	
F69	The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm	GREEN	GREEN	The LA has successfully for several years now used <i>Manual for Streets</i> to advise its urban policy and planning.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 267				<p>Play Development and Urban Design (Planning) are leading a campaign with regards to Residential Shared Space (Homezones) to be factored into significant new developments. Several presentations have been made to Strategic Regeneration Board, PDP Group (housing assocs, highways, planning, building regs) and Planning policy. It has created positive support and discussion.</p> <p>Play is now consulted on any development of 10 or more dwellings</p> <p>Play is being factored into several parts of the new LDP</p> <p>Play is also feeding into s106 administration clarification, so the authority has a more robust system</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>that involves departmental partners effectively.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/ Play Development / Urban Designer (Planning)</p>		
<p>F70</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 268</p>	<p>The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>The LA works to nationally recognised guidelines when developing new cycling and walking facilities, and when improving existing facilities. These guidelines include ROSPA guidelines in relation to safe design and installation of any equipment, as well as National Governing Body of Sport guidelines such as Welsh Cycling and/or British Cycling and Ramblers.</p> <p>Source: Childvcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
<p>F71</p>	<p>The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>F71 Evidence</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities			<p>The LA uses collision data as supplied by South Wales Police which is reviewed on regular basis to inform interventions.</p> <p>Source: Road Safety Officer</p>		
<p>F72</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 269</p>	The Local Authority considers children’s needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure	AMBER	AMBER	<p>This has progressed from red in 2013 to Amber in 2016 and today. The increased communication between the Children's Play Team and Highways Services has had a major impact and is likely to further improve in forthcoming years.</p> <p>A significant example is with the significant attendance and contribution at March 2019’s Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea seminar by members of the Highways team.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	The progress and ‘encouraging discussions’ need to be backed up by actions and evidence of change	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F21 (From D)	The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The LA manages a contract for the transportation of disabled children & young people where they access a specialist teaching facility. The current contract does not lend itself to allowing these children to stay on and attend after school clubs. This impacts on opportunities for out of school activity. This was specifically referred to during the 2013 Assessment where YGG Pen-y-Bryn cited this as a reason for being unable to establish an after school club.</p> <p>The Council has a legal duty to provide free home to school transport for eligible pupils. Eligibility is determined on the basis of meeting the statutory distance criteria from home to school and the ability of pupils to walk the route.</p>		F21 Roll-out of the pilot After-School club for Pen-y-Bryn pupils

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 271				<p>Due to the needs of the pupils at Penybryn, many of them do get free transport to and from school. Wherever possible these are transported in groups rather than individually to reduce congestion at the school and the cost to the Council.</p> <p>The current legislation does not require the Council to provide transport to breakfast or after school clubs; the requirement is only to provide transport to and from school. Where pupils are travelling together in a vehicle and some pupils want stay on after school for example to attend an after school club, then this will mean that additional transport for them will need to be arranged at extra cost to the Council.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Some parent/carers, however, did feedback that companies were often able to be flexible in terms of pick up times.</p> <p>The LA conditions when contracting local bus services require the provision of low floor accessible buses.</p> <p>The All Wales Free Travel Scheme allows people with disabilities to apply for bus passes which provide free travel on registered local bus services across Wales. In some cases where the nature of the disability requires it, then a companion can travel free with the passholder.</p> <p>In providing statutory home to school transport, the Council provides transport in accordance with the child's Statement of Special Needs</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 273				<p>and procures suitable vehicles and provides trained staff.</p> <p>However, due to this being raised as part of the Assessments and via the Play Access Group, a pilot has been identified whereby pupils at Pen-y-Bryn can access an after-school club organised by a community organisation, Walsingham, via supported transport to and from the venue. If successful it is hoped to extend this.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/ Play Access Group / Transportation Group Leader</p>		

Information, publicity and events:

For children and families to take part in play opportunities, recreational activities and events it is necessary for them to know what is available in their area.

Page 274	F73	The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility)	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The LA has a regularly updated website which provides relevant information and links to appropriate contacts.</p> <p>This site was more extensive at the time of the 2013 Assessment, but has been rationalised to ensure all information is limited and current.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>Feedback regularly received from service users is that the site is hard to navigate</p> <p>Under the ALN Bill, all Local Authorities will be required to evidence that their websites are accessible</p>	F73a Look to find a means to ensure this information can be provided in a format that is mutually beneficial
	F74	The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The Children’s Play Team developed the SWAT (Support Workers Available Today) scheme with Interplay over 10 years ago. This was developed to ensure that children can attend their chosen playscheme and if they would require support to do so, this can be provided, either as advice or</p>	<p>The SWAT scheme cannot always be as dynamically responsive as would be desired and this, as well as awareness of it, will be looked at during 2019/20</p> <p>As above – feedback from</p>	F74a – Look into the effectiveness of the SWAT scheme

Page 275				<p>guidance, or through provision of a specialist worker.</p> <p>It is noted that consistently, more children identified with additional needs are accessing play without the need for a specialist worker to be brought in.</p> <p>Via the Play Access Group and links to Swansea Council for Voluntary Services Child & Families Disability Devt. Officer, information on accessible play is readily available through a range of formal and informal networks.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>families of children with disabilities and those who represent them is that the website is difficult to navigate and doesn't provide the required information</p>	
F75	<p>The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families</p>	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Social media plays a key role in raising awareness of local play opportunities and all services are promoted on Facebook and other social media platforms which is found to be very effective at spreading the word about sessions and events.</p>	<p>As documented elsewhere, the Council website is consistently identified as difficult to navigate and with limited information. This has been</p>	

				<p>The Family Information Service promote play opportunities for families</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>raised without success.</p>	
F76	<p>The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play</p>	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The Children’s Play Team work with colleagues in their communications team to promote the benefits of play and the impact of playing out.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>This is an area that would benefit from a more pronounced media campaign</p>	<p>F76a – Increased media campaign to enhance community attitudes to play</p>
F77	<p>The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play</p>	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The Children’s Play Team keep an up to date Facebook page with over 1140 members that advertises holiday play sessions and updates. Additionally Best Start Swansea will ‘tweet’ up and coming timetables and events.</p> <p>As stated above, this was an area with considerable time invested into it prior to the 2013 Assessment but it was deemed that this</p>	<p>The Children’s Play Team produced a range of top tips and play ideas for families that went onto the Council website but this was taken off as it wasn’t in keeping with the corporate approach to the website. This seems a missed opportunity, but perhaps social media is a more effective means of</p>	<p>F77a Further development of the ‘Top Tips’ area of the Facebook page</p>

				<p>source of information contradicted the guidance on the Council’s website and had to be removed.</p> <p>This information can still be provided.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager/Play Dev Officer</p>	<p>spreading these messages.</p>	
<p>F78</p> <p>Page 277</p>	<p>The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The LA has looked into the potential for 'Play Priority Areas' within council parks as this was a target from the 2013 PSA. There was, however, a concern it might suggest not all areas of parks were play friendly.</p> <p>A major success has been the Anti-dog foul campaign to address dog mess within parks, which was initially a key issue identified in the 2013 Assessment. As a partnership between the Play Team, Parks Services and street cleansing / waste management, schools were invited to submit pupil artwork to be used on the</p>		

Page 278				<p>campaign. The winning designs have been incorporated into information boards which were placed into 80 parks where dog fouling issues have been identified.</p> <p>Additionally, joint work between the Play Team and the Children's Rights Officer has undertaken in relation to a request from young pupil in St Thomas to introduce signage in their local park about their right to play.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Play Development Officer</p>		
F79	The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area	AMBER	AMBER	<p>As stated above, the Children's Play Team work closely with the local authority communications team to raise awareness of the positives of children playing.</p> <p>Additionally, it is being linked to increased</p>		

				<p>awareness of children and young people ‘getting out and about’ and feeling part of the City and County. The considerable media profile of the ‘Dilly Footprints’ towards the end of 2018 and early 2019 in recognition that Swansea is as much children & young people’s City as their parents has been a great start that has (literally!) laid the foundations for ongoing work that celebrates children’s rights, with play being a key one.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Access to space/provision

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration to ensure children can move around their communities to increase access to opportunities for playing?

The seminar ‘Designing A Child-Friendly Swansea’ was specifically intended to support collaborative working amongst those officers and services whose roles impact on children being able to get out and about in Swansea. However, it is likely that any impact will be evidenced during the 2022 Assessment.

A key element of this will be the proposed Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea Working Group that will bring like-minded people together to identify and develop ways to do things differently.

Have there been challenges?

Parental fears remain a major concern with increasing pressure to prevent children from playing out. Alongside this, whilst this Assessment cites mobile phones and computer consoles as impacting on opportunities for playing out, there is a recognition that they do provide a play experience. It is essential that parents understand the risks associated with modern technology, but at the time of submission, there was a national story circulating which falsely stated that children were being targeted by adults via youtube and sessions delivered to parents through schools advising not to give them mobile phones or play certain video games due to risk of adults targeting them. Parents need to have the necessary information to make informed decisions, but it appears this isn't always happening.

As a largely built-up area, major arterial routes are congested meaning motorists are increasingly using residential streets as 'rat runs' to bypass build-up at key junctions.

Whilst the Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea seminar was a great success, it was telling that even some of those who had chosen to attend the session seemed intent on focussing on why it would not be possible or a good idea. It is apparent that for things to be developed, it is these people who need to be encouraged to either play their part or not be in a position to be a 'blocker'.

How can these be overcome?

Some work to educate road users to use care when using side streets, or increasing use of 20mph limits, will increase safety, but ultimately this can only be overcome by making it as efficient to use main arterial roads as it is to bypass these in favour of using residential streets.

The presence of officers within the local authority who seem intent on creating barrier to moving things forward needs to be acknowledged as combatting it will likely have as big an impact as any other development within the assessment. Identifying ways to reduce the impact of 'blockers' is worthy of being included as an action in the plan.

Additionally Play Officers have worked tirelessly to influence Planning with the upshot being play being heavily referred to in the Local Development Plan.

Comments

Information, publicity, events

How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?

The launch of Swansea's first wheelchair swing in a public park in November 2017 was one of the most liked media posts of the past 3 years, with over 45,000 views in the months following the launch. This made clear the commitment to play for all and was very effective in raising awareness and helping all to consider that not all opportunities are fully inclusive and more needs to be done.

It was fitting that Quentin Hawkins, the voluntary chair of the Play Access Group and a parent/carer himself, was chosen to open the wheelchair swing himself and this is recognised on a plaque adjacent to the swing. This has further increased awareness in the great work that has been undertaken to raise awareness in access to play for all.

Have there been challenges?

Families consistently feed back to us that the Council website is difficult to navigate and has limited information. This is something that has been fed back regularly, as well as by other services, without success.

How can these be overcome?

A more accessible website would be helpful, although this is something that has been fought for unsuccessfully for many years. Perhaps the best option is to move away from the website in favour of social media.

Comments:

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 6 Greens, 13 Ambers and no Reds, compared to 5 Green, 14 Amber and no Red in 2016

Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

The Local Authority should provide information on the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p><i>Note – These criteria are specifically about Playwork: Playwork is a highly skilled profession that enriches and enhances play. It takes place where adults support children’s play but it is not driven by prescribed education or care outcomes. This includes both open access and out of school childcare settings</i></p>						
G80	The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the playwork workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, playwork management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers)	AMBER	AMBER	Those projects that receive funding from the local authority, or are otherwise linked to the play network undertake quality assurance which records the details identified under G80 Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager	The nature of playwork means that the staff and volunteers are quite transient making the workforce hard to assess, particularly as so few operate under CIW registration.	G80 Undertake an additional workforce devt. Survey in response to updated qualifications in September 2021.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
G81	The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government’s National Minimum Standards	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Officers within the Family Resources Team which leads on the play/childcare workforce have looked to respond to the updated requirements for compliance with national minimum standards.</p> <p>During 2018/19, a Level 2 Advanced Playwork Practice (L2APP) qualification was organised which allowed 20 local members of the play workforce to gain the required qualification.</p> <p>The ** at Menter Iaith Abertawe is now a qualified tutor that can teach the Play Work Level 2(L2APP) course in Welsh.</p>	This continues to be a major issue in terms of identifying exactly what qualifications are required and for how long they will be valid.	G81a Identify what qualifications are required, how long they will be valid and communicate this to the sector.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		
G82	The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Officers within the Family Resources Team work towards a Workforce Devt. Strategy which sets out requirements and how to meet them.</p> <p>During 2018, the L2APP (Level 2 Advanced Practice in Playwork) was delivered in Swansea for 15 local play practitioners.</p> <p>Additionally, the Play Devt Officer is signed up to attend training that would allow them to deliver L2APP.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
G86	The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork	GREEN	GREEN	There is a training budget within Play, although this can only cover basic training opportunities,	Whilst the measure is achieved, there is continued strain	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>although there is potential to access the Early Years Training booklet free of charge</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>on the budget, as well as capacity to deliver and coordinate</p>	
<p>G88</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 286</p>	<p>There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>The Children’s Play Team continue to deliver a range of training and CPD opportunities to playworkers locally. These include, Language and Observations of Play, Managing a Play Space, Organiser Training and a range of supporting training.</p> <p>Additionally, all play projects can access the Early Years Training available free of charge (£20 charge for mandatory), which offers a range of CPD training opportunities</p>	<p>As with many other areas, the capacity to deliver or otherwise access training and CPD is impacted upon by the reduction in staff with play development roles.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		
G90	Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in playwork	GREEN	GREEN	<p>Volunteers involved with local play projects are able to access play specific training provided by the Children’s Play Team as well as general training in the Early Years booklet.</p> <p>Additionally, there has been major progress in terms of offering training and support to parents given the recognition that they play a vital role in supporting children to play as well as play bringing families together.</p> <p>The Family Play Support Team in particular have delivered Stepping into Play to groups of families throughout the past three years and this has consistently boosting</p>	It must be recognised that while a system exists to offer training to both volunteers and parents, ever reducing capacity places additional burdens on those in a position to offer training.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>parents understanding of play and given them the tools they need to support their children to play.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
<p>G83</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 288</p>	<p>The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>The increased links between childcare and play have resulted in considerable benefits to ensuring playwork is a key part of workforce development strategies.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>Funding for training continues to reduce</p>	
<p>G84</p>	<p>The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>As well as allowing community groups to access training provided by the Local Authority</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>The Local Authority preference is to provide and facilitate training that groups can access as opposed to funding individual groups to access</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
					their own as this is considered more cost effective and consistent, therefore this target is not fully met	
<p><i>Note – these criteria are about the Play workforce: This encompasses anyone employed whose role has an impact on children playing – those who may either directly facilitate their play, design for playing, or those with the power to give permission for children to play, or not.</i></p>						
<p>G85</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 289</p>	<p>The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary and above</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The consultation and engagement for this year’s assessment included an assessment of training and qualifications, but only as an overview.</p> <p>Whilst it is beneficial to include most up to date information in each Assessment, it is recognised that it would be beneficial to undertake training needs analyses outside of PSA timeframes.</p> <p>Additionally, the changes to qualification</p>	<p>A more specific and in depth needs analysis will need to be undertaken</p>	<p>G85 – Undertake comprehensive training / qualification needs analysis</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>requirements in 2021 is an area that is currently being looked into to gain clarity on what qualifications are required now, in the future and how long these will be valid.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
G87	The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff	GREEN	GREEN	<p>CPD is recognised as a key element of staff support and ensuring good practice.</p> <p>All LA play team staff receive an annual appraisal which allows for an identification of training needs.</p> <p>The Play Team encourage peer learning, whereby knowledge and experience is shared.</p> <p>A significant area for development over the</p>		

Page 290

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 291				<p>past 3 years has been the commitment to supporting staff to gain an understanding of, and competency in, Theraplay. Supported by the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant, members of the Children’s Play Team and colleagues across the wider service area received additional Level 1 training and now continue to receive supervisory support from the Theraplay advisors in Hay-on-Wye, thus enhancing their knowledge.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
G89	There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children	GREEN	GREEN	The Early Years Training Booklet provides a wide range of CPD opportunities to those		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>working in the wider play and childcare sector.</p> <p>This specifically includes a number of play related training opportunities.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
<p>G91</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 292</p>	<p>Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children's opportunities to play</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>The Play Devt. Officer regularly delivers training and awareness sessions to services and organisations such as ABMU staff, TAF, EDLT etc to increase their understanding of play.</p> <p>As part of the All Wales Play Opportunities Funding received in 2017/18, a company were commissioned to produce an evaluation film that could be made available to key decision-makers to increase their understanding of play.</p>	<p>Whilst this is in place, it is recognised as being extremely effective and therefore would benefit from additional roll-out</p> <p>Delays in supply of these USB sticks has lessened the impact</p>	<p>G91 Continued roll-out of training and awareness sessions to identified officer, members and organisations</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		

Securing and developing the play workforce

How has the Local Authority met the requirement to undertake or secure the managerial and delivery functions necessary to achieve sufficient play opportunities?

At the time of submission of the Assessment in early 2019, Swansea benefits from having a well-established commitment to play, notably with the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager providing the managerial role and the wider Children’s Play Team and its partners responsible for delivery.

However, in February 2019, Play was one of the services that was put up for cuts at Cabinet, with no knowledge by the team or management and if it wasn’t for some in attendance recognising the impact, things could have been very different.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides for the workforce development needs of the play workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

The Local Authority has looked to stay up to speed on the qualification requirements for playwork and compliance with NMS, although this has proved to be problematic for reasons stated.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides the playwork workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

The Children’s Play Team maintain a close relationship with play providers and the workforce employed or volunteering within them. Through formal consultation, as well as informally via quality assurance visits, during discussions at training sessions and otherwise anecdotally, it is able to identify any issues or challenges, as well as the positives such as a sense of accomplishment or value that comes with practicing playwork.

Have there been challenges?

Capacity is an issue and is likely to continue to be. It is always difficult feeling that those responsible for funding decisions will view play less favourably than other (generally more costly) services and some difficult conversations were had over the past year to make the case for play.

Playworkers have fed back that their time is increasingly taken up by evidencing impact which reduces delivery time. Likewise, the identified target (below) of producing documentation that details play's contribution as a means of safeguarding future delivery will inevitably impact on development and co-ordination time.

There has been a noticeable lack of personal play experience and opportunities by new potential child centered workers. (This has been identified and evidenced through Play Dev play training delivery to CCLD students.) This, therefore, can create limiting play experiences that these workers can offer children. This is worrying!

It is still felt that parents generally have a lack of understanding of play and, at a time when they are increasingly recognised as providing a major 'playworker function' this needs to be addressed.

How can these be overcome?

Play in Swansea has continued to adapt and be responsive to need and requirement. It has developed from a purist approach and style to being more all-encompassing and it is likely that as time goes by there will be increased pressure to evidence play's contribution to early intervention and prevention of escalation to statutory services. But, as it has managed to stay one step ahead over the past few years, it is hoped that this will continue to be the case by making a clear and measurable case.

At the same time, this mustn't come at the detriment of those children who are not at risk of escalation but whose right to play needs to be met. This also needs to be emphasised to decision-makers.

Comments

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 8 Greens, 5 Ambers and no Reds, compared to 7 Green, 5 Amber and no Red in 2016

Matter H: Community engagement and participation.

The Local Authority should consult widely with children, their families and other stakeholders on their views on play provision. It should also promote wide community engagement in providing play friendly communities.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F61 (Moved) Page 296	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas	AMBER	AMBER	The LA encourages the use of 20mph limits and has an up to date record of these zones. Source: Road Safety Officer		
H92 (reword)	The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.	GREEN	GREEN	The Children & Young People's Fund supports community play projects to develop local play opportunities. Additionally, through the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant, the 2018/19 Sustainability Grant was opened up to Community		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 297				<p>Councils, Friends of Parks Groups and other local groups to support local play delivery.</p> <p>The Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager has taken on a supervisory role for a community play project (Morrison Playscheme) in receipt of a Big Lottery grant to support them to deliver play locally.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
H93	<p>The Local Authority promotes community engagement in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making space available and suitable for play - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - training on the importance of play. 	GREEN	GREEN	<p>The significant increase in the number of Friends of groups in parks and the dedicated officer support for them has been a major success.</p> <p>Additionally, during March 2019, Morrison Playscheme volunteers identified that Cwmrhydyceirw Park would benefit from the introduction</p>	<p>The number of community-led groups delivering play has reduced dramatically in recent years. The number one reason we hear for this is that increasing paperwork and bureaucracy make it harder to justify the time taken.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 298				<p>of trees to provide shade and, eventually, a play experience. The Children’s Play Team put them in touch with colleagues in parks & cleansing to find a</p> <p>The LA funds and supports a range of community-led play projects that are responsible for many play events across the area. The annual National Playday each August sees many community-led play events across Swansea.</p> <p>The team and its partners provide and signpost to an extensive range of training on the importance of play. As part of the programme delivered to community play projects, staff and volunteers can access;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an introduction to playwork; - more in depth playwork, - Managing a Play Space 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 299				<p>- Finding the Balance, managing risk in play spaces among others</p> <p>The Stepping into Play training and accreditation delivered by the LA's Family Play Support Workers has supported over 280 parents and community members to understand the importance of play as a family over the past three years.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		

Community engagement and participation.

How has the Local Authority effectively used existing mechanisms for children’s participation and family consultation processes with regards to play?

Swansea became the first Local Authority in Wales to embed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into all of its practice and all new policies and procedures are required to undertake an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) detailing how it has given it due regard.

The Big Conversations organised by the Life Stages Team are an extremely effective means for engaging children & young people and ensuring their participation in a range of issues including play. This has also meant that, as part of the Assessment, officers could refer back to previous consultation and engagement.

The Designing a Child-Friendly Swansea seminar held in March 2019 had participation and empowerment at the heart of discussion. The event focussed on identifying what children and young people had told us was important to them and the task was to look at how officers and organisations could respond to it.

Have there been challenges?

The Welsh Government reported in the *2017- 2018 National survey for Wales*; ‘Parents and non-parents were asked whether they had heard of and what they understood about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). 13% said they had heard of it and that they had a fair idea of the rights it involves, 21% had heard of it but were not sure what rights it involves, and 65% had not heard of it. 66% of people in households with a child under the age of 16 had not heard of it’, (Welsh Government, 2018, pg11). This could be of concern when considering the wide scale promotion of the UNCRC’s rights of the child in schools.

Despite this, the considerable rights respecting work going on in Swansea schools, including going back to homes as part of children’s homework, has inevitably helped ensure increased understanding among all.

How can these be overcome?

Further promotion of the UNCRC’s rights of the child, specifically towards adults, could aid in better understanding for parents in the necessity of play.

Additionally, initiatives such as the ‘Dilly Footprints’ are already having an impact in terms of raising awareness of children’s rights and participation.

Comments

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 2 Greens, 1 Ambers and no Reds, as with 2016

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

The Local Authority should examine all its policy agendas for their potential impact on children’s opportunities to play and embed targets and action to enhance children’s play opportunities within all such policies and strategies.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	X
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 201 94	There is a named person on the Local Public Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Well-being Plan	GREEN	GREEN	Cllr Elliott King has play included within his portfolio. Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager	Inevitably, there have been several portfolio changes in recent years which mean that the lead for play has changed hands on several occasions. This does require additional time to bring the relevant lead up to speed, but the flip side is it means that	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
194b	The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW	GREEN	<p>‘Working together To Build a Better Future’, the Local Wellbeing Plan produced by Swansea Public Service Board</p> <p>Under Section 4, Building Stronger Communities, it states;</p> <p>We want to make Swansea a vibrant, tolerant and welcoming place. A place where everyone has equal access to opportunities and feels truly proud to live, work and play. To achieve this, we need people to feel like they belong and feel safe. Swansea must be a place where people’s backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and valued.</p> <p>Source: ‘Working together To Build a Better Future’, the Local Wellbeing Plan for</p>	<p>knowledge is shared more widely.</p> <p>Despite play featuring so prominently in the statement, this is the only reference to play in the document and there are no play related actions</p>	194b Look to increase reference to play and its impact within Wellbeing Plan and associated documents

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Swansea / Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		

Education and schools

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 95 203	Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The continued development of Playful Schools has seen a marked increase in play during break times within those schools that are put of the initiative. Increasingly, applications for Playful Schools funding reflect this through requests for resources.</p> <p>These Playful Schools appoint Play Champions from pupils and they ensure the importance of play is</p>	The Playful Schools initiative is very successful but inevitably this means only those schools signing up as Playful Schools are benefitting.	<p>195a Increased roll-out of the Playful Schools initiative</p> <p>195b Additional training provided for Playful Schools</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>recognised and pupil's play needs are heard.</p> <p>Source: Childcare and Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
196	Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours	AMBER	AMBER	<p>As stated above, this tends to vary by school with some very good examples existing, notably the work of Morriston Playscheme delivering play from several schools in and around the Morriston area.</p> <p>Source: Childcare and Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
197	Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times	AMBER	AMBER	<p>This matter remains at an Amber but has seen considerable movement and efforts put into getting it addressed.</p> <p>Morrison Primary School allows access to the hall and yard for after school sessions delivered by the Morriston Playscheme team.</p>	<p>Whilst hopefully there is progress that would support access to school grounds, this is still under discussion and likely to be down to individual schools to 'own' the risk and therefore access to play will be dependent upon the views of the</p>	<p>197a Gain clarification of the requirements for access to school grounds</p> <p>197b Support for those schools who look to make grounds available</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 305				<p>The matter of allowing families to access school grounds, primarily for short periods after school, has been the subject of much discussion in the period from 2016 to 2019 involving officers from Health & Safety, Facilities, Legal and Insurance alongside the Children’s Play Team.</p> <p>Swansea’s Local Devt. Plan (LDP) states that ‘Any community, recreational and play facilities within new school developments that are intended for use by the whole community should be suitably available out of school hours including weekends’.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	<p>school on its importance</p> <p>There is a dissonance between the widely held belief of recognising schools play space as a valuable community asset and the pressure on local authorities to reduce the risk</p>	
198	Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school	AMBER	AMBER	Guidance issued to schools (most recently February 2019) provides Briefing Notes on road safety that is	As with Matter F, increasingly traffic is being diverted off main arterial routes	198 Work with colleagues and schools to identify ways in which walking and cycling

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 306				<p>to be disseminated to families;</p> <p>Walking to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are planning to let your child walk to school on their own for the first time, talk to them about the route they will use and the dangers they may encounter. Watch your child so that you can judge whether they have the ability to cross roads safely on their route to school. Children learn by watching adults. If walking your child to school, talk to them about how they can keep themselves safe 	<p>to side streets which often contain schools, thus increasing risk of harm to those going to school on foot or bike</p>	<p>to school can be made safer, particularly in terms of reducing traffic.</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 307				<p>and always try to set a good example when crossing the road.</p> <p>Cycling to school</p> <p>Cycling is a fun and healthy way to get to school, especially if a few simple precautions are taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child is planning to cycle to school, check that their bike is in good working order. Ensure the brakes work, the tyres are pumped up and the saddle and handlebars are securely tightened. • Plan the route they will take and consider cycling it with them for the first time. 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 308				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RoSPA recommends that a helmet be worn at all times. <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Swansea Schools Newsletter 12th February 2019</p> <p>The schemes that we undertake, all work towards the goals of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and Active Travel Act. The funding that we access to provide new and improved walking and cycling infrastructure is principally from the Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund. This fund can be used to deliver projects that facilitate utility journeys only, which then creates a problem for improvements predicated on the basis of improving leisure. Our improvements to capital</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 309				<p>infrastructure can therefore deliver benefits which are complementary to your aims, but this would need to be secondary to the promotion of utility travel.</p> <p>The routes that we have planned for delivery are shown on the Integrated Network Map (INM), which ensure that continuous improvement is made to the walking and cycling infrastructure available. The INM is under a state of continuous review so we are able to add new routes as and when required.</p> <p>Source: Transport Strategy Officer</p>		
199	The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed	AMBER	AMBER	22 schools in Swansea are signed up to the Playful Schools initiative. Training and guidance issued to Playful Schools has emphasised the importance of providing outdoor play	The guidance is largely limited to those schools signed up as Playful Schools	199 Provide information for all schools on the importance of play

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		

Town and Country Planning

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 310 100	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities	GREEN	GREEN	Under 2.4 Infrastructure Requirements & Obligations, it states; Public Open Space and Green Infrastructure - including parks, green spaces; children’s play; destination play and teen facilities; sports pitches and games areas; open space and recreational facilities including playgrounds; allotments and the <i>Active Travel</i> network. In Section SI5 Protection of Open Space, it states;		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 311				<p>For the purposes of the Plan, open space is defined in accordance with guidance within TAN 16 Sport, Recreation and Open Space (2009). This includes Fields in Trust' (FIT) provision such as playing fields, equipped children's play areas, outdoor sports facilities, informal recreation or play space and accessible natural greenspace, which is defined in accordance with the 'Providing Accessible Natural Greenspace in Towns and Cities Toolkit'. The Council published the Open Space Assessment in 2014. The Assessment will be continually monitored and updated over the <i>Plan period</i>, providing the evidence base for the Council's Open Space Strategy (OSS) which will form SPG. The OSS vision is to provide a strategic framework for the protection, development and</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 312				<p>improvement of existing open spaces and to increase the provision where there are identified deficiencies. The OSS will provide suggestions of schemes where alternative provision can justifiably be located or provide justification for financial contributions.</p> <p>SI 6: PROVISION OF NEW OPEN SPACE Open space provision will be sought for all residential development proposals with capacity for 10 or more units. This will include the creation of new on-site facilities, or the improvement of existing local provision off-site, along with appropriate maintenance contributions. A contribution towards improving off-site open space provision in the area will be required for residential development proposals of fewer than 10 units where there is a quantitative or</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 313				<p>qualitative deficiency in open space provision.</p> <p>All residential development must accord with the principles of providing good children’s play and leisure opportunities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ensuring that the design of residential areas prioritises the ability of residents, particularly children, to move freely, socialise and play; ii. Incorporating ‘Homezone’ style street design and layouts where appropriate and the provision of opportunities for doorstep play; <p>In accordance with the Plan’s objectives of creating desirable, healthy and sustainable places to live, the policy seeks to ensure that all residential developments consider the needs of both older children and young people for children’s play and leisure opportunities within new developments. This</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 314				<p>includes consideration of the principles set out in the policy which are further augmented in the Council’s Residential Design Guide SPG and the Manual for Streets, which relates particularly to the creation of a highway network and urban realm which facilitates opportunities for safe informal play. This can be through the creation of “Homezones”, or designing landscaping to facilitate informal play. All new play provision must be fit for purpose, for example it must have sufficient drainage, be safe and accessible to the children and young people it serves and be sufficiently overlooked.</p> <p>2.7.34 Wherever possible, developers should consult with children and young people about the location and type of new or improved provision and their opinions should be taken into consideration in the design of</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 315				<p>development. Developers are also encouraged to enter into open dialogue with the Council to ensure that meaningful play opportunities are not lost because of future maintenance issues.</p> <p>2.7.35 The policy ensures that children and young people are provided with sufficient opportunities to engage in quality, accessible play opportunities in the area in which they live. This is a key part of children’s personal development and well-being. The right to have access to play and leisure opportunities is supported by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which has been adopted by the Council. The Council also has a duty, under the Child and Families (Wales) Measure 2010, to ensure sufficient play ‘as far as is reasonably practicable’</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>2.7.36 Any community, recreational and play facilities within new school developments that are intended for use by the whole community should be suitably available out of school hours including weekends</p> <p>Source: Local Devt. Plan (LDP) 2010-2025</p>		

Page 310

Traffic and Transport

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I101	The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 - 2020) provides the statutory policy for transport initiatives in Swansea.</p> <p>Key schemes for the CCS under this policy include:</p>	The main consideration for Swansea under this policy, is to 'drive economic activity', not to facilitate play. Children are directly referred to just three times in the report.	I101a Possible case for a Welsh Government Transport Grant to address 'rat race' challenge and to further facilitate marginalised communities, and access to play for all.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 317				<p>City Centre Cycle Network: To create a traffic free environment in the city centre</p> <p>Walking & Cycling links to NCN routes: 'The City & County of Swansea benefits from a good quality strategic cycle network (NCN4 & NCN43). This scheme would construct a series of traffic-free paths to enhance and create these connections' (The Joint Transport plan, pg 35)</p> <p>The Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales 2015 – 2020 also highlights 'A number of school children within the City & County of Swansea who currently qualify for free school transport on the grounds of there not being a 'safe walking route to school'. This creates a revenue</p>	<p>Evidence from CCS regarding usage of cycle paths in Swansea reported that 4 of the 5 most prominent fixed cycle counters had reported a decrease (albeit small) in usage between 2016 and 2017. The only exception to this was <i>Blackpill Lido</i>, which reported a considerable increase in average daily users between 2016 and 2017 (from 431 to 718).</p> <p>Safety on the roads continues to be a concern for parents and children when considering accessing play. statements such as 'make cars go</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 318				<p>burden for the Council and does not serve to promote healthy lifestyles for the children. This scheme would create walking and cycling routes for children who do not have the benefit of a 'safe walking route to school'</p> <p>Source: Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales 2015 - 2020</p>	<p>slower', or 'make it safer' remain to be persistent response (although considerably less common than in 2016), from children to the question, 'How can we help you to play more?'. (PSA consultation, 2019). Steps to negate these risk/concerns are not currently addressed in The Joint Transport Plan for Swansea 2015-2020.</p> <p>Nationally, 'the volume of traffic has increased over the years and is likely to double by 2035'</p> <p>Source: Play Wales</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
1102	The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.	AMBER	AMBER	Section 1.9 of the Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales 2015 – 2020 makes reference to ‘ providing integrated and affordable access to businesses and for residents and visitors can help to stimulate sustainable economic development, reductions in deprivation and social exclusion and an increase in well-being. The City Region Authorities will work collaboratively with the WG, transport providers and users to plan, develop and deliver good quality access in South West Wales.	There is no specific reference or consideration for those considered marginalised in the Joint Transport Plan.	

Page 319

Early Years Plans

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
1105	Early Years and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children	GREEN	GREEN	The development of the Early Years Opportunities Group over the past three years has been pivotal in ensuring play is recognised as a key element of early years planning. Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager / Early Years Progression Officer		

Page 120

Family policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
1107	Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play	GREEN	GREEN	The Children’s Play Team enjoy a close working relationship with other services within Early Intervention such as the Family Facilitation Team, Team Around the Family (TAF) and Jig-So. They are able to signpost families to the support services		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>available, such as the Stepping into Play programme. Additionally, the Family Play Support Team delivered a Theraplay overview to all of these services so that they had a greater understanding of its impact.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
NEW	The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW	GREEN	<p>Swansea has been fortunate in that those responsible for the local implementation of Families First have been open to discussing how play and a playful approach can support prevention and early intervention and maintaining and developing a strong family unit.</p> <p>At the time of submission, Families First funded the Play on Wheels mobile play team, as well as the Family Play Support Workers</p>	As stated, the increased requirements to evidence work with families and intervention, delivery has had to shift away from open access play in support of every child's right to play.	

Page 321

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 322				<p>(equating to 32 hours pw fte), and this provides practically all of the direct provision from the local authority.</p> <p>Additionally, Families First supports 2 third sector organisations to deliver a playful approach to children & young people with disabilities and their families.</p> <p>This focus has contributed to play being able to better demonstrate its fit with key local and national priorities with some extremely impactful work over the past three years.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		
	NEW	Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and	NEW	AMBER	Family play now provides Theraplay to families. It is a unique form of Play Therapy. Theraplay practice	Play is not yet widely recognised as being important to reducing the

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 323	contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			<p>is based on Attachment theory and provides therapeutic support to families that have experienced trauma and attachment difficulties. The majority of families supported through Theraplay have children with additional needs. The therapy addresses many of the issues raised in the ACES report.</p> <p>The Poverty & Prevention Service, of which play was a part for much of the past three years, has looked extensively at ACEs over that time.</p> <p><i>Case Study From: A prevention strategy for Swansea – The Family Support Continuum</i></p> <p>A child was identified to have high levels of difficulty in speech and language. Home</p>	impact of ACE'S so increased awareness would be beneficial	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 324				<p>visits showed that he was looked after by his grandmother while mum and dad worked, spending most of his time in a play pen. His play skills were limited so the Early Language Development Team (ELDT) initially worked on these skills. At the same time the family was encouraged to come to parent and toddler group and song and rhyme sessions at the library. They were also encouraged to access further support. The child and his family, once ready, were helped by the speech and language (SALT) team. This involved early language groups and 121 sessions. He has now moved on to nursery and his speech and language skills are on par with other children in his class.</p> <p>Source: <i>CCS A Prevention Strategy for Swansea</i></p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 325				<p><i>Consultation Draft. 2017-2020</i></p> <p>Family Link Project. ‘Supporting ethnic minority young people and their families who are facing multiple challenges in their lives’</p> <p>Source: EYST</p> <p>CCS assisted in funding the ‘Real Voices, Real Trauma’ consultation, documenting the experiences of 30 young people across Wales who have experienced homelessness.</p> <p>Key findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 47 per cent of the group became homeless because of relationship breakdown within the 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 326				<p>family; often citing conflict between the young person and their parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 per cent of the young people said that the death of a close family member affected them so much that this became a key factor in their homelessness. • One in four members of the group said they had experienced violence, abuse or sexual assault within the childhood home. • 50 per cent of the group had diagnosed mental <u>health</u> issues. • Only 7 per cent of the group highlighted alcohol or drug use as a key driver leading to their homelessness; 80 per cent said that alcohol or drugs would 		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 327				<p>become a feature of their homelessness.</p> <p>Source: Wallich, <i>Real Voices, Real Trauma. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's), trauma and homelessness in Welsh young people.</i></p> <p>Some projects have already been developed with the core aim of reducing the impact of ACE's;</p> <p>Family Play at HMPS Hidden sentence training Supporting Young Parents in Prison Theraplay</p> <p>Targeted play sessions at children's behavioural units, and family play sessions at HMPS have been a feature in Swansea for many years. The Children's Play Team have been providing family</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 328				<p>play sessions in HMPS since 2010, knowing that prisoners who do not receive visits from family are nearly 40% more likely to commit crimes after being released from prison than those who do, and that in doing so they are preventing other possible ACE's, such as family breakdown.</p> <p>Family play now provides Theraplay to families. A unique form of Play Therapy. Theraplay practice is based on Attachment theory and provides therapeutic support to families that have experienced trauma and attachment difficulties. The therapy addresses many of the issues raised in the ACES report.</p>		

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I108	There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity	AMBER	AMBER	<p>Playbus – Grandparents are known to attend free play sessions hosted by the POW team (Play on wheels) Although no specific data is obtained on this and parents and carers do remain to be the most likely adult in attendance</p> <p>· Library scheme – Waterfront museum Grandparents and children’s play sessions at the library</p> <p>Bay city Strollers - Grandparent carer club</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>	The library and Waterfront museum grandparent and child sessions were unpopular. Very few residents attended these sessions.	
	I109	There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages	AMBER	AMBER	As with 2016, it is significant to point out that, based on consultation results and feedback from parent/carers, children & young people have a clear	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 330				<p>preference for having play opportunities that incorporate same/similar age peers.</p> <p>We are certainly aware that play clubs can appear 'babyish' to older children if there will be significantly younger children on site.</p> <p>However, there has been considerable success when young people have been engaged in play projects in an organisational capacity. A significant example has been with the Morriston Young People's Group which is attached to Play in Morriston and Morriston Fun Zone. The group has supported delivery, but has been a group in its own right. Younger children in the setting have responded favourably to the presence of people they can relate to more, or look up to, being in a position of authority.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>It was particularly notable at the 2015 Lord Mayor's Community Play Volunteer Awards (organised by the LA to recognise those who volunteer on play settings) that close to 50% of those recognised were under the age of 18.</p> <p>Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager</p>		

Page 381

Health and Safety	
--------------------------	--

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I115a	The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge	AMBER	AMBER	The Children's play team statement of purpose considers that 'by coming into contact with graduated risk taking situations in a controlled environment, children will develop a	The <i>Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide</i> , Shows how play providers can develop an approach to risk	I115a Potential incorporation of the Play Wales Risk-benefit assessment into our own risk assessment documentation could be

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 332				<p>capacity to identify, access and manage other activities with risk content.'</p> <p>The Children's play team's statement of purpose considers risk taking to be an essential part of child development. It highlights the fact that 'A key role of the Playworker is to access appropriateness of a child's actions, weighing up the play value against the risk'.</p> <p>This statement purpose considers the 'managing risk in Play provision' as being a useful framework to work within although it does note that the guidance is open to interpretation.</p> <p>Source: The Children's Play Team</p> <p>Source: The Children's Play team, <i>Children's Play team Statement of purpose.</i></p>	<p>management that takes into account the benefits to children and young people of challenging play experiences, as well as the risks. It does concur, however, that while outside expertise and advice are valuable, the ultimate responsibility for making decisions rests with the provider.</p> <p>Source: Play Wales .</p> <p>Guidance is largely deemed open to interpretation and could lead to a varied or restrained approach to promoting risk and challenge in play.</p>	<p>beneficial for risky play promotion.</p> <p>Criteria: Benefits, Local factors, Ongoing management.</p> <p>Potential for staff training in <i>Applying risk-benefit assessments in a play setting</i>, as endorsed by Play Wales, although cost could be a barrier.</p> <p>Source: Play Wales</p> <p><i>Some practitioners in play have reported, incorporation of the reverse risk assessment approach, to their in house risk assessment procedures, asking parents and practitioners to consider 'the risks and drawbacks to CYP's not having an opportunity to carry out the risky task (i.e whittling, fire</i></p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 333				<p>The play team manages the possible hazard of CYP climbing/hanging/jumping from trees/ branches/roofs, at a play session, with the health and safety risk assessment. This assessment is clear that the risk is low. Staff are required to monitor the activity and provide equipment to assist CYP if they fall (crash mats/bean bags)</p> <p>Source: Children’s Play Team <i>Health and safety risk assessment</i>.</p>	<p>The current risk assessment utilised by CCS aims to mitigate the risk of risky types of play, it does not necessarily seek to endorse or promote risk and challenge in play.</p> <p>Source: Children’s Play Team <i>Health and safety risk assessment</i>.</p>	<p><i>lighting)</i>. Some practitioners have argued that this places risky activity, and its promotion, in a more positive light.</p>
I115b	The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)	AMBER	AMBER	As above, although the children’s play team do not utilise the risk- benefit assessment in its entirety, they do have a Play specific risk assessment form which considers play value as a basis for considering risk.	Risk-benefit assessments are not currently utilised in their entirety by the children’s Play Team as a part of their risk assessment procedure.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 334</p>				<p>The Children’s play team’s statement of purpose considers risk taking to be an essential part of child development. It highlights the fact that ‘A key role of the Playworker is to assess appropriateness of a child’s actions, weighing up the play value against the risk’.</p> <p>Source: The Children’s Play Team – <i>Children’s Play Team Statement of purpose</i></p>		
116	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils	RED	RED	<p>This is the main area of regression during the course of the statutory duty to assess and secure play sufficiency.</p> <p>Prior to 2013, those community projects funded ‘to act on our behalf’ by delivering play projects were included under the Council’s public liability insurance but this has since been removed.</p>	The Local Authority is unable to include third sector play providers within its insurance, therefore this cannot be achieved	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Source: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager		

Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities.

This area continues to be one of the most pleasing elements of what is happening in Swansea at the present time to support play sufficiency. There are numerous examples of collaborative working that has either developed or preserved play locally. As detailed in the conclusion, play has gone from being something that wasn't considered, to being a reluctant afterthought to now being something officers and services are keen to be seen to be considering or working alongside.

Have there been challenges?

Despite the many successes that have come from those officers who are open to considering play within their role, there are inevitably still those who are unwilling to do this, or otherwise look at new ways of working. A few years ago this would be accepted as 'one of those things' but now it needs to be challenged as this is a major barrier in developing collaborative work.

How can these be overcome?

By not giving up!

Play over the last few years has developed and maintained good alliances that it is has been able to build on. Often officers, some very senior, have received links to reports and articles that maintain the importance of play in city planning and governance.

Play has offered solution focused ideas and shared observations that may hinder this progress that benefits the citizens of the county. Play recognises that this time of sharp cuts, reduced capacity and austerity is almost an opportunity, as we have to collaborate to achieve and maintain high standards as well as reach higher.

Comments:

By comparison to 2016, in 2019 there are 6 Greens, 12 Ambers and 1 Red, compared to 4 Green, 11 Amber and 1 Red, although several indicators have changed

Conclusion

This section should identify the key priorities for the Local Authorities in accordance with the regulations and described in the Statutory Guidance.

The period from 2016 to 2019 has been an ultimately successful one for play within Swansea, albeit in the face of extensive challenge, and, at the time of finalising the assessment, facing the starkest challenge to date, with the Local Authority Play Service put up at Cabinet in February 2019 with a proposal for major cuts.

Given that the very strength of play in Swansea is how the local authority Children’s Play Team work in partnership with an extensive range of internal and external partners and are at the heart of strategy, co-ordination and funding, the reality of what would be a fatal blow for play, has hit home. It is no exaggeration to say that play in Swansea is at a crossroads whereby the 2022

Assessment has potential to either be a celebration of how play is at the heart of a wide range of policies and good practice across the area, or something that used to be valued and provided for.

The illustration included as an appendix demonstrates how play locally is inextricably linked to the 2 co-ordination / development roles held by the Play Devt. Officer and Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager. Taking either out will have major implications. Whilst on one hand, work needs to be done to lessen the impact of losing one or both roles, a priority for the next three years must also be safeguarding them.

At the time of submission of the Assessment, there is a lot of uncertainty around the future of play within Swansea and it is a concern that several of the projects and roles identified as pivotal to Play Sufficiency in Swansea face a battle to still be in existence at the time of the 2022 Assessment.

Major Impact of the All-Wales Play Opportunities Grant (AWPOG)

Undertaking the Assessment firmly re-enforced the view that the funding provided via the AWPOG has massively impacted upon play in Swansea and this needs to be emphasised to Welsh Government so they are aware it has worked very well in Swansea. Summed up by the quote ‘if it wasn’t for the PSA funding we would be putting chains on park gates’, the position of play in 2019 will be fundamentally better as a result of this funding than it would have been without it.

Some recognition does need to be given to processes in place and pro-active officers who engage partners, to identify the most effective and beneficial uses of the funding. As well as the ‘bread and butter’ of providing sustainability grants to play projects, it has seen some original and forward thinking such as bringing a Theraplay trainer over from Chicago in January 2017 to train play professionals from across the area.

Thinking Strategically

There are a great many benefits arising from the duty to assess play sufficiency, but potentially the increased focus on ‘how much’ has resulted in a reduced consideration of ‘why’. Swansea’s Play Strategy has not been revisited since 2013 due to the PSA but this is something that should be addressed in 2019.

‘The Lost Boys’

One of the most telling realisations during the undertaking of this assessment was that in many areas, 2018 saw a major impact on children getting out to play. Literally, there were no boys! There has long been a concern over how video games were detracting

from play, but 2018 was the year it had most effect in Swansea. Significantly, the arrival of Fortnite saw many boys in particular no longer leaving their bedrooms.

Play within the Third Sector

Given that Swansea's Third Sector Play Association, Play Right, closed in March 2016, at the time of the last assessment, after 40 years representing play outside of the local authority, it is interesting to consider the impact. The facilitation of more intese projects such as the Penlan Project and Play Streets. The loss os the Scrap Store has a high impact especially as we are promoting the use of loose parts more and more.

Continuing to Reclaim Play

The 2016 Assessment talked quite proudly of how play was being 'reclaimed' and the impact this had in a sustainable way due to incorporating play's value into existing policy and procedure rather than providing compensatory play – at cost. This must continue to be a priority in the following ways;

- Counter the belief that it isn't safe for children to get out and about on foot by making it safer. Lobbying to get main roads to flow so drivers aren't reliant upon rat runs and developing residential areas as places where drivers know to be vigilant towards children crossing roads, riding bikes and potentially playing in the street.

Becoming Cool!

Potentially the biggest positive shift has been in terms of how other council services view working with, or otherwise considering, play. As recently as around five years ago, it was generally felt that play was another area and one which didn't contribute to the agendas of others. More recently, play became a reluctant afterthought, brought in when it was deemed necessary to, and generally late in the day, when key decisions had been made. But it seems that increasingly now it is seen as being 'cool' or recognised as good practice to engage with play and see the benefits of doing so.

In terms of 'scores', the matters are all either Green or Amber, meaning we are either where we need to be, or making progress towards it.

The number of green matters has increased to a reasonable degree with a comparable figure of;

2016	45 Green, 44 Amber and 2 Red
2019	51 Green, 41 Amber and 1 Red

Note the removal of indicators for Matter A and the updating of several other indicators makes a direct like for like comparison impossible, but this needs to be recognised as a successful period for play in Swansea.

Way forward

This section should briefly introduce the Action Plan which sets out what steps need to be taken to improve the opportunities for children to play within the Local Authority area, including what mechanism and criteria were used to agree and prioritise actions. It should also describe the actions the Local Authority will take with regards to change in infrastructure, partnership working or mechanisms to ensure that it is well placed to deliver on the duty to secure sufficient play opportunities

The 2019 Assessment, much like its predecessors, presents a largely positive picture of play within Swansea, so much of the actions will be to build on good practice or to look to plug any gaps.

However, whilst the 2019 Assessment has identified a wide range of good practice examples and conversely areas for development, the priority for the next 3 years needs to be safeguarding the infrastructure for play which is as vulnerable now as ever. Without this, any other action can be deemed irrelevant as there won't be systems, or people, in place to do anything about it.

As detailed in the conclusion, this would two parts;

- Looking to safeguard existing infrastructure, namely the two roles within the Local Authority responsible for strategic co-ordination and implementation (you cannot have one without the other)
- Identifying any contingency plans for the loss of one or both roles

In terms of moving forward, the Assessment will firstly need to be approved by Cabinet and this process has started by placing the document on Forward Look.

From here, a Public Summary and Accessible/easy read version, predominantly for children, will be made available.

In terms of partnership working to achieve outcomes, the Assessment and its findings will be discussed at May 2019's Play Network with a view to identifying who will contribute and how.

The Children & Young People's Board will receive a presentation from the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager detailing the key findings and the plans to move play forward over the next three years.

Signed:

Date:29/3/19.....

Page 341



Actions to be taken to address the issues / shortcomings recorded in the Play Sufficiency Assessment

Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020

(Funding source: **funding from Local Authority own budgets and to be included in the Single Integrated Plan).**

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Links to other Matters	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
Statutory Guidance-policy framework	SG1 Safeguarding existing play co-ordination infrastructure	Look to secure core funding for play until 2022	All	Core Funding	Existing
	SG2 Identifying alternative opportunities in response to loss of infrastructure	Identify other means to achieve key outcomes in absence of local authority play provision	All	TBC	Likely to require additional funding source
	SG3 Update Swansea's Play Strategy for a clearer and co-ordinated plan	Development of a Play Strategy or similar	All	Officer Time	Existing
Matter A: Population					
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs	B11 Ensure the play needs of	B11a Ensure continued service	Matter D, F	Officer Time, Grant Funding	Existing

	those living in rural areas are met	delivery in Gower and Mawr wards			
		B11b Look to prioritise play areas within these wards when upgrading or during any discussion on future rationalisation	Matter F	Officer Time, Grant Funding	Likely to require external grant funding
		B11c Look to provide opportunities for natural play experiences for children in those areas where access to beaches and woodland are limited	Matter F	Officer Time, Delivery Costs	Existing
	B13 Ensure play needs of those from ethnic minority backgrounds are met	B13a Ensure that representative groups continue to be engaged and are effectively ensuring the views and needs of those	Matter H	Officer, Partner Time	Existing

		they represent are included			
	B14 Further develop inclusive play at Victoria Park	B14a Increase accessibility via surfacing and access	Matter F	Officer Time, Costs for surfacing	Possible Grant Funding
		B14b Continue to support home schooled families to access play	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	B16	B16a Increase awareness in accessible provision	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	B17 Ensure access to play is clearly identified	B17 Update access audits to include access to equipment and facilities within each area	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	B19 Meet play needs of young adult carers	B19 Investigate joint working between the Young Carers Service, Young	Matter F, H	Officer, Partner Time	Existing Core

		Adult Carers project and the play sector			
Matter C: Space available for children to play	C30 Access Audits are in place	C30a Improve Parks Accessibility A-Z	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	C34 Encourage more community play	C34a Investigate potential for 'Ball Games' signs in identified green spaces	Matter F	Officer Time Costs for Signage	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	C35 Erect Play priority signs to encourage children to play in their community	C34b Play Dev Officer to deliver Play awareness session to Council Tenant Group C35a Introduce signage in residential areas where children are likely to be playing out to advice road users and others of the likelihood of children playing, cycling or crossing.	Matter F, H Matter F, H	Officer Time Officer Time Officer Time Costs for Signage	Existing Core Existing Core Existing Core Potential Grant Funding

		C35b Include a media campaign as well as potential leafleting to raise awareness.	Matter F, H	Officer Time	Existing Core
Matter D: Supervised provision	D38 Ensure records of provision are up to date	D38a Develop closer links with those holiday play / activity clubs operating outside of local authority support and CIW registration	Matter G	Officer Time	Existing Core
	D39 Advocate for delivery of play to support article 31	D39a Produce user friendly evidence of play team impact on both early intervention and ensuring every child's right to play and look to gain support for both elements.	Matter H	Officer Time	Existing Core
	D45 Engage private sector	D45a Re-establish links with private sector play providers		Officer, Partner Time	Existing Core

Matter E: Charges for play provision					
Matter F: Access to space/provision	F61 keep up to date record of the number of 20mph zones /school safety zones in residential areas	F61a Provide GIS mapping layers of 20mph limits and zones in longer term when staff resources allow. F61b Play team and Road safety team to work together to plot likely “play traffic” and any potential areas for conflict with road users.		Officer Time	Existing Core
	F64 Improve walking and cycling access to parks and play spaces	F64 Undertake traffic, speed and volume surveys to identify areas of risk and work closely with Police (Go Safe) to reduce speed.		Officer Time	Existing Core
	F66 Deliver cycle training	F66a Target for 2019-20 = 1029		Officer Time	Existing Core
				Welsh Govt. funding	Potential Grant Funding

	F67 Deliver pedestrian training	F67 - Target for 2019-20 =1755		Officer Time Welsh Govt. funding	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	F21* Support access to after school clubs by disabled cyp	F21a* Roll-out of the pilot After-School club for Pen-y-Bryn pupils	Matter B	Officer Time Grant Funding	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	F73 Ensure information is readily available and accessible	F73a Look to find a means to ensure this information can be provided in a format that is mutually beneficial		Officer Time	Existing Core
	F74 Support access to mainstream play	F74a – Look into the effectiveness of the SWAT scheme	Matter B	Officer, Partner Time	Existing Core
	F76 Support positive community attitudes to play	F76a – Increased media campaign to enhance community attitudes to play	Matter H	Officer Time	Existing Core
	F77 Publicise information to	F77a Further development of the	Matter G	Officer Time	Existing Core

	support parents to provide for play	'Top Tips' area of the Facebook page			
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	G80 Ensure up to date information on the play workforce	G80a Undertake an additional workforce devt. Survey in response to updated qualifications in September 2021		Officer Time Costs for qualification delivery	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	G81 Supports the workforce to achieve the qualification level required	G81a Identify what qualifications are required, how long they will be valid and communicate this to the sector.		Officer Time Costs for qualification delivery	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	G85 Undertake a comprehensive training needs analysis	G85a – Undertake comprehensive training / qualification needs analysis		Officer Time	Existing Core
	G91 Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose	G91 Continued roll-out of training and awareness sessions to identified officer,		Officer Time	Existing Core

	work impacts on children's opportunities to play	members and organisations			
Matter H: Community engagement and participation					
Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas	<p>I94 The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities</p> <p>I95 Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day</p>	<p>I94b Look to increase reference to play and its impact within Wellbeing Plan and associated documents</p> <p>I95a Increased roll-out of the Playful Schools initiative</p> <p>I95b Additional training provided for Playful Schools</p>		<p>Officer Time</p> <p>Officer Time Grant Funding for schools</p> <p>Officer Time</p>	<p>Existing Core</p> <p>Existing Core Potential Grant Funding</p> <p>Existing Core</p>

Page 350

	<p>I97 Ensure schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times</p>	<p>I97a Gain clarification of the requirements for access to school grounds</p>	Matter C, F	Officer Time	Existing Core
		<p>I97b Support for those schools who look to make grounds available</p>	Matter C, F	Officer Time Grant Funding for schools	Existing Core Potential Grant Funding
	<p>I98 Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school</p>	<p>I98a Work with colleagues and schools to identify ways in which walking and cycling to school can be made safer, particularly in terms of reducing traffic.</p>	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	<p>I99 Offer guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed</p>	<p>I99a Provide information for all schools on the importance of play</p>		Officer Time	Existing Core

Page 352	<p>I101 Local streets, roads and walking and cycling route offer play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities</p>	<p>I101a Look into Welsh Government Transport Grant to address ‘rat race’ challenge and to further facilitate marginalised communities, and access to play for all</p>	Matter F	Officer Time	Existing Core
	<p>I115a The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge</p>	<p>I115a Potential incorporation of the Play Wales Risk-benefit assessment into our own risk assessment documentation could be beneficial for risky play promotion.</p>		Officer Time	

APPENDIX 1

Play Sufficiency 2019 Partner Planning Session

Thursday 18th October 2018
1.30-3pm, Committee Room 1, Civic Centre

Notes of Meeting

Workshop A – Population

- Swansea is a City of Sanctuary, therefore there will be a high proportion of refugees and asylum seekers, many of whom will not be recorded within statistics.
- Do we provide for Traveller Communities?
- Swansea is a diverse area in terms of urban and rural areas
- The last full Census was completed in 2011. How relevant will 2011 figures be now?
- Increasing amount of students, particularly Masters students from overseas who may have families.
- There are areas / pockets without provision
- We need to consider housing developments (e.g. Hendrefoilen / Penllergaer)
- Everyone has less disposable income. More 'affluent' families are seeking out free / low cost opportunities
- Do we support single parents enough? Consider when one parent has children of differing ages and interests
- Play spaces are geographically fixed, but families move and neighbourhoods evolve. How do we respond?

Workshop C – Space for Children to Play

- So many new housing estates – have just new play areas
- Student housing is taking over
- Council housing – looking at developing play spaces
- Parents taking children 'somewhere'; rather than doorstep play
- Not knowing where spaces are and uninviting

- Fly tipping & rubbish
- Older children seen as 'nuisance' but have nowhere to go
- Older children getting questioned as to why they are there
- No Ball Games – Council not putting any more up. (Ask SJ)
- Grumpy neighbours
- Building relationships with residents (Play Streets)
- Are we feeling more confident as a council to challenge children's rights to play
- Understanding and having a shared language across the authority

Workshop D - Staffed Provision

- Impact of CIW Registration / regulations
- Consider exemption of settings.
- CIW 'not making it easy'
- Leisure centres providing play
- Potential to work together, e.g. playworkers in libraries
- Extend delivery of play training, e.g. physical literacy and sport
- 8+ are engaging less, however comp age coming more (as volunteers/rangers).
- Popularity of Lego
- (EYST) Families are struggling with increased costs
- Need top tips, e.g. making slime!
- Have to adapt skills for all ages
- Recruitment issues. Hard to get staff (qualified) for limited time.
- How to make best use of volunteers, e.g. volunteer coordinator?

Workshop E

- Parking is less of an issue than people think. Folks will find a way of parking if they really need to.
- Sometimes people value things if they have to pay.
- Important to look at needs – disabled children (more often these are children of single parents)
- We have created a non-paying expectation for play.
- We are disproportionately play-heavy in Families First areas. Not sure if that is a good thing or not.

- We miss 'working poverty'. The rich areas may be ok, the poor areas may be reasonably served, what about lower middle e.g. Dunvant?

Workshop H

- Lots of parents don't know about importance of play. If we get their views, we can perhaps work out how to involve them.
- Some children are sent to playscheme and don't want to be there.
- Surely schools ought to be key. And PTA's. Could be covered in PSE classes.
- Could also link in with Local Area Coordinators.
- Are we advocating well enough about play, e.g. to Health Workers, some kids haven't learnt to play.
- Educate parents about informal play.

Workshop I – Play within all Relevant Policy & Agenda

- Engage through identifying mutual benefits of partnership working
- Can be key requirement
- Increase early years and play links. (Wellbeing Plan)
- Identify specific streams
- Has to matter – show relevance
- Consider disability – local offer
- Network makes it relevant / work.
- Role of Theraplay supporting Social Services
- University 'Green Spaces' Health & Wellbeing. FiT Study 'Value of a Park'.
- Know what plans and strategies exist
- NEET agenda

APPENDIX 2
Play Network Membership (As at 20th March 2019)

Role	Organisation	Network / Workstream
Access to Services	Swansea Council	BAME
Administration Officer	Swansea Council	Network
Chair – Special Families Forward	Parent/Carer	Network / Play Access
Child & Families Disability Devt. Officer	Swansea CVS	Network / Play Access
Childcare Devt. Officer	Clybiau Plant Cymru	Network
Childcare Devt. Officer	Swansea Council	Network
Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager	Swansea Council	All
Child Devt. Officer	Menter Iaith Abertawe	Network
Children & Family Centre Officer	Swansea Council	BAME
Children’s Rights Coordinator	Swansea Council	Network
Deputy Manager	Clase Family Centre	Network
Devt. Officer	Black Assoc. of Women Stepping Out	BAME
Devt. Officer	Children in Wales	BAME
Devt. Officer x 3	City of Sanctuary	BAME
Devt. Officer	Early Years Wales	Network
Devt. Officer	YMCA	BAME
Director	Ethnic Youth Support Team	Network / BAME
Early Years Progression Officer	Swansea Council	Network
Family Play Support Worker x 2	Swansea Council	Network
Family Resources Manager	Swansea Council	Network
Flying Start Childcare Manager	Swansea Council	BAME
Grants & Training Officer	Swansea Council	Network
Group Leader Traffic & Highway Mgmt	Swansea Council	Network
Housing Operations Manager	Swansea Council	Network
Independent	N/A	Network
Manager	African Community Centre	BAME
Manager	Interplay	Network / Play Access

Manager	Play & Leisure Opportunities Library	Network / Play Access
Manager	Polish School	BAME
Manager	National Autistic Society, Swansea	Network
Migration Asylum Seeker & Refugee Coordinator	Swansea Council	BAME
Parent / Carer x 3	N/A	Network / Play Access
Planning Officer, Supported Care Planning	Swansea Council	Network / Play Access
Play Devt. Officer	Swansea Council	Network / Play Spaces
Playground & Parks Maintenance Officer	Swansea Council	Network / Play Spaces
Response Officer, Parks & Cleansing	Swansea Council	Network / Play Spaces
Road Safety Officer	Swansea Council	Network
Rights Based Approach Coordinator	Swansea Council	Network
Senior Planning & Spacial Data Officer	Swansea Council	Network / Play Spaces
Specialist Parks & Technical Manager	Swansea Council	Play Spaces
Team Leader – Programme, Performance & Mgmt	Swansea Council	Network

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Report – 2017/8

This form should be completed for each Equality Impact Assessment on a new or existing function, a reduction or closure of service, any policy, procedure, strategy, plan or project which has been screened and found relevant to equality.

Please refer to the 'EIA Report Form Guidance' while completing this form. If you need further support please contact acesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk.

Where do you work?
Service Area:Poverty & Prevention
Directorate:Social Services

(a) This EIA is being completed for a:

Service/ Function <input type="checkbox"/>	Policy/ Procedure <input type="checkbox"/>	Project <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	X	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

(b) Please name and describe here:
2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment

(c) It was initially screened for relevance to Equality and Diversity on: ADD DATE
Screening completed for 2016 Assessment 22/4/2016

(d) It was found to be relevant to...

Children/young people (0-18).....	X	Sexual orientation.....	X
Older people (50+).....	X	Gender reassignment.....	X
Any other age group	X	Welsh language.....	X
Disability	X	Poverty/social exclusion	X
Race (including refugees)	X	Carers (including young carers).....	X
Asylum seekers.....	X	Community cohesion	X
Gypsies & Travellers.....	X	Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief.....	X	Pregnancy and maternity.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex.....	<input type="checkbox"/>		

(e) Lead Officer

Name: Stephen Cable

Job title: Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager

Date: 20/12/18

(f) Approved by Head of Service

Name:

Date:

Section 1 – Aims (See guidance):

Briefly describe the aims of the initiative:

<p>What are the aims? The aim of the Play Sufficiency Assessment is to identify the level and availability of play opportunities across the City & County of Swansea</p>
<p>Who has responsibility? The responsibility for complying with the Statutory Duty to assess play sufficiency lies with the local authority as a whole. The lead for undertaking the assessment and implementing an action plan based on identified need lies with the Poverty & Prevention Service via the Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager.</p>
<p>Who are the stakeholders? Whilst the key stakeholders are the children & young people of Swansea who require access to play as part of their personal development, the list of stakeholders is considerable, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents/carers and other family members - Organisations responsible for delivering play opportunities - Those organisations and services whose role impacts on play, either positively or negatively - Representative organisations of those groups who might require support or representation to access play -

Section 2 - Information about Service Users (See guidance):

Please tick which areas you have information on, in terms of service users:

Children/young people (0-18).....	✓	Sexual orientation.....	✓
Older people (50+).....	✓	Gender reassignment.....	✓
Any other age group	✓	Welsh language.....	✓
Disability	✓	Poverty/social exclusion	✓
Race (including refugees)	✓	Carers (including young carers).....	✓
Asylum seekers.....	✓	Community cohesion	✓
Gypsies & Travellers.....	✓	Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pregnancy and maternity.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex.....	✓		

Please provide a snapshot of the information you hold in relation to the protected groups above:

The Assessment is completed every 3 years, with the last assessment completed ahead of submission on 31st March 2016.

A requirement of the Assessment is that the Local Authority obtains information on each of the groups identified above, via statistical information as well as consultation and engagement. This information is then used to determine whether their specific needs in relation to access to play are met.

There are currently representative groups to ensure their needs are identified and responded to, e.g. Play Access Group (Disability and ALN) and BAME Family & Play (minority groups including travellers), while the PSA itself has encouraged increased engagement with LGBT and young carers with considerable success.

The 2016 PSA is attached as an appendix to show the many examples of this engagement and action.

In response to these needs, an action plan is developed to work towards play sufficiency. ***It is worth noting that Welsh Govt. looks to make year-end funding available each year for local authorities to implement these actions. It is assumed that this EIA will cover any associated funding for PSA implementation up until the next assessment in 2022.***

Any actions required, e.g. to fill information gaps?

Any actions required will have been identified as part of the process for undertaking the Assessment and these will be referred to within the Action Plan at the end of this EIA.

Section 3 - Impact on Protected Characteristics (See guidance):

Please consider the possible impact on the different protected characteristics.

	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Needs further investigation
Children/young people (0-18)	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+)	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief	→ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers)	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	→ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	→ ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thinking about your answers above, please explain in detail why this is the case.

As detailed above, the assessment is fundamentally based on ensuring that all groups and characteristics are considered in terms of their access to play and the impact upon it. There have been a great many meaningful outcomes as a result of this on the previous two PSA's in 2013 and 2016 – e.g. engaging with the LGBT community identified the issues around gender stereotyping of toys and, in response to this, an awareness session was held with colleagues across the authority.

Section 4 - Engagement:

Please consider all of your engagement activities here, e.g. participation, consultation,

What engagement has been undertaken to support your view? How did you ensure this was accessible to all?

As detailed, the Assessment itself requires engagement with relevant groups. As of December 2018, 3 specific engagement and consultation events have been held – one a public event for all attendees at National Playday in August 2018, an Open Play Network engagement event with stakeholders in October 2018 and a disability specific session via the Play Access Group in November 2018. Questionnaires have been distributed and the Play Team will take these to sessions, as well as them being available electronically, to ensure the widest reach.

In addition, Swansea has an existing network of representative groups and organisations who support the Play Network and, as such, this will ensure all needs and requirements are identified.

What did your engagement activities tell you? What feedback have you received?

Previous engagement events and activities have identified a range of gaps or requirements that are impacted upon by a specific need. These are detailed within the 2016 Assessment. In the past 3 years, we have seen some major changes as a result of the PSA, with the introduction of Swansea's first wheelchair swing in a public park being a key example.

During engagement on the 2019 PSA, we are already seeing that whilst great progress has been made, there is still more that needs to be done to ensure equity of access.

How have you changed your initiative as a result?

The PSA has not changed as a result of engagement as identifying need for key groups, and responding to it, is an essential element of the assessment.

Any actions required (e.g. further engagement activities, mitigation to address any adverse impact, etc.):

The main actions are continued roll-out of the consultation and a further stakeholder event in January 2019.

involvement, co-productive approaches, etc.

Section 5 – Other impacts:

Please consider how the initiative might address the following issues - see the specific Section 5 Guidance

Foster good relations between different groups	Advance equality of opportunity between different groups
Elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Reduction of social exclusion and poverty

Please explain any possible impact on each of the above.

Play is evidenced as being something that brings together different ages, interests and backgrounds. Our approach is of 'low cost, no cost' to ensure all are able to benefit from it.

We have worked on awareness and understanding of play to ensure that where the value of play is not fully recognised, knowledge of its impact has increased time for play. This is particular relevant from a cultural context.

Play sits within the Poverty & Prevention Service, with much of the local delivery coming via Families First, therefore a major focus has been on developing opportunities that support disadvantaged families and communities to come together through play. As one of many examples, the work of Family Play has increased family cohesion amongst those in greatest need.

What work have you already done to improve any of the above?

The work on each of these 4 areas via the PSA has been significant and best explained via the Assessment itself, with each being fundamental to the work that we do. We feel that the developments as part of the PSA have significantly addressed all elements.

Is the initiative likely to impact on Community Cohesion? Please provide details.

As detailed above, play is something which is universally accessible and plays a major role in bringing all elements of communities together, whether that be by providing services that integrate into mainstream, or supporting disengaged families to access their local play provision.

How does the initiative support Welsh speakers and encourage use of Welsh?

There is a specific element of the PSA which requires consideration of the needs of Welsh speakers. All documentation for the PSA is available bilingually. We have engaged Menter Iaith Abertawe to support us to look at play through the Welsh medium and included this as a discussion topic for the engagement event in October 2018.

Actions (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge).

N/A

Section 6 - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC):

Many initiatives have an indirect impact on children and you need to consider whether the impact is positive or negative in relation to both children's rights and their best interests. Please read the UNCRC guidance before completing this section.

Will the initiative have any impact (direct or indirect) on children and young people (think about this age group holistically e.g. disabled children, those living in poverty or from BME communities)? If not, please briefly explain your answer here and proceed to Section 7.

The PSA is fundamentally based around supporting every child and young person's right to play (Article 31).
Furthermore, it is developed through engagement with and contribution by children and young people (Article 12).
As detailed earlier, all protected characteristics will be included.

All initiatives must be designed / planned in the best interests of children and young people.

Best interests of the child (Article 3): The best interests of children must be the primary concern in making decisions that may affect them. All adults should do what is best for children. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children. This particularly applies to budget, policy and law makers.

Please explain how you meet this requirement:

Again, it is difficult to answer this specifically, other than to say that the above statement reflects every aim and intention of the Assessment and its implementation.
However, as one example – the team are currently working on a ground breaking development in terms of recognising children's rights and opportunities to play within the new Kingsway development and are being considered for an award as part of this.

Actions (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge).
N/A

Section 7 - Monitoring arrangements:

Please explain the monitoring arrangements for this initiative:

Monitoring arrangements: The PSA is monitored via the Play Network and subsequently the Children & Young People's (CYP) Board on a partnership level, as well as included within the Poverty & Prevention strategic plan.

Actions: Ongoing monitoring as per arrangements currently in place

Section 8 – Outcomes:

Having completed sections 1-5, please indicate which of the outcomes listed below applies to your initiative (refer to the guidance for further information on this section).

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Outcome 1: Continue the initiative – no concern | ✓ |
| Outcome 2: Adjust the initiative – low level of concern | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Outcome 3: Justify the initiative – moderate level of concern | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Outcome 4: Stop and refer the initiative – high level of concern. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

For outcome 3, please provide the justification below:

For outcome 4, detail the next steps / areas of concern below and refer to your Head of Service

/ Director for further advice:

Section 9 - Publication arrangements:

On completion, please follow this 3-step procedure:

1. Send this EIA report and action plan to the Access to Services Team for feedback and approval – acesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk
2. Make any necessary amendments/additions.
3. Provide the final version of this report to the team for publication, including email approval of the EIA from your Head of Service. The EIA will be published on the Council's website - this is a legal requirement.

EIA Action Plan:

Objective - What are we going to do and why?	Who will be responsible for seeing it is done?	When will it be done by?	Outcome - How will we know we have achieved our objective?	Progress
Ensure ongoing engagement and consultation as identified	Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager	31/3/19	The PSA reflects the views and needs of all identified	Ongoing consultation in place
Publication of summary findings of PSA in accessible formats for all	Childcare & Play Sufficiency Manager	30/6/19	Information is readily available and identified groups have received and are able to respond	To be undertaken on completion of assessment

Page 364

*** Please remember to be 'SMART' when completing your action plan (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely).**

Agenda Item 17.



Report of the Chief Legal Officer

Cabinet – 18 July 2019

Exclusion of the Public

Purpose:	To consider whether the Public should be excluded from the following items of business.	
Policy Framework:	None.	
Consultation:	Legal.	
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that:	
1)	The public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it / they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Paragraphs listed below of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 subject to the Public Interest Test (where appropriate) being applied.	
	Item No's	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
	18	14
	19	14 & 17
	20	13 & 14
Report Author:	Democratic Services	
Finance Officer:	Not Applicable	
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith – Chief Legal Officer(Monitoring Officer)	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, allows a Principal Council to pass a resolution excluding the public from a meeting during an item of business.
- 1.2 Such a resolution is dependant on whether it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present during that item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as defined in section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

2. Exclusion of the Public / Public Interest Test

- 2.1 In order to comply with the above mentioned legislation, Cabinet will be requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendation(s) to the report on the grounds that it / they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Exclusion Paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.
- 2.2 Information which falls within paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended is exempt information if and so long as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- 2.3 The specific Exclusion Paragraphs and the Public Interest Tests to be applied are listed in **Appendix A**.
- 2.4 Where paragraph 16 of the Schedule 12A applies there is no public interest test. Councillors are able to consider whether they wish to waive their legal privilege in the information, however, given that this may place the Council in a position of risk, it is not something that should be done as a matter of routine.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The legislative provisions are set out in the report.
- 4.2 Councillors must consider with regard to each item of business set out in paragraph 2 of this report the following matters:
 - 4.2.1 Whether in relation to that item of business the information is capable of being exempt information, because it falls into one of the paragraphs set out in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended and reproduced in Appendix A to this report.
 - 4.2.2 If the information does fall within one or more of paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, the public interest test as set out in paragraph 2.2 of this report.
 - 4.2.3 If the information falls within paragraph 16 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in considering whether to exclude the public members are not required to apply the public interest test but must consider whether they wish to waive their privilege in relation to that item for any reason.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: Appendix A – Public Interest Test.

Public Interest Test

No.	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
12	Information relating to a particular individual.
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 12 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that to make this information public would disclose personal data relating to an individual in contravention of the principles of the Data Protection Act. Because of this and since there did not appear to be an overwhelming public interest in requiring the disclosure of personal data they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
13	Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 13 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that the individual involved was entitled to privacy and that there was no overriding public interest which required the disclosure of the individual's identity. On that basis they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
14	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 14 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that:</p> <p>a) Whilst they were mindful of the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of public authority for decisions taken by them in relation to the spending of public money, the right of a third party to the privacy of their financial / business affairs outweighed the need for that information to be made public; or</p> <p>b) Disclosure of the information would give an unfair advantage to tenderers for commercial contracts.</p> <p>This information is not affected by any other statutory provision which requires the information to be publicly registered.</p> <p>On that basis they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>

No.	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
15	<p>Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.</p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 15 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that whilst they are mindful of the need to ensure that transparency and accountability of public authority for decisions taken by them they were satisfied that in this case disclosure of the information would prejudice the discussion in relation to labour relations to the disadvantage of the authority and inhabitants of its area. On that basis they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
16	<p>Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.</p>
	<p>No public interest test.</p>
17	<p>Information which reveals that the authority proposes:</p> <p>(a) To give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or</p> <p>(b) To make an order or direction under any enactment.</p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 17 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that the authority's statutory powers could be rendered ineffective or less effective were there to be advanced knowledge of its intention/the proper exercise of the Council's statutory power could be prejudiced by the public discussion or speculation on the matter to the detriment of the authority and the inhabitants of its area. On that basis they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
18	<p>Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 18 should apply. Their view on the public interest test was that the authority's statutory powers could be rendered ineffective or less effective were there to be advanced knowledge of its intention/the proper exercise of the Council's statutory power could be prejudiced by public discussion or speculation on the matter to the detriment of the authority and the inhabitants of its area. On that basis they felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>

Agenda Item 18.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 19.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 17 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 17 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 17 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 17 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 17 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 20.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 13, 14 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 13, 14 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 13, 14 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972
as amended by the Local Government (Access to
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted