



**To/  
Councillor Robert Francis-Davies  
Cabinet Member for  
Investment, Regeneration and  
Tourism**

**BY EMAIL**

*Please ask for:  
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*Direct Line:  
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**Overview & Scrutiny**

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**26 February 2020**

**Summary:** This is a letter from the Development and Regeneration Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration and Tourism following the meeting of the Panel on 27 January 2020. It covers Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme – Residential Units above Shops.

Dear Councillor Francis-Davies

We would like to thank you and Phil Holmes for attending to present an overview of the Sustainable Living Grant Scheme, which is funded through the Welsh Government Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme, and provide examples of completed projects. We appreciate your engagement and input.

We are writing to you to reflect on what we learnt from the discussion, share the views of the Panel, and, where necessary, raise any issues or recommendations for your consideration and response.

We heard that £1.175m is the total grant pot in Swansea over 3 years, April 2018 – March 2021.

We also heard that the grant award is the minimum amount needed for a project to proceed, up to a maximum of 40% of eligible project costs. We were informed that this does not affect the rate of rent and properties will be rented at market rates. Also, if the property is sold, the grant has to be paid back based on timescales.

We heard that the Council will try and help in any way it can and as well as a grant, it will consider a loan on the property.

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We were pleased to hear that as well as the schemes in the City Centre, there is a pilot scheme in Woodfield Street, Morriston.

We were informed that the Council is in talks with the Minister about a Towns Fund for outlying areas for closed shops etc and we would like to be kept updated on this.

We raised a query as to whether there are any schemes on a bigger scale and were informed that some of the upcoming six schemes are on a bigger scale.

We heard that the Council promotes the schemes and Swansea Regeneration Partnership agrees the schemes.

We expressed our pleasure with this scheme and discussed the fact that there are many housing association properties in the city centre and these private rentals will balance it up so get the right mix in the city centre.

Your response:

We hope you find this letter useful and informative. We would welcome your comments on any of the issues raised but please note that, in this instance, a formal response is not required.

Yours sincerely,

**Councillor Jeff Jones**  
**Convener, Development and Regeneration Performance Panel**  
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