



City and County of Swansea

**Minutes of the Scrutiny Performance Panel –
Development & Regeneration**

Committee Room 3A, Guildhall, Swansea

Wednesday, 31 July 2019 at 10.00 am

Present: Councillor J W Jones (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P M Black
D W Helliwell
P R Hood-Williams
P K Jones
M Thomas

Councillor(s)

P Downing
T J Hennegan
L James
S M Jones
T M White

Councillor(s)

E W Fitzgerald
C A Holley
M H Jones
W G Thomas

Officer(s)

Stuart Davies	Head of Highways & Transportation
Phil Holmes	Head of Economic Regeneration and Planning
Bethan Hopkins	Scrutiny Officer
Huw Mowbray	Property Development Manager
Mark Thomas	Group Leader Traffic & Highway Network Management

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): S J Gallagher

Co-opted Member(s):

Other Attendees:

1 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

- Cllr Paxton Hood-Williams is Chairman of the Local Access Forum. Relating to Item 5 and Item 6

2 Prohibition of Whipped Votes and Declaration of Party Whips

3 Minutes

- Approved

4 Project Update Report

Phase1

- The business cases are moving toward funding

- A lot of work is being undertaken to get final prices
- Waiting for bids on the hotel
- ATG have final designs for sign off
- In discussion about BT connection from first day of opening – high level connectivity
- More disabled spaces for scheme
- Expecting the standard Ts and Cs imminently
- FPR7 will not go to Cabinet until offer letter Ts and Cs are complete
- FPR7 to come to pre-decision scrutiny in advance of Cabinet

Phase 2

- Looking at what can be delivered after the Arena – catalyst
- Meetings help with public sector organisation for ideas around public sector hubs
- Looking at food/beverage/leisure to create a residential and public realm
- Part of existing financial approvals – aim to drive investment in the City Centre
- Concerns that competition from out of town retail and the city centre works will prohibit success
- Must create a strong public realm to encourage people
- Aim to change the footprint, usage and functions of areas
- New city centre car parks will be top quality
- Swansea also offers tourism and events, not just City Centre

Kingsway

- Progressing works, appointing at the moment
- Council have been keeping area safe and working on site in the meantime
- More complex this time as the work is part finished so new contractor has to take that work on
- Minimised financial impact due to the financial bond arrangement
- Original plan still staying
- Completion date expected soon
- Council not expected to take on Dawnus liabilities
- Space for compounds is a general issue
- Digital Village not affected by Kingsway

Marketing Strategic Sites

- Looking at partnerships and opportunities to drive regeneration
- Limited financial exposure for Council

Strategic Sites

- Castle Square and Wind St proposals moving forward
- Maintenance costs for projects must be built into budgets
- FPR7 report will have fully funded report with green maintenance and build maintenance costs for projects
- City Centre cleansing budget needs to increase along with development
- Velindre site rail station being discussed – lack of infrastructure
- Welcome investment in correct transport
- Any project needs all provider support

Tawe Corridor

- New masterplan for Copperworks
- Skyline moving forward
- Access to footpaths need to be in place

Other

- Awaiting update on Palace and Albert Hall

5 Highways and Transportation Update

- Local Transport Plan due to be reviewed over 12 months
- Transport Strategy due from Welsh Government
- Promote active travel in line with Wellbeing of Future Generations Act
- Strategic transport model projects and traffic networks and impact
- Telematic improvements are reducing delays
- Need effective timetables for bus network
- Working closely with regeneration department
- 26-30% less traffic in Hafod due to distributor road
- 20% carbon monoxide reduction on old Neath Road – looking to lower targets even more
- Active travel grants from WG – now looking at grants to connect people to employment hubs, will also lobby for leisure routes – tourism scrutiny proposed a leisure route in Gower
- Putting grant bids together is time consuming and requires resources to be redirected with reducing budgets
- Grants require spending in short time periods – not always realistic
- Need to take radical steps to improve air quality
- Looking to enhance park and ride
- Looking at a Swansea Bay metro system, have to grow and enhance public transport
- Car parking strategy to be concluded
- Balance encouraging City Centre footfall and keeping cars out of the City Centre
- Electric cars reduce emissions but not congestion
- Looking at linking communities and integration with active travel
- Even though SWITCH has ended the 4 authorities still work together
- Consultation document states needs are best met through train and bus
- Dyfatty is vehicle dominated and doesn't fit in with future model – cyclists would not use it
- Some of the discussions and topics have been spoken about for many years
- City Deal focus was around transformational technology but the recognition and importance of transportation a priority

6 Work Plan 2019/20

- Invite Section 151 Officer to next meeting

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Cont'd

The meeting ended at 12.20 pm

Chair