Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions asked at Council 20 December 2018

1. In relation to Item 9 - Welfare Reform Impact Analysis

In relation to the presentation by Head of Poverty & Prevention & Cabinet Member.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Better Communities

Councillor M Sherwood stated that she would circulate the full report relating to the Welfare Reform Analysis Report to all Councillors. (Circulated on 9 January 2019)

2. Councillor A M Day

In relation to Item 12 - Review of the Gambling Policy.

Asked that the relevant Cabinet Member provide an assurance that the Authority would not be promoting gambling through its various means.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Delivery

The Council scrutinises all companies who might wish to place adverts or sponsorship on its platforms (for example within the bus station) and operates on the general basis that we do not promote gambling.

Our internal guidance notes that content that is not permitted for advertising includes, but is not limited to, advertising that contains, infers or suggests any of the following:

promotion or availability of tobacco products, weapons, gambling or illegal drugs.

3. Councillor J W Jones

In relation to Item 15 - Councillors Questions (Q2)

Why is it appropriate for the Authority to award a contract via a Waiver to a single supplier in order to deliver a Christmas Parade.

Response of the Leader

The Special Events team face challenges every year for events of this nature, which are historically discussed and agreed as part of annual budget setting, placing pressure on the timescale for procurement, as it takes us over the summer.

This annual cycle means that the Events team are in a pattern of needing to identify suppliers from a small pool, late in the year, resulting in a single supplier waiver, as was the case in 2016 and 2017.

The challenges for 2018 were greater still, as there was uncertainty about whether any scale of route was feasible, with impending regeneration works planned in the lead up to and over Christmas. Whilst there has been

an unwavering political commitment to deliver an outstanding Parade, the context provided risks as we were not 100% sure of the format the event could take. The supplier would need to be open to working with us in a way that was flexible and support us in testing out the city centre as a feasible event space, during times of change.

We took the opportunity to enter into a dialogue with a locally based, internationally experienced parade director and producer, to work with us throughout the regeneration of the city centre ie. 2018 to 2020. This was a very different remit to previous years when suppliers were only engaged in providing some performers for something already designed and managed. It required a different brief and approach than previous years, and the timeframe and market availability of suppliers able to work in this way guided our decision.

Recognising that the strategy did not produce an event in line with expectations, this year will see a return to the "in house" delivery by our Special Events Team, as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of Swansea's city status, which are being finalised.