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Date: 11th April 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

At the meeting of **Council** held in the **Council Chamber, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Tuesday, 17th April, 2018** at **6.30 pm** with regard to Agenda Item 14, the following questions were received and answered under Rule of Procedure 10 (2).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chrissy', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Christina Harrhy
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

14 To receive and to answer questions received under Rule of Procedure 10(2).

Circulation:

All Members And Appropriate Officers

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Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat

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COUNCIL – 17TH APRIL 2018

SUBJECT: ANSWER TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10(2)

REPORT BY: INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER

1. LEISURE STRATEGY REVIEW

To the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services Councillor Nigel George from Councillor Kevin Etheridge.

To ask the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services after reading the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for the 11th July 2018 meeting which lists the future of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre in the context of the Leisure Review would he please define what criteria, scoring mechanisms, consultation methods will be used when evaluating each premises in regard the forthcoming Leisure Review and to confirm each location will have equal status.

Also can he please confirm the estimated timescale in this regard and when the matter will be brought before Full Council for a discussion in the interests of openness and transparency.

RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR NIGEL GEORGE, CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES.

Members will be aware that at their meeting of 28th March Cabinet resolved to consider the future of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre later in 2018 once the 10 year Sport and Leisure Strategy for Authority has been adopted.

I can confirm that we will be seeking Cabinet agreement to undertake a full public consultation on the draft Sport and Leisure Strategy. It is proposed that there will be a 10 week public consultation process which will involve a variety of methods including direct consultation with a range of stakeholders, use of our website, social media, and Newslines.

There will be every opportunity for respondents to comment upon the proposed priorities, outcomes, and actions contained within the draft Strategy.

There will be full Member involvement in the process beginning with a report to Regeneration and Scrutiny Committee in June, to be followed by a Members Seminar, with a decision on the final Strategy, following the consultation exercise, being put before Cabinet later this year.



COUNCIL – 17TH APRIL 2018

SUBJECT: ANSWER TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10(2)

REPORT BY: INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER

2. GREEN LIGHT FOR PROJECTS ACROSS CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH – PRESS RELEASE, FRIDAY 30TH MARCH 2018

<http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/News/News-Bulletin/February-2018/Environmental-projects-given-green-light>

<http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/News/News-Bulletin/September-2017/Communities-asked-to-%E2%80%98Shape-Your-Place%E2%80%99>

To the Cabinet Member for Homes and Places Councillor Lisa Phipps from Councillor Graham Simmonds.

1. Given the above press release, which claims projects throughout Caerphilly CBC have been given the green light. Will the Cabinet Member please make clear what action has been taken to explain to the press Caerphilly CBC is not just the Rhymney Valley, but also includes the old Islwyn Constituency council area?
2. Will the Cabinet Member please make clear the projects itemised in the Islwyn Area identified under the WHQS environmental improvement programme?
3. Will the projects identified to benefit from the ten million pounds be distributed evenly on a percentage of population basis?
4. Given the absolute fact that “The environmental standard is a key element of the WHQS and the council is committed to helping create communities’ tenants feel proud of and want to live in. Engaging communities and partner agencies is vital in ensuring projects are sustainable and meet the needs of local people”. Can the residents of Islwyn be assured projects committed to Islwyn will be in accord with the WHQS environmental improvement programme, to the benefit of the communities of Islwyn?

RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR LISA PHIPPS CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND PLACES

Q1 In response to Cllr Simmonds question posed, I would firstly like to establish that the WHQS environmental programme is an important element of the overarching WHQS programme which aims to improve the condition of our council housing stock across the whole county borough. As such both officers and members involved in the programme are not focussed upon the former Islwyn and Rhymney valleys, however they are focussed upon a comprehensive, strategic and holistic approach to the programme that addresses the county borough as a whole and the component elements of Caerphilly East and Caerphilly West.

In relation to the press release referred to, we would advise that the Council issued the statement to the press, which is one of many that has been issued in relation to the WHQS programme. Although it is accepted that the release referred to does focus on the west of the county borough, this is because the projects included had only recently been approved and was a means of providing feedback to the community. Similar releases have been made which include other areas of the county borough, as from the outset, the environmental programme was established as a county borough wide approach to improving all communities in which our council tenants reside. All Councillors were informed and provided with a copy of the programme in October, 2016 and a copy is attached for information. The budget was allocated on this basis and three Environmental Officers have been employed to undertake engagement with communities throughout the county borough hence, each community will have the opportunity to identify projects for consideration.

Q2 The following projects have been brought forward in the first phase of the environmental programme which sought to focus on identifying minor works as a result of consultation in the respective communities:

Treowen

Settlement sign and 2 benches – complete

Pantside

Parking Central Ave, mid and lower - approved, replacement of benches and painting of knee rails by the shops - completed landscaping of the Woodland Park area – almost completed

Pentwynmawr

Tarmacking of courtyard areas and installation of dropped kerb at The Ranks - approved

Crosskeys

Parking at Risca Road flats currently with EPG for feasibility and design

Ty Sign

Forsythia Close bin store – completed
Ty Sign Skate Park commencement imminent
Holly Rd window boxes - approved

Ynysddu

Parking in Islwyn Close – with EPG for feasibility

Blackwood

Parking in Lewis Lewis Avenue – with EPG for feasibility

Pontllanfraith

Ty Mynyddislwyn parking – with EPG for feasibility

Croespenmaen

Parking in Shelly Close – complete
Ty Melin benches and raised bed planters approved

Trinant

Parking in Princess Crescent, approved
Resurfacing of pathways in Horeb Court – complete
Horeb Court benches and raised bed planters – approved
Replacement of chain link fencing adjacent to Horeb Court – approved

Springfield

Parking in Meadow Road, approved

Cefn Fforest

Waunborfa Road - Railings , Replace Concrete bollards and 6 Grit Bins – ongoing
Twyn Gardens railings painted and areas grubbed out and potential to concrete over for future maintenance – ongoing

Ty Bedwellty Sheltered Housing Scheme – parking (currently with EPG for feasibility and design), Planters etc ongoing

Bryngoleu Street, Cefn Fforest – railings painted and overgrowth cropped – ongoing

Fairview

Aneurin Close Steps – rebuilt - complete

Markham

Monmouth Walk Railings - and Bollard Painted and overgrown area removed – Complete

Commin Close overgrowth - complete

Mountain View – paint all of the bollards and concrete in some of the grassed areas

Fleur De Lys

Gwent Court – with Area Housing to consider

Upper Trelyn

All Courts in Upper Trelyn – Line marking for the car parks, and overgrowth cut back

Pengam

Installation of Bollards at Islwyn Close - complete

Repair to Drystone wall on Salway Avenue – completed

Hodges Crescent – removal of bollards and maintenance repair at the top end of Hodges Crescent – half complete

Repairs to fencing on Angel Lane – ongoing

Argoed

Consultation to be carried out for Penylan Road, Argoed

Additional works including replacement benches in Oakdale, installation of barriers and line marking in Ty Sign, Blackwood, Risca, Penllwyn, Panside, Newbridge, Trinant and Springfield have also been undertaken.

Consultations as part of the second phase of the programme which will consider larger scale projects will be undertaken in High Meadow, Waunfawr in Crosskeys, Oakdale, Panside, Trinant, Springfield and Blackwood, Cefn Fforest, Fairview, Upper Trelyn, Fleur de Lys, Pengam and Ty Sign this financial year. Communities in Markham and Argoed will be engaged in Spring 2019.

- Q3** There is an indicative allocation of £1,000 per Council home allocated for each community however, the WHQS Project Board has made the decision that, although the Housing Revenue Account funds will be targeted at benefitting council tenants, the funds will be distributed according to need and feasibility assessments. Each community will be engaged and have the opportunity to highlight any concerns or improvements. The Environmental Officers are contacting ward members prior to undertaking any consultations and also inviting them along to any community events.

- Q4** Yes, the Council is committed to delivering all aspects of the WHQS programme in consultation with ward members, tenants and community groups and as can be demonstrated by the list of projects above, the programme will benefit Council tenants and residents in communities throughout the entire county borough (see attached programme).

Environmental Programme Timetable

Upper Rhymney Valley				
	EMO Area	No of Council Homes	Timescale	Environmental Officer / EMO
	Aberbargoed Lower	47	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Aberbargoed Middle	88	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Aberbargoed Upper	218	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Maesycwmmmer	112	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Phillipstown	159	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Tiryberth	44	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Ystrad Mynach	48	AUGUST	OM/HJ
	Abertyswg	81	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Brithdir	8	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Deri	29	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Fochriw	151	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	New Tredegar	140	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Pontlottyn	231	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Tirphil	39	JUNE/JULY	OM/EH
	Bargoed	157	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Cascade	18	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Gelligaer	346	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Maes Mabon	148	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Nelson	80	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Penpedairheol	8	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Penybryn	4	OCTOBER	OM/IJ
	Cefn Hengoed	165	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT
	Gilfach Lower	108	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT
	Gilfach Phase 1	72	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT
	Gilfach Phase 2	178	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT
	Gilfach Phase 3	137	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT
	Hengoed	106	SEPTEMBER	OM/JT

Environmental Programme Timetable

Llanbradach	76	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Penyrheol Lower	167	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Penyrheol Upper	324	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Pwllypant	38	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Thomasville	31	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Ty Isaf	7	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Ty Nant	29	JULY/AUG	BS/KI
Rhymney North	380	NOVEMBER	OM/JNL
Rhymney South	446	NOVEMBER	OM/JNL

Eastern Valley

	EMO Area	No of Council Homes	Timescale	Environmenta l Officer / EMO
	Argoed	30	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Britannia	83	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Fleur-de-lys	46	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Markham & Hollybush	132	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Pengam	28	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Upper Trelyn	79	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Cefn Fforest	352	SEPT/OCT	BS/MC
	Fairview	31	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Twyn Gardens	37	SEPTEMBER	BS/MC
	Penllwyn Lower	71	JULY/AUG	LJ/KR
	Penllwyn Upper	253	JULY/AUG	LJ/KR
	Springfield	239	JULY/AUG	LJ/KR
	Blackwood	307	JULY/AUG	LJ/KR

Environmental Programme Timetable

	Ty-Sign Lower	155	SEPTEMBER	LJ/MSJ
	Ty-Sign Upper	305	SEPTEMBER	LJ/MSJ
	Risca	165	SEPTEMBER	LJ/MSJ
	Pontymister	163	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Croespenmaen	62	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Oakdale	73	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Gelligroes	58	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Morrisville	12	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Pontywaun	76	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Treowen	11	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Trinant	241	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Wattsville	49	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Ynysddu & Cwmfelinfach	41	JUNE	LJ/ML
	Pentwynmawr	62	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Abercarn	38	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Crosskeys	149	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Cwmcarn	104	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Highmeadow	42	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Llanfach	24	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Newbridge	88	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Pantside Lower	222	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Pantside Upper	78	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Persondy	29	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM
	Westend	12	OCT/NOV	LJ/AM

Environmental Programme Timetable

Lansbury Park				
	EMO Area	No of Council Homes	Timescale	Environmenta l Officer / EMO
	Abertridwr	133	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Bryncenydd	32	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Caerbragdy	24	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Churchill Park	178	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Claude Road	70	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Trecastell	57	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Nantddu	52	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Senghenydd	118	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Wau Fach	17	JUNE/JULY	BS/DS
	Lansbury Park	520	TBC	BS/EP
	Porset Park	179	JUNE/JULY	BS/EP

Graig Y Rhacca				
	EMO Area	No of Council Homes	Timescale	Environmenta l Officer / EMO
	Bedwas	254	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Machen	63	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Rudry	15	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Trapwell	10	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Trecenydd	201	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Trethomas	145	OCTOBER	BS/AR
	Graig Y Rhacca	388	NOVEMBER	BS/JR

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