



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 10 September 2018

Cabinet Member Question Session

Purpose:	To enable the Committee to question Cabinet Members on their work. The Committee's questions will broadly explore Cabinet Members' priorities, actions, achievements and impact in relation to areas of responsibility.
Content:	The following Cabinet Member will appear before the Committee to participate in a question and answer session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Clive Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Business Transformation & Performance
Councillors are being asked to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question the Cabinet Member on relevant matters• Make comments and recommendations as necessary
Lead Councillor:	Councillor Mary Jones, Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee
Lead Officer:	Tracey Meredith, Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Business Intelligence
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1. Introduction

1.1 One of the most important roles that scrutiny carries out is holding the Council's Cabinet to account. The Cabinet (also known as the Executive) is made up of the Leader and other councillors, appointed by the Leader, who are allocated specific portfolio responsibilities:

Cllr Rob Stewart	- Economy & Strategy (Leader)
Cllr Clive Lloyd	- Business Transformation & Performance (Deputy Leader)
Cllr Mary Sherwood & Cllr June Burtonshaw	- Better Communities - People
Cllr Mark Child	- Better Communities - Place
	- Care, Health & Ageing Well

Cllr Elliot King &	- Children Services - Early Years
Cllr Will Evans	- Children Services - Young People
Cllr David Hopkins	- Delivery
Cllr Jennifer Raynor	- Education Improvement, Learning & Skills
Cllr Mark Thomas	- Environment & Infrastructure Management
Cllr Andrea Lewis	- Homes & Energy
Cllr Robert Francis-Davies	- Investment, Regeneration & Tourism

- 1.2 By acting as a 'critical friend' scrutiny has the opportunity to challenge the Cabinet and individual cabinet members on their actions and performance in relation to their areas of responsibilities.
- 1.3 Cabinet Member Question Sessions have become a main feature of Committee meetings. At least one cabinet member is scheduled to appear at each monthly Committee meeting, ensuring all Cabinet Members appear before the Committee over the course of a year, in order to ask questions on their work. Questions will focus on their priorities, actions, achievements and impact.

2. Cabinet Member Question Session

- 2.1 The following Cabinet Member will appear before the Committee:

- a) Councillor Clive Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Business Transformation & Performance

Within this cabinet portfolio, he is responsible for:

- Agile Programme lead
- Budget Tracking & Financial Savings Monitoring
- Capital Programme lead
- Commissioning Reviews lead
- Contact Centre
- Financial Services
- Health & Safety Policy
- Human Resources / Organisational Development
- Information & Business Change (inc. ICT)
- Legal Services
- Modernisation of Council Services
- Pensions
- Performance Management & Improvement
- Poverty Reduction
- Procurement & Frameworks
- PSB lead
- Risk & Resilience
- Strategic Estates & Property Management lead
- Sustainable Swansea Fit For the Future Programme lead

3. Approach to Questions

3.1 At the Cabinet Member Question Sessions the Committee will generally ask cabinet members about:

- relevant priorities / objectives, notable activities and achievements, improvement / impact made, and service user / public engagement.
- what they hope to achieve over the coming months and challenges, including any key decisions they plan take to Cabinet over the next year.
- reflections on their engagement with scrutiny and whether there is any issue relevant to their portfolio that they would suggest for scrutiny, not otherwise covered in the work programme – to ensure scrutiny activity is aligned to priorities and focussed on the right things.

3.2 In terms of themes that cut across all cabinet portfolios, the Committee is interested in asking Cabinet Members about:

- Well-being of Future Generations Act – impact on their work / decisions e.g. what they are doing to achieve the well-being goals and ways of working, whether there is a greater focus on long-term thinking, collaboration / involvement etc.
- Public Services Board (PSB) – their relationship with the work of the PSB; how the PSB impacts on their portfolio and how it is making a difference etc.

3.3 Cabinet Members will be invited to make introductory remarks before taking questions from the Committee. The Cabinet Member has provided a report on 'headlines' in relation to the portfolio to help the Committee focus on priorities, actions, achievements and impact – see **Appendix 1**.

3.4 Following each session the chair will write to the Cabinet Members in order to capture the main issues discussed, views expressed by the Committee, and any actions for them to consider.

3.5 If the Committee wishes to conduct more detailed scrutiny of any of the issues raised during this item then this should be agreed through the normal work planning process and planned for a future meeting. This will also allow proper time for preparation.

4. Previous Correspondence

4.1 Changes were announced by the Leader to cabinet portfolios, at the Council Annual General Meeting in May. Councillor Lewis was previously portfolio holder for Service Transformation & Business Operations. The following issues relevant to his current Business Transformation & Performance portfolio were discussed by the Committee during last year:

- Pension Fund
- Data Protection
- Strategic Estates & Property

The correspondence between the Committee and the Cabinet Member relating to previous Q & A session is ***attached***.

- 4.2 Members may also wish to follow up, as necessary, on the Cabinet Member's engagement both with the Committee and relevant Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups over the past year, which includes discussion about the Liberty Stadium, Emergency Planning & Resilience, Corporate Complaints, the Welsh Language Annual Report, and Fees & Charges.

Scrutiny involving the Cabinet Member over the past year:

- Liberty Stadium:
In November 2017, the Committee carried out pre-decision scrutiny of a Cabinet report on the Liberty Stadium. The joint report from the Leader and Cabinet Member for Service Transformation & Business Operations concerned commercial negotiations between Swansea City Football Club and the Council on existing lease arrangements. Overall the Committee welcomed the agreement with the Football Club that would see not only a guaranteed cash income to the Council but a percentage of any naming rights deal, and community benefit (3G pitches). The Committee was satisfied that the proposed terms represented a fair deal for both parties. The Committee noted that there were items under dispute, specifically the paintwork related to the structural steelwork and concourse flooring issues. The Committee was interested in what bearing this had on the negotiations and asked to be informed of the final resolution of this matter.
- Emergency Planning & Resilience Working Group:
The Cabinet Member attended a meeting in October 2017 which enabled questions and discussion on the Council's current activity, resourcing and future strategy for Emergency Planning and Resilience. As a result of concerns/issues raised the Cabinet Member agreed the following actions:
 - A new 'members handbook' be developed and circulated in 2018
 - An external webpage be developed to assist small businesses and voluntary organisations with business continuity advice
 - Management of spontaneous volunteers to enhance capability and co-ordination
 - Awareness training programme for all members to be developed 2018

- Review staffing and funding for the Emergency Management Service
 - Formation of members emergency management forum with representatives from all political parties
 - Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel:
The Cabinet Member is regularly engaged with this Performance Panel, particularly as the Panel's main focus is on performance and financial monitoring. Over the past year the Panel has also discussed Corporate Complaints (Jan 2018), the Welsh Language Annual Report (Oct 2017 & Jul 2018), and Fees & Charges (Jul 2018).
- 4.3 The Committee should note that the Cabinet Member will also be engaged in the following planned / future activity:
- Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel – the Cabinet Member will continue to be involved as the Panel monitors performance across the Council and the budget. He will also be attending to discuss the Corporate Complaints Annual Report (Oct 2018) and the Annual Review of Performance.

5. Other Questions

- 5.1 For each Cabinet Member Q & A Session the Committee invites members of the public and other scrutiny councillors (not on the Committee) to suggest questions.
- 5.2 On this occasion no questions have been received.

6. Next Session

- 6.1 The next Cabinet Member Question Session on 8 October will be with Councillor Jennifer Raynor to focus on the Education Improvement, Learning & Skills cabinet portfolio.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Key Headlines for the Cabinet Portfolio