

Document Pack



Mark James LLM, DPA, DCA
Prif Weithredwr,
Chief Executive,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2015

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE CHAMBER, 3 SPILMAN STREET, CARMARTHEN AT 10:00AM ON THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2015 FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA.

Mark James

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Matthew Hughes
Telephone (Direct Line):	(01267) 224029
Fax:	(01267) 224911
E-Mail:	mahughes@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Ref:	AD021-003-10

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 14 MEMBERS

PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 5 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---------------|
| 1. | Councillor | A. Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | W.J. Lemon |
| 3. | Councillor | A.D.T. Speake |
| 4. | Councillor | S.E. Thomas |
| 5. | Councillor | D.E. Williams |

INDEPENDENT GROUP – 4 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | D.B. Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | J.A. Davies |
| 3. | Councillor | I.J. Jackson (Vice-Chair) |
| 4. | Councillor | A. James |

LABOUR GROUP – 4 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | A.P. Cooper (Chair) |
| 2. | Councillor | D.C. Evans |
| 3. | Councillor | K.P. Thomas |
| 4. | Councillor | W.G. Thomas |

UNAFFILIATED – 1 MEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------|--------------|
| 1. | Councillor | J.P. Jenkins |
|----|------------|--------------|

AGENDA

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2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST
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**ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12th NOVEMBER 2015**

**Forthcoming items for next meeting –
Friday 11th December 2015**

Discussion Topic	Background
Revenue Budget Setting 2016/17 – 2018/19	This report will provide members with an opportunity to consider and comment on the budget settlement, departmental service budgets and efficiency savings proposals.
Capital Programme Budget Setting 2016/17 – 2020/21	This report will provide members with an opportunity to consider and comment on the draft 5-year capital programme.
Review of Licensing Policy	The Local Authority is required to review its Licensing Policy in 2015. The review will require the Authority to undertake statutory consultation exercises as part of the process. This item, deferred from the November meeting, will provide members with an opportunity to contribute to and comment on this review.
Review of Gambling Policy	The Local Authority is required to review its Gambling Policy in 2015. The review will require the Authority to undertake statutory consultation exercises as part of the process. This item, also deferred from the November meeting, will provide members with an opportunity to contribute to and comment on this review.

Discussion Topic	Background
Review of Licensing & Environmental Health Charges	This item will provide members with an opportunity to consider and comment on the review of charges for Licensing and Environmental Health services.

The latest version of the E&PP Scrutiny Committee's forward work programme is included on the following page.

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2015/16 (as at 3rd November 2015)

15 May 15	08 June 15	26 June 15	18 Sept 15	12 Nov 15	11 Dec 15	11 Jan 16	26 Feb 16	15 April 16
Stray Horses Update	Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Post-Consultation)	APB Drug & Alcohol Misuse Strategy Annual Report 2014/15	School Transport Policy (<i>Jointly with E&C</i>)	Half-Yearly Performance Monitoring Report 2015/16	3-year Revenue Budget Consultation	Highways Review	Impact of Local Authority Trading Standards in Challenging Times	T&F Monitoring – Enforcement Services
Financial Literacy Project Update	Draft CCC Improvement Plan 15/16 and Annual Report 14/15	T&F Monitoring – Substance Misuse Services	Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2014/15	Budget Monitoring 2015/16	5-year Capital Budget Consultation	Cleansing Review	Budget Monitoring 2015/16	Road Safety Strategy
E&PP Forward Work Programme 2015/16	Waste Strategy	EoY Performance Monitoring Report 2014/15	EBMs Substance Misuse Visit Update	Referral from P&R Scrutiny Committee	Review of Licensing & Environmental Health Charges	Biodiversity / Conservation Annual Update	Actions & Referrals Update	
E&PP Annual Report 2014/15		EoY Budget Monitoring 2014/15	Budget Monitoring 2015/16	Actions & Referrals Update	Review of Licensing Policy	Street Lighting Review Update		
		Actions & Referrals Update			Review of Gambling Policy			

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ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2015/16

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That the scrutiny committee receives the budget monitoring reports for the Environment Service, Public Protection Service and the Community Safety Service (based in the Chief Executive's Department) and considers the budgetary position.

Reasons:

- To provide the Committee with an update on the latest budgetary position, as at 31st August 2015, in respect of the 2015/16 financial year.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. Hazel Evans (Technical Services)
- Cllr. David Jenkins (Resources)
- Cllr. Jim Jones (Environmental & Public Protection)
- Cllr. Pam Palmer (Community Safety, Social Justice / Crime & Disorder)

<p>Directorate: Corporate Services</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Owen Bowen</p> <p>Report Author: Owen Bowen</p>	<p>Designation:</p> <p>Interim Head of Financial Services</p>	<p>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</p> <p>01267 224886 obowen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2015/16

The monitoring exercise for the period to the 31st August 2015 is attached and indicates that:

Revenue Budgets

Environment Service (Appendix A)

The Environment Service is showing an anticipated overspend of £343k at year end.

The Transport & Engineering Division is showing a net overspend of £80k for the year. Civil design is showing an overspend of £48k due to under recovery of income as a result of a vacant post, Car Parks an overspend of £25k due to a delay in implementing the increased charges that were included in the efficiency proposals and Park and Ride is overspent by £40k. Public Transport is anticipating a £32k underspend following service adjustments to manage budget pressures elsewhere within the division.

The Property Services Division has an overall anticipated overspend of £209k. Building Maintenance is expecting to be £394k overspent due to not achieving their income target as a result of a reduction in the Carmarthenshire Housing Standard related work. This is offset by a £200k underspend in the Grounds Maintenance section due to ongoing efficiency savings.

The Street-Scene Division is expecting to break even at year end.

The Policy & Development Division is anticipating a £53k overspend mainly due a £36k severance efficiency not being delivered as well as a £3k overspend on out of hours allowances.

Public Protection (Appendix B)

The Public Protection Service is projecting that it will be over its approved budget by £27k mainly due to under recovery of income.

Community Safety (Appendix C) – The Community Safety Service within the Chief Executive’s Department is projecting a net overspend at year end of £4k.

Capital Budgets

Environment (Appendix D) – No variances

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES – *A list of the main variances is attached to this report*

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: Owen Bowen Interim Head of Financial Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

3. Finance

Revenue – The Environment Service shows an overspend at year end of £343k which will be offset in part by underspends in other services within the Environment Department and a transfer of £151k from departmental reserves. Public Protection is showing a variance of £27k and Community Safety £4k against their 2015/16 approved budgets.

Capital – The programme is on target against the 2015/16 approved budget.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Owen Bowen Interim Head of Financial Services

- 1. Local Member(s) – N/A
- 2. Community / Town Council – N/A
- 3. Relevant Partners – N/A
- 4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2015/16 Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Report - Environment Service (Environment Department)

Appendix A

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Forecasted for year to 31st March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Policy & Development										
Emergency Planning	70	0	39	110	114	0	39	154	44	1
Departmental - Core	179	0	-179	0	175	0	-179	-3	-3	
Departmental - Policy	669	0	-669	0	719	-37	-669	12	12	
Rechargable Works	0	0	0	0	9	-9	0	0	0	
Policy & Development Total	919	0	-809	110	1,017	-46	-809	163	53	
Street Scene										
Streetscene Core	982	-38	-943	0	986	-43	-943	-0	-0	
Landfill sites	7	0	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	
Capital Charges	0	0	4,686	4,686	0	0	4,686	4,686	0	
Highway Lighting	2,934	-1,513	171	1,593	2,829	-1,412	171	1,589	-4	
Flood Defence & Land Drainage	325	0	249	574	326	-1	249	574	-0	
Flood Risk Regulations grant	0	0	0	0	50	-50	0	0	0	
Bridge Maintenance	700	0	72	772	700	0	72	772	0	
Remedial Earthworks	290	0	5	295	295	-5	5	295	-0	
Street Works and Road Adoptions	396	-334	123	185	409	-347	123	185	-0	
Technical Surveys	302	0	81	383	300	0	81	381	-2	
Highway Maintenance	8,095	0	417	8,512	8,222	-127	417	8,512	0	
Animal Trespass Fence	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	
Western Area Works Partnership	4,218	-4,218	11	11	4,218	-4,230	11	-1	-12	
Environmental Enforcement	552	-24	105	633	554	-25	105	634	1	
Ammanford Cemetery	29	-7	28	49	37	-16	28	49	-0	
Public Conveniences	502	-23	136	614	548	-24	136	660	45	2
Bus Shelters	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	
Cleansing Service	1,875	-56	229	2,049	1,880	-60	229	2,049	0	
Waste Services	14,105	-4,699	1,102	10,508	14,101	-4,716	1,102	10,487	-21	3
Tidy Towns Projects	35	-35	0	0	35	-35	0	-0	-0	
Public Rights of Way	228	-11	15	233	222	-11	15	226	-7	
Closed Landfill Sites Nantycaws	138	0	1	138	138	0	1	138	0	
Closed Landfill Sites Wernddu	84	0	0	84	84	0	0	84	0	

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Report - Environment Service (Environment Department)

Appendix A

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Forecasted for year to 31st March 2016

Page 14

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Coastal Protection	68	0	32	99	68	0	32	99	0	
Trebeddrod Reservoir	0	0	0	0	11	-11	0	0	0	
Street Scene Total	35,865	-10,958	6,519	31,425	36,021	-11,113	6,519	31,427	2	
Transport										
Departmental - Transport	230	0	-230	-0	227	0	-230	-3	-3	
Departmental Pooled Vehicles	0	0	0	0	11	-11	0	0	0	
Engineering Sub-Contractors	0	0	0	0	2	-2	0	-0	-0	
Civil Design	858	-1,286	170	-259	839	-1,219	170	-211	48	4
Transport Strategic Planning	308	-88	345	566	311	-89	345	567	1	
Fleet Management	6,459	-7,725	756	-510	5,634	-6,900	756	-510	0	
Bus Stations	47	0	6	53	71	0	5	75	23	5
Passenger Transport Unit Deptamental Account	384	-44	-340	0	298	-40	-258	-0	-0	5
Public Transport Support	901	-179	119	841	1,094	-350	104	848	7	5
Community Transport	199	-85	61	174	211	-116	50	145	-29	5
Concessionary Fares Grant	2,133	-1,603	45	574	2,306	-1,806	40	541	-33	5
Local Transport Services Grant	601	-601	28	28	601	-601	28	28	0	5
Transport to Primary Schools	570	0	22	592	606	0	18	624	32	
Transport to Colleges	1,329	-708	56	676	1,331	-711	51	672	-4	
Transport to Community Schools	125	0	4	129	139	0	3	142	13	
Transport to Secondary Schools	4,500	-105	219	4,614	4,512	-126	190	4,576	-38	
Transport to Special Schools	2,211	-226	72	2,056	2,257	-271	60	2,047	-10	
Passenger Assistants	948	-51	69	966	1,020	-113	68	975	9	
Traffic Management	433	-50	89	472	455	-73	89	472	-0	
Car Parks	1,632	-3,137	307	-1,199	1,493	-2,972	307	-1,173	25	6
Nant y Ci Park & Ride	1	0	0	1	68	-27	0	41	40	7
Regional Transport Consortia Grant	22	-21	9	10	138	-137	9	10	-0	
Road Safety	131	0	65	196	131	-0	65	196	0	
School Crossing Patrols	222	0	37	259	222	0	37	259	-0	
Bwcabus	1,286	-1,284	0	2	645	-645	0	0	-2	
Transport Total	25,530	-17,195	1,908	10,243	24,624	-16,209	1,908	10,323	80	

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Report - Environment Service (Environment Department)

Appendix A

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Forecasted for year to 31st March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Property Services										
Building Mtce	23,526	-27,161	1,828	-1,807	24,000	-27,241	1,828	-1,413	394	8
Home Exchange	306	-306	0	0	299	-299	0	-0	-0	
Operational	2,272	-1,244	-1,170	-142	2,106	-1,078	-1,170	-142	-0	
Parks & PC Landlord	63	0	0	63	63	0	0	63	0	
Corporate Property	2,271	0	-1,304	966	2,271	0	-1,304	966	-0	
BSS Works	0	0	0	0	365	-365	0	0	0	
Trostre Depot a/c	95	-62	3	37	75	-42	3	37	0	
Pumping Stations	34	0	0	34	46	0	0	46	12	
Design	1,751	-1,272	-115	364	6,779	-6,301	-115	363	-0	
Grounds Maintenance Service	4,775	-3,410	188	1,553	3,677	-2,513	188	1,352	-200	9
Parks Service	255	-197	424	481	181	-124	424	481	-0	
Building Cleaning	3,183	-3,343	329	168	3,187	-3,343	329	173	4	
Property Services Total	38,529	-36,995	182	1,716	43,049	-41,306	182	1,925	209	
Environment Service Total	100,842	-65,148	7,801	43,494	104,711	-68,674	7,801	43,840	343	

Main Variance Summary		£'000
1	Policy & Development - Emergency Planning - Severance efficiency savings not delivered £36k, overspend on out of hours service £5k and overspend due to contribution to Local Resilience Forum(LRF) post in Pembs CC £3k	44
2	Street Scene - Public Conveniences - PC's - Full savings will not be realised until after phased 3 year programme	45
3	Street Scene - Waste Services - On going review of waste strategy has produced savings	-21
4	Transport - Civil Design - Under recovery of income due to vacant Technician post, a review of income is underway	48
5	Bus Stations/Community Transport/Concessionary Fares Grant - Service adjustments undertaken to manage budget pressures	-32
6	Car Parks - No commitment for efficiency target of £109k in respect of a 20p increase in parking charges and the introduction of evening parking charges which is yet to be implemented pending political endorsement	25
7	Plant y Ci Park & Ride - Major development funding ceased in 12/13 - the modified service is currently being trialled with the LHB to generate additional revenue to cover the shortfall	40
8	Property Services - Building Maintenance - Unachievable income target not met due to reduction in Carmarthenshire Homes Standard works	394
9	Property Services - Grounds Maintenance Service - Effect of ongoing efficiency savings within the grounds maintenance service	-200
	Other	0
Forecasted end of year variance:		343
Environment Services - Net Variance		343

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Public Protection										
PP Management support	131	-62	120	188	129	-69	120	179	-9	
PP Business Support unit	201	-7	49	243	160	-7	49	201	-42	1
Public Health	224	-11	43	256	235	-11	43	267	10	
Noise Control	149	0	12	161	148	0	12	160	-1	
Air Pollution	96	-42	14	68	95	-42	14	67	-1	
Other Pollution	39	0	16	55	39	0	16	55	0	
Water - Drinking Quality	40	-4	4	40	39	-2	4	42	1	
Dog Wardens	91	-11	21	101	88	-6	21	104	2	
Public Health Services Management	100	-45	93	148	98	-45	93	146	-2	
Licensing	374	-341	72	105	372	-331	72	114	9	
Food Safety & Communicable Diseases	335	0	27	362	324	-1	27	350	-13	
Occupational Health	124	0	14	138	123	0	14	137	-1	
Stray Horses	6	0	0	6	7	-1	0	6	0	
Animal Welfare	69	-23	5	50	69	-23	5	50	-0	
Diseases Of Animals	78	-2	8	83	78	-2	8	83	-0	
Animal Licence Movement Scheme	153	-67	27	113	137	-67	27	97	-16	
Welfare Rights & Citizen'S Advice	148	0	1	149	148	0	1	149	-0	
Trading Standards Services Management	124	-81	110	153	125	-37	110	197	44	2
Metrology	114	-13	11	112	114	-3	11	121	9	
Food & Agricultural Standards & Licensing	115	-30	8	92	112	-5	8	114	22	3
Civil Law	208	-4	15	219	206	-1	15	221	2	
Fair Trading	129	-13	9	125	129	-12	9	126	1	
Safety	64	-18	8	54	62	-6	8	65	11	
Public Protection Total	3,113	-776	686	3,023	3,035	-671	686	3,050	27	

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Mair Variance Summary		£'000
1	Business Support unit - Underspend in salary costs due to vacant posts	-42
2	Trading Standards Services Management - Underachievement of fee income anticipated for 15/16	44
3	Food & Agricultural Standards & Licensing - Underachievement of fee income anticipated for 15/16	22
	Other	3
Forecasted end of year variance:		27
Public Protection - Net Variance		27

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015-16 as at 31st August 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2015

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non-Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Chief Executive										
Community Safety Fund	48	-48	74	74	48	-67	74	55	-19	1
CCTV Operators	32	0	23	55	54	0	23	77	22	2
Community Safety-Revenue	29	0	0	29	29	0	0	29	0	
Chief Executive Total	108	-48	97	157	131	-67	97	161	4	

Main Variance Summary		£'000
1	Community Safety Fund - reduction in expenditure to meet overspends elsewhere in the department	-19
2	CCTV Operators - staff costs	22
Forecasted end of year variance:		4
Chief Executive's - Net Variance		4

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ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Half-Yearly Performance Management Report – 1st April to 30th September 2015

To consider and comment on the following issues:

That the Committee scrutinises the half-year position in relation to performance monitoring, or latest available information, for the 2015/16 financial year. The report includes:

- Heads of Service Overview of Performance
- Improvement Plan Monitoring – Actions and Performance Measures
- Complaints and Compliments Monitoring
- Crime Statistics for Carmarthenshire

Reasons:

- To ensure that any areas of concern are identified and relevant action taken.
- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. Hazel Evans (Technical Services)
- Cllr. Jim Jones (Environmental & Public Protection)
- Cllr. Pam Palmer (Customer Focus & Policy / Council Business Manager / Community Safety / Social Justice / Crime & Disorder)

Directorates: Communities / Environment / Chief Executive's	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
Names of Heads of Service: Wendy Walters	Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)	01267 224898 wswalters@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Mario Cresci	Head of Street-Scene	01267 224502 mcresci@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Steve Pilliner	Head of Transport & Engineering	01267 228150 sgpilliner@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Robin Staines	Head of Housing & Public Protection	01267 228960 rstaines@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Jackie Edwards	Principal Business & Development Officer	01267 228142 jmedwards@cararthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Half-Yearly Performance Management Report – 1st April to 30th September 2015

The attached report provides members with an overview of how the services within the Committee's remit are performing:

1. Heads of Service Overview of Performance (Report A)
2. Improvement Plan Monitoring – Combined Actions and Measures Report (Report B)
3. Compliments and Complaints Monitoring (Report C)
4. Crime Statistics for Carmarthenshire (Report D)

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

We confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed:	Wendy Walters	Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)
	Mario Cresci	Head of Street-Scene
	Steve Pilliner	Head of Transport & Engineering
	Robin Staines	Head of Housing & Public Protection

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities – Performance Indicators are set to monitor the performance of services and targets set. If the Authority is to deliver its promises to citizens and stakeholders, then indicators underachieving need to be addressed.

2. Legal – Performance Indicators are set to monitor the performance of services and targets set. If the Authority is to deliver its promises to citizens and stakeholders, then indicators underachieving need to be addressed.

3. Finance – A significant sum of money is linked to the Outcome Agreement Grant. Receiving this funding in full is dependent on meeting the agreed Actions and Targets included in the Agreement.

5. Risk Management Issues – This report refers to actions and measures in the 2014/15 Annual Report and 2015/16 Improvement Plan relevant to Community Scrutiny, potential risks addressed are:

- obtaining the £1.9m linked to the Outcome Agreement Grant
- addressing any regulatory report recommendations
- comments on not meeting our own goals – actions and measures
- improvement and comparative data for national measures

CONSULTATIONS

We confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Wendy Walters	Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)
Mario Cresci	Head of Street-Scene
Steve Pilliner	Head of Transport & Engineering
Robin Staines	Head of Housing & Public Protection

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Councils – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – All departments have been consulted and have had the opportunity to provide comments on their performance and progress.

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Carmarthenshire Integrated Community Strategy 2011-16	www.thecarmarthenshirepartnership.org.uk
CCC Corporate Strategy 2015-20	http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/998105/corporate-strategy.pdf
CCC Annual Report 2014/15 & Improvement Plan 2015/16	http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/846036/Full_ARIP_Report_15-16.pdf
Departmental Business Plans 2015/16	Performance Management Unit, Regeneration & Policy Division
Performance Measurement Records	Performance Management Unit, Regeneration & Policy Division
Budget Monitoring Reports	Corporate Services Department

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REPORT A

Heads of Service Overview

This is a brief overview of performance from each Head of Service who reports data to this Scrutiny

Wendy Walters – Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

Crime statistics

Crime levels have increased overall this year compared to the same period last year. During April – September 2015, levels of recorded crime went up by 7.1% amounting to a rise of 267 crimes from 3,786 to 4,053. Increases were seen across Dyfed Powys, with the change in Carmarthenshire being the lowest percentage increase across the Force area.

Reductions have been seen in vehicle crime (down 21% and 45, to 169), miscellaneous crimes against society (down 36.9% to 41, a fall of 24), public order offences (down 63 and 32.3% to 132) and drug offences (3.4% fall and down 19 to 542). Increases have been seen in domestic burglary levels (up 4.2% to 125, an increase of 5), burglary non dwellings (up 20 to 166, an increase of 13.7%), sexual offences (up 29 to 156, an increase of 22.8%), arson and criminal damage (up 49 and 7.2% to 727) and violence against the person (up 177 crimes and 20.3% to 1,051).

Increases seen in certain reported crimes continue to be in line with national trends and, it is believed, are as a result of the introduction of a new way of recording crime more accurately from January. For example, the rise in violent crime generally relates to recording of counter allegations, and the rise in sexual offences is a mixture of historic offences being recorded together with increased confidence leading to an increase in current reporting levels.

The police are now required to record crimes within 24 hours compared to the previous 72 hours. This has impacted on crime figures as more allegations are being recorded before officers may have been able to prove that the crime did not occur. Forces are also no longer measured against detection rates and a wider range of 'outcomes' for dealing with a crime has been introduced nationally to ensure more accurate recording.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents have continued to fall but in the last six months, a dramatic reduction has been seen. There were 3,435 incidents reported, a fall of 24.3% and over 1,000 incidents (1,101) compared to the same period last year.

Progress to date on Community Safety Partnership (CSP) initiatives

CSP action groups continue to be proactive tackling key priorities and progress made in relation to some of these include:

- Reducing reoffending remains a key priority and collaborative work across agencies has continued to mature and improve as a result of the co-located police and probation Integrated Offender Management (IOM) team. The IOM scheme to tackle our key offenders - 'Trawsnewid/Transform' has continued to perform well this quarter with the team of Police and Probation officers working with a number of partner agencies to focus on the identified cohort of offenders.

REPORT A

Developments this quarter have included regular criminal justice meetings with local substance misuse service providers and the launch of `Supported Compliance` in the county which is a programme of early intervention visits to offenders sentenced to Community Orders, Suspended Sentences and Prison Licences, carried out by Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The latest performance data (12 month period ending in June) for the IOM cohort recorded crime shows that crimes reduced by 231 committed by the cohort, with an associated cost of crime saving of over £1.2 million.

- The CSP is also working with partners to ensure the effective implementation of the powers which came into place with the introduction of the ASB, Crime and Policing Act in October 2014. This Act introduced fundamental changes to ASB powers, repealing a number of existing powers, and replacing them with new powers. Discussions are taking place between partners currently relating to implementing process for the new Community Protection Notice, Public Space Protection Order and Community Trigger.
- There has been promotion of campaigns and current initiatives progressed by the CSP's multi-agency action groups to tackle local priorities. There has been good media coverage of work to raise awareness of cyber crime, a violent crime campaign and an initiative for people going away on holiday. The Police are urging people to support a campaign calling time on violent crime by making an online pledge to 'never commit or condone alcohol-fuelled violence or aggression, or any violence fullstop'. The #PaulsPledge campaign is led by Paul Pugh, a 34 year old man still suffering the effects of a vicious, unprovoked attack that happened on a night out eight years ago. The initiative aims to encourage people to stop and think about the consequences of violence for the victim and the offender. This Ammanford initiative has now been rolled out across Dyfed Powys and into South Wales. Another initiative, 'Holiday Watch', is a security equipment loan scheme established by the Police with the support of the CSP. The scheme aims to reduce burglaries and the fear of crime. Boxes containing security equipment are loaned to members of the public who have poor security measures or a high level of fear of a crime happening when they are away on holiday. In relation to cyber crime, Trading Standards Officers continue to offer advice and investigate cyber crimes through the Council's digital forensic unit – the only one in Wales. This has included raising awareness about only using secure websites, not clicking on links you are not sure of and not providing personal data.
- Consideration is being given to the duties placed on partner agencies by new legislation - Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence and the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act. These are key areas which will be progressed in partnership over the next six months.

The well-established local partnership working continues to effectively target resources and multi-agency working to help keep crime and disorder low. Ongoing collaborative working remains essential and the commitment of partner agencies to such an approach will, no doubt, continue to bring benefits for our communities.

REPORT A

Mario Cresci – Head of Street Scene

Waste Management

It is pleasing to note that our landfill diversion figures have significantly exceeded the set target, primarily due to the switch to a residual waste treatment process, placing the Authority well within its statutory landfill allowance limit.

However, the recycling performance for Q2 is lower than expected with respect to the headline overall recycling performance at an actual figure of 58.06% against a target of 60%. This position can be attributed to three main factors: the temporary loss of wood recycling as a result of a declaration by the regulators that our wood recycling outlets are no longer fully compliant with recycling protocols; temporary difficulties with delays to the exportation of residual waste for incineration; a delay in the treatment of hardcore at our Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) sites. It is expected that these issues will be addressed in the 3rd and 4th quarter to bring us back on target by the end of the year.

Following on from the food recycling participation surveys undertaken in 2013/14, we are currently rolling out a pilot scheme to assess if the use of food bin liners will increase the level of participation in our food waste recycling scheme; participation is currently estimated at about 39%. This pilot scheme will run from October 2015 to March 2016 initially, with about 15,000 properties included across the County. We will also continue to undertake a programme of door stepping work to encourage more of our residents to participate in all of our recycling initiatives.

Street Cleansing and Enforcement

The Q2 performance figures for the local environment quality indicators have exceeded the set targets. The percentage of highways and relevant land inspected that is of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness is reported at 99.9%, which is an excellent result. Similarly, the independently assessed Cleanliness Index indicator (LEAMS survey) is at 73% against a target of 67%. Both figures demonstrate that the service continues to perform to a high standard and strives to clear instances of fly-tipping as soon as practicable, with 98.9% of fly-tipped incidents dealt within 5 working days. Our response to clearing up incidents of dog fouling is also pleasing to note – an average response of 1.29 days against a target of 1.4 days.

The service continues to promote education, awareness and engagement initiatives, as these are viewed as proactive measures to tackle environmental blight. Also, the Enforcement Unit has continued its zero tolerance approach towards offenders and has achieved a high level of well publicised successes with respect to fines and prosecutions, often working in difficult circumstances. These proactive measures will become increasingly important as budget reductions will inevitably impact on the street cleansing function.

Public Lighting

It is disappointing to note that the figure for the average number of days taken to repair lamp failures is greater than the set target. This position is principally attributable to temporary mechanical issues with our fleet of specialist mobile platform access vehicles resulting in two out of four vehicles being unavailable for a period of time, whilst the problems were being resolved. Members will be aware from previous reports that this target has been consistently exceeded in previous years, and it is envisaged that we will close the performance gap by the end of the year.

REPORT A

The Public Lighting section continues to replace defective columns on an ad-hoc basis, as problems are encountered. This includes the installation of LED lighting units (within available budget) as part of its long term investment strategy, thereby increasing the performance and service life of our lighting stock, whilst reducing energy consumption and maintenance costs.

Stephen Pilliner – Head of Transport & Engineering

The Transport and Engineering Division has continued to focus its work to facilitate the expeditious, safe movement of goods and people on the highway network. Progress has been made with actions outlined in the improvement plan relating to road safety, infrastructure development and sustainable transport developments.

The progress of a number of actions is dependent on influencing behavioural change with road users. We work with partners and stakeholders to deliver improvements on a highway network that is the second highest length of county network in Wales and where traffic volumes are the third highest in Wales.

Achieving success across the key themes is challenging. Nevertheless, the teams continue to strive to:

- make a reducing resource base go further
- secure external funding wherever possible by submitting quality bids that are based on effective use of research, innovation and engagement with communities.
- Working in collaboration with neighbouring authorities through the Local Transport Forum and other organisations such as the Dyfed Powys Police, Go Safe Wales and the Mid & West Wales Fire Service.

The 2015/16 Improvement Plan includes a mix of engineering and behavioural change measures, and incentives to facilitate the safe movement of goods and people. A summary of the interventions are set out below for members.

1. Road Safety.

The Wales Government has established an All Wales Strategic Road Safety Group to support partnership working to deliver the Road Safety Framework for Wales, which was published in 2013. The group brings all partners together to develop a strategic approach to improving road safety by targeting and measuring educational, engineering or enforcement measures that can be monitored and measured for effectiveness.

The Authority is currently developing a Road Safety Plan which will reflect the national casualty reduction targets, as set out in the Road Safety Framework Wales.

Our work in partnership with the Police and other agencies will continue, as we seek to build on our previous success in reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on Carmarthenshire roads. We will also invest in computer software to improve the quality of management information that we will use to target education, engineering or enforcement interventions. Generally, there has been a reduction in the number of casualties on the highway network with 557 casualties in 2014 compared to 619 in 2013. There are certain groups of road users that do however remain a concern.

REPORT A

For example, the number of motorcyclists killed and seriously injured in Carmarthenshire remains stubbornly high at 24 deaths at the end of 2014. The figure reduced from 28 in the previous year. The All Wales Road Safety Framework has set the following targets to 2020:

- A 40% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured for older adults aged 65+
- A 40% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured for young adults
- A 25% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured for motorcyclists.

The performance at the end of 2014 for Carmarthenshire was:

- A 36.7% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured for young adults
- A 40% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured for older adults aged 65+
- A 31.9% increase in the number of killed and seriously injured for motorcyclists.

Further reductions have been achieved in the first half of the year for the number of motorcyclists and older persons killed and seriously injured. The Authority continues to strive to make further improvements through partnership working with the respective agencies.

2. Infrastructure Investment.

Working with the former SWWITCH partners, moneys secured through the Local Transport Fund, Safe Routes in the Communities, Local Road Safety Grant has enabled the Authority to make investment in infrastructure. The investment has improved transport infrastructure to provide access e.g.

- Carmarthen West Link Road
- Public transport infrastructure
- Walking and Cycling Infrastructure
- Phase 2 of the Cross Hands Economic Link Road,

3. Passenger Transport

Despite significant reductions in funding for public transport, the uptake of concessionary bus passes is still seeing a high uptake. The performance for the first half of the year of 80.5% is above anticipated target of 79%. The ongoing challenges relating to public transport, is likely to have a negative impact on this sector of users in the future.

To date, the authority has worked together with the bus operators, our neighbouring authorities and the Wales Government to provide and sustain the network as much as possible.

4. Internal Interventions

The Division continues to use a number of internal measures in promoting and developing sustainable travel options. Collaboration on the fleet replacement programme between our fleet section and service users aims to reduce the fleet by a further 2% by the end of the year. The replacement programme will also provide an opportunity to introduce more efficient vehicles, in terms of emissions and fuel use. Over £6 million has been committed to date on replacement of heavy commercial vehicles.

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The light commercial vehicles have also been ordered. In 2014/15 the authority has reduced the number of vehicles by 42, a further 20 vehicles are due to be removed from service in the forthcoming twelve months.

Robin Staines – Head of Housing & Public Protection

Public Protection services aim to improve public health, animal health and fair trading by the application of the National Enforcement Priorities for Wales and through developing, coordinating, educating and implementing public health, animal health and consumer protection policies. These ensure that everyone has an equal chance of a better quality of life in a healthier society and that animal health and welfare is preserved.

It is split into two Sections, providing the following services:

- Environmental Health and Licensing Services, and
- Trading Standards Services.

Overall performance to date is satisfactory albeit with more pressures and demands. The teams ensure that work is prioritised according to risk.

Environmental Health and Licensing Services

Pollution and Public Health

There have been 1882 Service requests received dealing with Pollution (including complaints regarding odours, drainage, noise, fly tipping on private land, stray dogs etc); an increase of approximately 100 from the previous year. Officers have been flexible in approach to their work and have been undertaking training to enable them to utilise additional legislation as appropriate for anti social behaviour.

In addition to the response to service requests, officers are continuing with ongoing programmes of work such as the compliance checks for individuals and businesses requiring air pollution permits, private drinking water, bathing water and shellfish sampling.

The officers have found that there has been an increase of enquires for screening and scoping prior to planning applications for highly technical and complex businesses such as wind turbines or larger scale developments. We had received 66 planning consultations, 12 Pre-Planning consultations and 24 Screening and Scoping assessments. Each consultation and assessment takes considerable resources to ensure that the information is correct to avoid any future complications or issues.

The team have provided evidence that there is a requirement for the declared Air Quality Management Areas in both Carmarthen and Llanelli. The consultation is currently being undertaken. The Air Quality Management Area action plan for Llandeilo is being implemented where possible and monitored.

The Contaminated Land Strategy was approved by full Council earlier this year.

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There have been some lengthy investigations carried out by the team including Gestamp and enforcement leading to 2 court cases. These include a case involving a nuisance caused by dogs and an appeal privately owned wind turbine which was heard in Crown Court. We won both cases.

Food Safety and Health

At the 6 month point, the team have been instrumental in completing 81% of all due programmed food hygiene inspections.

In terms of Food Hygiene Ratings, Carmarthenshire stands firmly with 98% achieving a rating of 3 (generally satisfactory) or greater with only 37 premises scoring 0,1 or 2, all of whom have been subject to multiple visits by enforcement officers and enforcement action where appropriate in securing broadly compliant standards.

New legislation has been embraced, making it illegal to smoke in private vehicles when someone under 18 is present. Effective partnership working with Education, resulted in all schools being requested to deliver the message to in excess of 26000 pupils across the county. Working in conjunction with Leisure, over 62 information packs have been issued to local sporting clubs regarding goal post safety. The main aim being that to assist clubs in implementing risk based maintenance programmes, in order to safeguard those accessing such facilities.

Officers have been drawn into substantive investigations involving a motorbike racing circuit fatality; a serious incident involving a fall from height from a residential home; the use of a deferred action notice in respect of structural stability to a floor in a high street retail store; and also significant breaches observed in a local Butcher Shop.

The section has been successful in obtaining funding for the delivery of a day's training seminar in relation to Haccp Validation and verification, effectively working with some of our well known producers, striving to further improve food safety procedures, which will be delivered in the run up to Christmas. The team have also been involved in a National risk based consistency exercise.

Investigations have commenced and continue into allegations of shellfish poaching, particularly in the Three Rivers area of the County. This in turn has seen the division partake in a Welsh Government Joint Working Task Group. Commercial shellfish beds and shellfish waters continue to be sampled on a monthly basis and has recently been expanded to include dived hand gathered razor clams undertaken as part of a sanitary survey application in conjunction with CEFAS, FSA and Pembrokeshire.

The section has also made inroads into the investigation of 2 alleged illegal tattooists operating within the County, in addition to entertaining additional applications for both new tattoo and piercing premises and operators.

Officers have investigated 104 notifications of food borne infections and 9 associated outbreaks, all of which were perceived to be of viral origin.

REPORT A

Licensing

The section has completed consultation exercises for both the Licensing Act Policy and the Gambling Policy. The reviewed documents are in the process of being approved through the political process.

Licensing Act

Between April and September 2015, we have processed 144 applications under the Licensing Act 2003 in relation to Premises and Clubs, 268 Temporary Event Notices and 54 applications for personal licences. We continue to hold regular Licensing Action Group meetings at which the Police, Licensing Officers and representatives of Public Health agree actions to tackle problems associated with licensed premises.

Taxi Licensing

Since April 2015 we have processed and issued 326 Dual Drivers Licences, 200 Hackney Carriage Licences, 59 Private Hire Vehicle Licences and 20 Private Hire Operators Licences. We have undertaken 245 spot checks on vehicles.

Gambling Act

Administer 324 Lotteries. 32 new applications processed
Administer 71 Gambling Related Premises. 52 annual fees processed.

Street and House to House collections

Since April 2015 the section has processed and issued 94 Street and House to House Collection licenses and Permits.

There have been exercises in implementing the licensing toolkit to calculate fees for services with locally set fees and a report with the reviewed fees is being prepared.

Trading Standards/Animal Health Services

Trading Standards have successfully completed 38% (60 visits) of high risk enforcement programme visits over the period; this is on the scheduled target. A further 275 medium risk visits were completed as programmed inspection or alternative inspection activity to the inspection regime.

We are also pro-actively promoting fair trading and Consumer Safety via our “e”- commerce monitoring strategy. We made 712 campaign and project based visits. This is mostly proactive work designed to supplement our routine inspection strategy and comprises internet site monitoring and intelligence based ‘e-visits’ (377 E-visits have been completed) which have resulted in a number of entry warrants being executed. Investigations carried out involve fraud, unsafe consumer goods, counterfeit goods, illegal dog breeding and pyramid selling schemes.

Significant criminal investigations are underway in the following areas of Consumer protection namely: Product Safety, Financial exploitation and scams and Unfair Trading, which will result in court proceedings.

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A total of 1,674 complaints and service requests were also made by members of the public to Trading Standards and Animal Health and acted upon within the Division's standard response time of 10 working days. 92% of these complaints and service requests were responded to within 10 working days.

The section has successfully completed 35% (64 visits) of high risk enforcement programme visits over the period; this is on the scheduled target.

There were 193 livestock mart visits completed, and this work continues to be a priority.

A total of 53/55 animal welfare licences were determined in the standard response time of 8 weeks, representing 96% success and 100% (15) complaints of animal suffering were dealt within 1 working day.

A total of 106 service requests for Animal Health were made by members of the public, 104 of which were acted upon within 10 working days.

The Animal Licensing section processed 20,976 Animal Movement Licensing forms between April and September 2015/16.

Staffs of the Animal Health section have worked diligently in developing a new Licensing Fee structure for all licensed premises and approval is going through the political process at the moment. The intention is that this will result in the recovery of all our costs in relation to the Licensing process.

151 critical interventions have been completed, where an immediate response is required to ensure public protection. These interventions are mainly focused on incidents where itinerant traders were exploiting vulnerable and elderly residents and where there is immediate danger to the public and /or animals (e.g. stray horses).

Trading Standards continues to conduct numerous other initiatives outside the scope of the performance indicators and has led many projects.

These include Money wise on- line, a Financial Literacy in schools, Door Step Crime / No Cold Calling Zones, second hand car safety project. It also continues to administer the service level agreement between the Authority and the Citizens Advice Bureaux.

In the last few years our department has seen an increase in complaints received regarding nuisance telephone calls. As a result we became the first authority in Wales to pilot a device known as 'Truecall' and the launch of this initiative took place this year. Truecall is a device which is attached to telephone lines and blocks nuisance telephone calls to vulnerable clients, and we continue to expand and market this scheme. Truecall is offered to consumers that have been victims of telephone scams and/or are vulnerable.

Truecall Nuisance call Blocker Project -

Blocked 99% of Nuisance calls since scheme started in 2013, 17'000 nuisance calls blocked in total.

We have 42 devices installed in consumers homes at present and have a further 178 devices to install.

Figures from Ofcom indicate that each nuisance call costs consumers 46 pence as proportion of national consumer detriment.

REPORT A

This is linked to the Financial Exploitation Safeguarding Scheme (FESS), designed to combat exploitation of vulnerable adults in relation to financial scams and fraud.

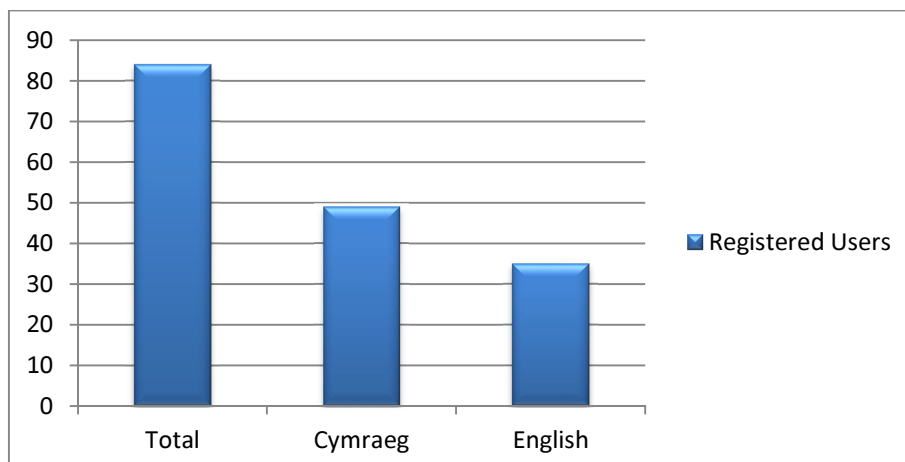
The scheme underpins and brings together Carmarthenshire County Council Trading Standards current portfolio of reactive and proactive measures to promote health wellbeing and independence in the home namely:

- National Trading Standards Board (NTSB) Scams Hub Intelligence Operating Model Led visits
- TrueCall Nuisance Telephone Call Blocking and Monitoring
- NTSB Royal Mail Staff Training Programme
- Local Authority No Cold Calling Zones
- Consumer Awareness and Education Campaigns
- Vulnerable Consumer Advice Interventions
- Moneywise Financial Education/ Literacy Programme
- Debt & Mental Health Interventions
- Financial Services and Public /Private/ Third Sector Safeguarding Protocols
- Intelligence led mapping/ forensic profiling

FESS enables these measures to be taken further by creating clear pathways and working relationships between social care services, public protection and the private sector extending the support offered to victims beyond the offering of any one given organisation/agency. The scheme thus provides for a multi disciplinary response to financial abuse and a package of measures that provide for more joint up and comprehensive social care interventions. The scheme is particularly timely in light of impending legislation and provides for the early detection, intervention, prevention and collaborative working in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the implementation of a support package containing both Trading Standards protective/preventative measures and those of other social care departments to promote health, wellbeing and independent living.

Money Wise online

Our online financial education resource http://adnoddau.canolfanpeniarth.org/GW_TSA/, was launched in Carmarthenshire during a series of teacher training sessions held in December 2014 and January 2016, with 84 users registering over 69 out of 106 primary schools in the county.



REPORT A

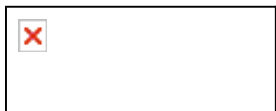
In July 2015 we exhibited and presented the resources at the Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI) National conference in Bournemouth, and were awarded the prize for Best Local Government Exhibitor. The prize was awarded by the President of the CTSI, Baroness Christine Crawley and CTSI Chairman, Mark McGinty, who commended the team for their innovation.

In addition, we also won a free advert for the project in TS Today, the CTSI's monthly publication which featured in the October edition. Since the advert went to press, we have begun to receive enquiries from other local authorities looking to purchase a licence to use the website in their areas. The website is currently being trialled at a primary school in East Sussex.

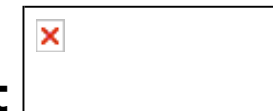
As a result of exhibiting at the conference we received a request from the Chief Executive of CTSI, Leon Livermore to visit Carmarthenshire to see the resources in use in a class room. He will be accompanied on this visit by the Regional Policy Officer from WLGA, Simon Wilkinson. This is a great opportunity to also showcase our other projects.

With a view to expanding the reach of the Money Wise project, we have been working closely with a family centre, who has agreed to trial the website with their adult users.

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Report B



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

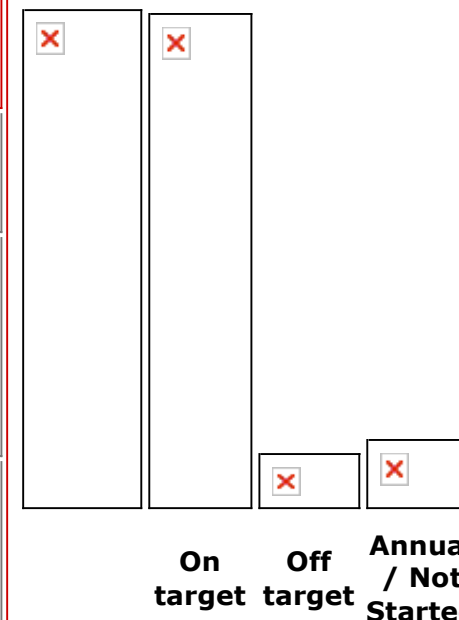
Filtered by:

Organisation - Carmarthenshire County Council
Source document - Improvement Plan 2015/16

The table below provides a summary progress against target for the Actions and Measures contained within the selected document

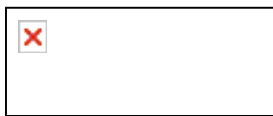
Performance against Target

		Total	On target	Off target	Not reported	Not available	Annual / Not started	% on target	Overall % on target
C. People in Carmarthenshire are healthier	Measures	5	4	0	0	0	1	80%	80%
E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer	Actions	14	14	0	0	N/A	0	100%	78%
	Measures	4	0	1	0	0	3	0%	
F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable	Actions	10	10	0	0	N/A	0	100%	81%
	Measures	11	7	3	0	0	1	64%	

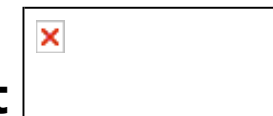


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Overall Performance	Actions and Measures	44	35	4	0	0	5	80%	
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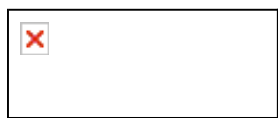
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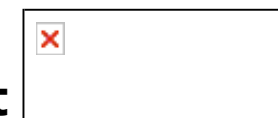
Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

Outcome Agreement Grant Monitoring

Total Deliverables	On Target	Off Target or Not Available	Not Yet Due or Annual	Not Reported
4	4	0	0	0



Report B



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

Theme: C. People in Carmarthenshire are healthier							
Sub-theme: C2 Preventing ill health and encourage healthy living							
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for: i) Trading Standards PPN/001i	Not applicable		Q2: 36 End Of Year: 100	Target: 5 Result: 27	Target: 25 Result: 38 Calculation: (60 ÷ 158) × 100	Target: 50	Target: 100
Service Head: Robin Staines				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for: ii) Food Hygiene PPN/001ii	Not applicable		Q2: 47 End Of Year: 100	Target: 15 Result: 22	Target: 35 Result: 48	Target: 60	Target: 100

							Calculation: (310 ÷ 645) × 100
Service Head: Robin Staines				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for: iii) Animal Health PPN/001iii	Not applicable		Q2: 29 End Of Year: 98	Target: 10 Result: 17	Target: 28 Result: 35 Calculation: (64 ÷ 183) × 100	Target: 55	Target: 100
Service Head: Robin Staines				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards PPN/009	96.03	94.05	Q2: 93.87 End Of Year: 94.16	Target: 93.00 Result: 94.55	Target: 93.00 Result: 95.57 Calculation: (1876 ÷ 1963) × 100	Target: 93.00	Target: 93.00
Service Head: Robin Staines				Performance status: On target			



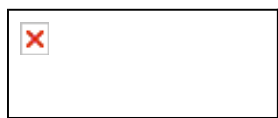
Report B



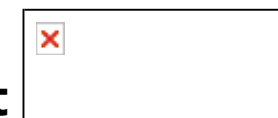
Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

ACTIONS - Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer			
Sub-theme: E1 Maintaining & striving to reduce further the low levels levels of crime (lowest England & Wales)			
Action	11722	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will continue to ensure effective partnership working in relation to the 'Transform' Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme to reduce reoffending		
Comment	The IOM scheme to tackle our key offenders - `Trawsnewid/Transform` has continued to perform well this quarter. The identified cohort of offenders are targeted by a co-located team of Police and Probation officers working with a number of partner agencies. Developments this quarter have included regular criminal justice meetings with local substance misuse service providers and the launch of `Supported Compliance` in the county which is a programme of early intervention visits to offenders sentenced to Community Orders, Suspended Sentences and Prison Licences, carried out by Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The latest performance data (12 month period ending in June) for the IOM cohort recorded crime shows that crimes reduced by 231 committed by the cohort, with an associated cost of crime saving of over £1.2 million.		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	
Action	11723	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will promote crime prevention projects and in particular those relating to vulnerable people		
Comment	Initiatives have continued to be promoted to increase awareness about crime prevention. These have included Holiday Watch and protecting people against cyber crime. Holiday Watch, a new security equipment loan scheme established by the Police with the support of the CSP, has been set up to combat burglaries and cut crime and the fear of crime. Boxes containing security equipment are loaned to members of the public to protect their homes while on holiday. Work is being progressed to develop these boxes for high risk domestic violence cases to try and bridge the gap left by the removal of the Bobby Van Scheme. In relation to cyber crime, Trading Standards Officers continue to offer advice and investigate cyber crimes through the Council's digital forensic unit - the only one in Wales. This has included raising awareness about only using secure websites, not clicking on links you are not sure of and not providing personal data on any websites.		

Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	
Action	11724	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will develop an action plan for the county to achieve the White Ribbon Campaign Town Award, which will demonstrate the commitment of the Council and its partner organisation to tackle domestic abuse, particularly involving men and boys and working to end violence against women		
Comment	This work will be prioritised in Q3, working in partnership with other CSP members to obtain the award for the county.		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	



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Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer Sub-theme: E2 Improving the confidence of local communities that we are tackling the issues that matter most							
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The average number of calendar days taken to repair all street lamp failures during the year THS/009	Not applicable		Q2: 3.82 End Of Year: 3.98	Target: 4.00 Result: 3.98	Target: 4.00 Result: 5.57 Calculation: 11993÷2152	Target: 4.00	Target: 4.00
Comment	The reason for the high number of days this quarter is that two of the Towers (Mobile Elevated Work Platforms) were off the road (In the garage) for more than 4 weeks during this quarter. The service only has four towers in total, so this meant the service was down to half of the fleet for over a month.						
Remedial Action	Please see comment.						
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: Off target			

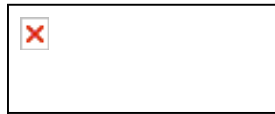


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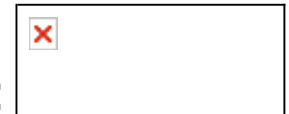


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ACTIONS - Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer			
Sub-theme: E2 Improving the confidence of local communities that we are tackling the issues that matter most			
Action	11725	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will work to increase report of crime and disorder and promote engagement mechanisms with local communities		
Comment	Neighbourhood policing teams continue to promote engagement mechanisms to ensure contact with local communities. This includes a new Community messaging system (to replace Online Watch Link - OWL) with local communities to increase the take up of this useful engagement tool for reporting crime and disorder and notifying of local policing issues and crime prevention measures.		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	
Action	11726	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will continue to raise awareness of the work undertaken in partnership to tackle local priorities for local communities		
Comment	Promotion has taken place of some of the work taken forward by the CSP`s action groups to tackle local priorities. These have included neighbourhood police literally setting out their stall at Llanelli Market to reach out to the community, an initiative targeted at people going away of holiday, ensuring both GCSE and A-level students enjoyed safe celebrations of their exam results, and articles prepared in advance on security over Christmas. The police market stall advises local people on home security with displays of equipment and involves other partners such as the fire service. The public is also welcome to report crimes there.		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	



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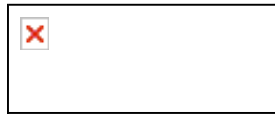
Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

ACTIONS - Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer			
Sub-theme: E3 Reducing anti-social behaviour by working in partnership to tackle local problems			
Action	11317	Target date	31/03/2016 (original target 31/03/2015)
Action promised	We will conduct an evaluation of the Designated Public Place Order and consider and implement any resulting recommendations		
Comment	Information is being obtained from key stakeholders during September and the information will be considered in Q3 and presented to the CSP at its January meeting.		
Service Head:	Wendy S Walters	Performance status:	On target
Action	11728	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will ensure continued effective integration between partner agencies and Gwalia in the running of the new service to tackle anti-social behaviour		
Comment	Attendance by Gwalia at the CSP`s action group covering ASB and presentation given relating to the service. Performance information from the service was discussed by partners and improved links made. A presentation to the CSP will be made by Gwalia in October.		
Service Head:	Wendy S Walters	Performance status:	On target
Action	11729	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will work with partners to implement the new Anti-Social Behaviour legislation		
Comment	Further discussions have been held, both at a local and regional level, and additional information has been circulated to partner agencies. Specific discussions have now taken place at a local level regarding implementing certain of the new powers		

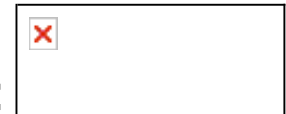
introduced by the legislation and processes are being finalised with police colleagues.

Service Head: Wendy S
Walters

Performance status: On target



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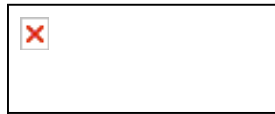


Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

ACTIONS - Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer			
Sub-theme: E4 Reduce the incidences of alcohol-related violence			
Action		Target date	
	11730		31/03/2016
Action promised	We will promote further the Paul's Pledge alcohol related violence campaign which calls on people to make a pledge that they will never condone or commit violence		
Comment	This initiative has now been successfully launched across Dyfed Powys and the South Wales Police area. Paul has delivered a presentation to the "Brain Injury Wales " annual conference at the Liberty stadium and continues to receive recognition, including awards, for his work and the campaign. Work is ongoing with the YOPS to develop a programme to work with young offenders who have been involved in alcohol-related violent crime. The DVD made by Paul and the Police will be shown to offenders as part of this initiative. Presentations to schools and colleges will begin again in September. There will be a documentary shown on ITV Wales and S4C in the Autumn about Paul's Pledge.		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	
Action		Target date	
	11731		31/03/2016
Action promised	We will continue to work with licensed premises and other partners to tackle problems to Town centre's at night relating to alcohol and drug related crime and anti-social behaviour		
Comment	The Licensing action group, a bi monthly meeting between the Police and partners from the local authority, continues to discuss issues relating to any problem licensed premises in the county. Incidents at licenced premises are closely monitored, particularly regarding violent crime. This results in an action plan being drawn up for any premises that are problematical and this is then delivered by the relevant partners. Any issues from this group are fed into the CSP subgroup responsible for anti-social behaviour, violent and substance misuse related crime. Police continue to work closely in the night time economy with door security staff and there is a nightlight street pastor scheme in Carmarthen on Saturday nights. Unfortunately efforts to extend this to Llanelli have not been realised as, although the Llanelli churches were in favour of the scheme, they have not been able to progress it. Officers work closely with licensees and patrol and monitor the night time economy utilising dispersal powers (Section 35) to remove disorderly persons.		

Service Head: Wendy S Walters

Performance status: On target



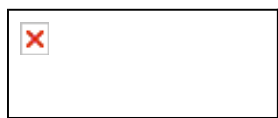
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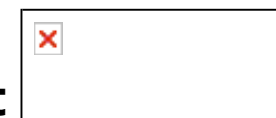
Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Environmental and Public Protection scrutiny - at Half Year 2015/16

ACTIONS - Theme: E. People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer			
Sub-theme: E6 Reducing speeding and number of road traffic accidents			
Action	11749	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will implement the state of the art mapping software for police reported road traffic incidents and traffic monitoring data		
Comment	Section 151 Report Submitted to the Council`s Director of Corporate Services seeking consent to procure specialist software package from specified supplier. Available budget £10,500.		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11750	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will develop a draft Road Safety Plan to reflect the casualty reduction targets published in the Welsh Governments Road Safety Framework		
Comment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide verbal report on progress with reducing road casualties in 2014-15 to the Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee on the 18th Sept. `15. 2. Submit in Sept. `15 to Welsh Government officers the Carmarthenshire update on progress with implementation of actions and goals set out in the Welsh Governments Road Safety Framework 2020. 3. Attend on the 30th Sept. `15 the All Wales Strategic Road Safety Group Meeting. 4. Community Safety Partnership - Road Safety Action Group Meeting held on 21st Sept. `15 - partners agreed to set road safety initiative actions for 2015-16 by the 21st October `15 		

Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11751	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will promote across all Welsh council's the Carmarthenshire Council evaluation model for older drivers refresher training		
Comment	JMcE gave verbal update of Carmarthenshire CC`s older drivers evaluation exercise at the All Wales Strategic Road Safety Group meeting held in Builth wells on the 30th Sept. `15. JMcE will provide a further update at a meeting to be held in Cardiff with Welsh Government officers on the 19th October 2015.		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11752	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	In conjunction with the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, we will develop an in county capacity to deliver training awareness courses for motor cyclists		
Comment	Welsh Government has provided a Road Safety Grant allocation in 2015-16 to meet the cost of delivering motor cycle training events in Carmarthenshire. Motorcycle training events have been held in Fire Stations across the county. The Council attends multi agency motorcycle engagements in Llandovery to promote the motorcycling training events to hard to reach motorcyclists.		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	

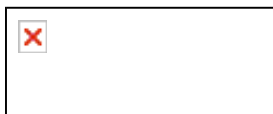


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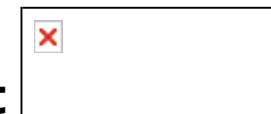


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ACTIONS - Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable			
Sub-theme: F1 Living within our environmental limits using only our fair-share of earth's resources			
Action	11644	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	Delivery of 'Climate Adaptation Action Planning in Carmarthenshire' will be taken forward with LSB partners with on-going dissemination of information on the key issues and raising awareness of the Climate Change agenda.		
Comment	The 'Climate Adaptation Action Planning in Camarthenshire' - priorities for action report which has been developed following a series of workshops during 2014, was presented to the Carms LSB on the 22 July. Following further discussion at the 17 September LSB meeting it has been agreed to establish a multi-agency Task & Finish Group, led by UWTSD to implement recommendations where appropriate		
Service Head: Wendy S Walters		Performance status: On target	




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Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable Sub-theme: F2 Reducing waste and moving towards becoming a zero-waste county							
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of municipal wastes sent to landfill WMT/004b	15.18	30.52	Q2: 32.35 End Of Year: 18.11	Target: 15.00 Result: 2.52	Target: 15.00 Result: 4.53 Calculation: (1768.54 ÷ 39063.24) × 100	Target: 15.00	Target: 15.00
Comment	All residual waste continues to be diverted to the sorting facility at Nantycaws, where waste streams suitable for recycling are extracted. The remainder of the waste is currently being baled and sold as Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) to markets within the UK and Europe. At present there is only the minimal amount being sent to landfill, which is beyond the quality suitable for blending into the RDF.						
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of municipal waste	58.82	55.58	Q2:	Target:	Target:	Target:	Target:

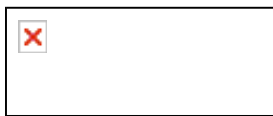
collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way WMT/009b			56.15 End Of Year: 59.61	60.00 Result: 57.15	60.00 Result: 58.06 Calculation: (22682.04 ÷ 39063.24) × 100	60.00	60.00
Comment		We are currently not meeting our target due to a combination of loss of the wood waste not meeting with recycling requirements and extraction of less than expected recyclates from the black bag sort shed. The Household waste recycling centre's (HWRC) have also experienced a higher tonnage throughput of non-recyclable waste and less recyclates going through the sites.					
Remedial Action		Alternative arrangements are being explored by CWM environmental.					
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: Off target			<input type="checkbox"/>
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste Prepared for reuse WMT/010i	Not applicable		Q2: 0.01 End Of Year: 0.02	Target: 0.01 Result: 0.46	Target: 0.01 Result: 0.53 Calculation: (208.67 ÷ 39063.24) × 100	Target: 0.01	Target: 0.01
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year

The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste Recycled WMT/010ii	Not applicable	Q2: 33.94 End Of Year: 42.14	Target: 41.99 Result: 35.27	Target: 41.99 Result: 35.65 Calculation: (13926.23 ÷ 39063.24) × 100	Target: 41.99	Target: 41.99	
Comment	Target was increased based on the continued inclusion of wood waste meeting recycling requirements and on the extraction of recyclates from the black bag sort shed. Unfortunately, the wood is currently excluded due to not meeting with recycling processes and the extraction rate is lower than anticipated.						
Remedial Action	Alternative arrangements are being explored by CWM environmental.						
Service Head: Mario Cresci			Performance status: Off target				
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of municipal waste Collected as source segregated biowastes and composted or treated biologically in another way WMT/010iii	Not applicable		Q2: 22.20 End Of Year: 17.44	Target: 20.00 Result: 21.42	Target: 22.00 Result: 21.88 Calculation: (8547.14 ÷ 39063.24) × 100	Target: 17.00	Target: 18.00
Comment	Participation of the kerbside food waste scheme continues to level out at 40% despite excellent education/awareness campaigns and door knocking to encourage householders to recycle their food.						
Remedial Action	A trial of food waste liners to 15,000 properties is already in being rolled out and will be closely monitored by the Community Recycling team.						

Service Head: Mario Cresci

Performance status: Off target





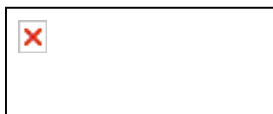
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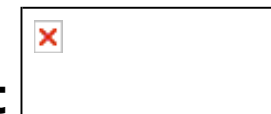
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ACTIONS - Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable			
Sub-theme: F2 Reducing waste and moving towards becoming a zero-waste county			
Action	11781	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We shall undertake a comprehensive assessment and review of our current kerbside collection methodology against the WG's preferred blueprint kerbside segregation method of collection (Necessity Test and TEEP assessment).		
Comment	The specialist route modelling software has been utilised to rationalise the refuse /recycling collection routes and to determine the number of vehicles that will be required to deliver the service from 2016/7 onwards. As a result, orders for new vehicles have now been placed and are due to arrive in the latter half of 2016. A further review of our recycling initiatives and schemes will be undertaken during the second half of the current financial year.		
Service Head: Mario Cresci		Performance status: On target	
Action	11782	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We shall review existing household recycling participation rates to maximise landfill diversion. Undertake a programme of door-stepping to advise and encourage householders to participate in our food and dry recycle schemes.		
Comment	The participation rates still remain at approximately 80% for the blue bag recycling scheme and 40% for the food recycling scheme. In order to increase the recycling of food waste, a food waste bin liner trial is being introduced to 15000 properties throughout the county. Each property selected will be issued a supply of food waste liners (7 litres) together with an information leaflet; the scheme will be advertised through the normal social media channels. A pre-monitoring exercise was carried out over a period of 2 weeks in the early part of October to establish a benchmark with delivery of the bags taking place during the latter weeks of October. A post monitoring exercise will take place during November 2015 and February 2016 to determine if the liners have increased participation; the success of the trial will conclude the outcome of the possibility of providing liners to all properties in the county, subject to funding. During the pre & post monitoring process, flash surveys were carried out by the awareness team to establish participation in both the food and recycling scheme and subsequent visits to non participating properties will be carried out to by the team. In order to increase the level of knowledge for the contact centre staff they were included in the initial pre-monitoring exercise. The awareness team will be carrying out flash surveys throughout the year and will also be concentrating on large family households and new housing developments.		

Service Head: Mario Cresci		Performance status: On target	
Action	11783	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We shall fully implement residual waste sort initiative to treat 100% of residual waste		
Comment	All waste is now being diverted to the materials recovery facility provided by CWM at Nantycaws, Carmarthen. A small element of materials entering the sort facility is recovered by an initial sort process and the remainder of the material is sent for incineration. Approximately 18% of the bottom ash residual after burning now counts towards our recycling figures. This process will continue for the remainder of the year.		
Service Head: Mario Cresci		Performance status: On target	



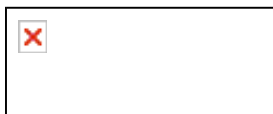
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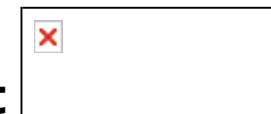
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Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable							
Sub-theme: F4 Protect, enhance and conserve our natural and built environment and champion biodiversity							
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
Average time taken to remove dog fouling (calendar days) 5.2.2.19	Not applicable		Q2: 0.79 End Of Year: 0.96	Target: 1.40 Result: 1.38	Target: 1.40 Result: 1.29 Calculation: 45÷35	Target: 1.40	Target: 1.40
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The Cleanliness Indicator STS/005a	Not applicable		Q2: 73.3 End Of Year: 73.3	Target: 67.0 Result: 73.1	Target: 67.0 Result: 73.0	Target: 67.0	Target: 67.0

				Calculation: (1.46 ÷ 2) × 100			
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of highways inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness STS/005b	98.3	86.8	Q2: 99.2 End Of Year: 99.2	Target: 92.0 Result: 98.8	Target: 92.0 Result: 98.9 Calculation: (2077 ÷ 2100) × 100	Target: 92.0	Target: 92.0
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days STS/006	97.72	96.46	Q2: 99.31 End Of Year: 98.70	Target: 98.63 Result: 99.63	Target: 98.63 Result: 99.00 Calculation: (493 ÷ 498) × 100	Target: 98.63	Target: 98.63
Service Head: Mario Cresci				Performance status: On target			

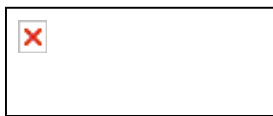


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ACTIONS - Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable			
Sub-theme: F4 Protect, enhance and conserve our natural and built environment and champion biodiversity			
Action	11161	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will work towards providing and managing through agreements and where appropriate land acquisition (70ha by 31.3.15 & 75ha by 31.3.16) of suitable habitat for marsh fritillary butterfly through the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC project.		
Comment	As well as new sites coming into the project progress has been made in managing sites such as Brynwithan, where areas previously classified as having potential but under grazed, are, as a result of recent management, now in suitable condition for the butterfly		
Service Head: Eifion Bowen		Performance status: On target	
Action	11788	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will continue to work on the Welsh Government funded project on the Carmarthenshire bogs and coastal dunes to meet the project outcomes.		
Comment	The Welsh Government funded project was completed in February 2015.		
Service Head: Eifion Bowen		Performance status: On target	

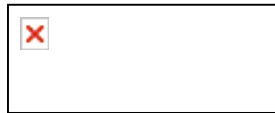


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Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable Sub-theme: F6 Developing sustainable transport options							
Measure Description	2014/15 Comparative Data			2015/16 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage of adults aged 60+ who hold a concessionary travel pass THS/007	90.6	84.7	Q2: 84.7 End Of Year: 81.5	Target: 79.0 Result: 80.1	Target: 79.0 Result: 80.5 Calculation: (43364 ÷ 53839) × 100	Target: 79.0	Target: 79.0
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner			Performance status: On target				



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ACTIONS - Theme: F. Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable			
Sub-theme: F6 Developing sustainable transport options			
Action	10688	Target date	31/03/2016 (original target 31/03/2014)
Action promised	We will procure more fuel efficient vehicles through our fleet replacement programme and reduce the current operational fleet by 8.8% over 3 years (2013/14 - 2015/16). (Reduced by 8.8% to 31.3.15 - 15/16 Target is 2%)		
Comment	<p>We continue to invest in more fuel efficient vehicles as we implement the fleet replacement programme. By the end of the quarter an order of 28 replacement RCV's will have been placed - all of which will employ the latest Euro VI emissions Technology.</p> <p>In terms of further operational fleet reduction, we are encouraged by the continuing downward trend and are pleased to report that we expect to meet the targets set for us.</p>		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11789	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will invest in walking and cycling linkages, improving connections and branding routes in urban areas.		
Comment	900k of Welsh Government funding is being used to progress the implementation of several key Active Travel schemes, including the Amman Valley Cycleway, Towy Valley Cycle Route, Urban Linkages programme in Carmarthen and Llanelli and the continuation of the Pembrey Canal scheme (in conjunction with £300k match funding from Coastal Communities funding). Progress has been made with design, land purchase, planning and construction on all of the above schemes.		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11790	Target date	31/03/2016

Action promised	We will complete the Carmarthenshire Amman Valley Cycleway.		
Comment	<p>This Action refers to the ongoing development of the Amman Valley Cycleway, linking settlements in lower and Upper Amman Valleys and across the border into Neath Port Talbot. Grant funding was drawn down from the Welsh Government this year which will allow us to all but complete works on the ground on the Carmarthenshire side, with the current programme of works seeing continuous routes being created through the Brynamman sections.</p> <p>Progress has been made in terms of completing all land purchase required, design and fabrication of a new river crossing, obtaining planning consents and constructing significant lengths of Cycleway on the ground. Work is continuing with the projected programme seeing the completion of almost all outstanding elements on the Carmarthenshire side.</p>		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	
Action	11791	Target date	31/03/2016
Action promised	We will work with the Local Health Board colleagues to develop access to health using the Bwcabus project the Teifi Valley		
Comment	<p>Bwcabus have attended/will attend Hywel Dda Travel Awareness Events: Bronglais Hospital - 9th September Glangwili Hospital - 29th September A dedicated marketing plan has been implemented to promote the use of Bwcabus to access health. Adverts have been designed and places in community newsletters: * y barcud * bro clecs cader * clonc * llais aeron Vinyls created and placed on Bwcabus vehicles. Promoted on social media. Bwcabus involved with the design of a Patient Travel Survey. Awaiting results. Bwcabus in partnership with a number of surgeries in the Teifi Valley, will promote flu vaccination days (posters on vehicles, social media). Bwcabus will also be attending Llandysul Teifi Surgery Flu Event on 7th October.</p>		
Service Head: Stephen G Pilliner		Performance status: On target	

Report C



Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee

Complaints and Compliments Report Half Year April - September 2015/16

Report C

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Report C

1. Principles

Carmarthenshire County Council's Complaints Procedure adopted in May 2011, emphasise the following principles:

- To ensure that as many complaints as possible are **resolved at stage 1** local resolution.
- To ensure that investigations follow the **'Investigate Once, Investigate Well'** principle.
- To adopt a stronger emphasis on **learning from complaints** and utilising them where possible to reform service design.

2. Definition

A **definition of a complaint** is:

- an expression of dissatisfaction or concern
- about a public service provider's action or lack of action
- or about the standard of service provided
- which requires a response
- whether about the public service provider itself, a person acting on its behalf, or a public service provider partnership.

The complaints referred to within this report are the ones where the investigation has been completed during the period of this report. This report does not reflect any complaints which are currently open and under investigation.

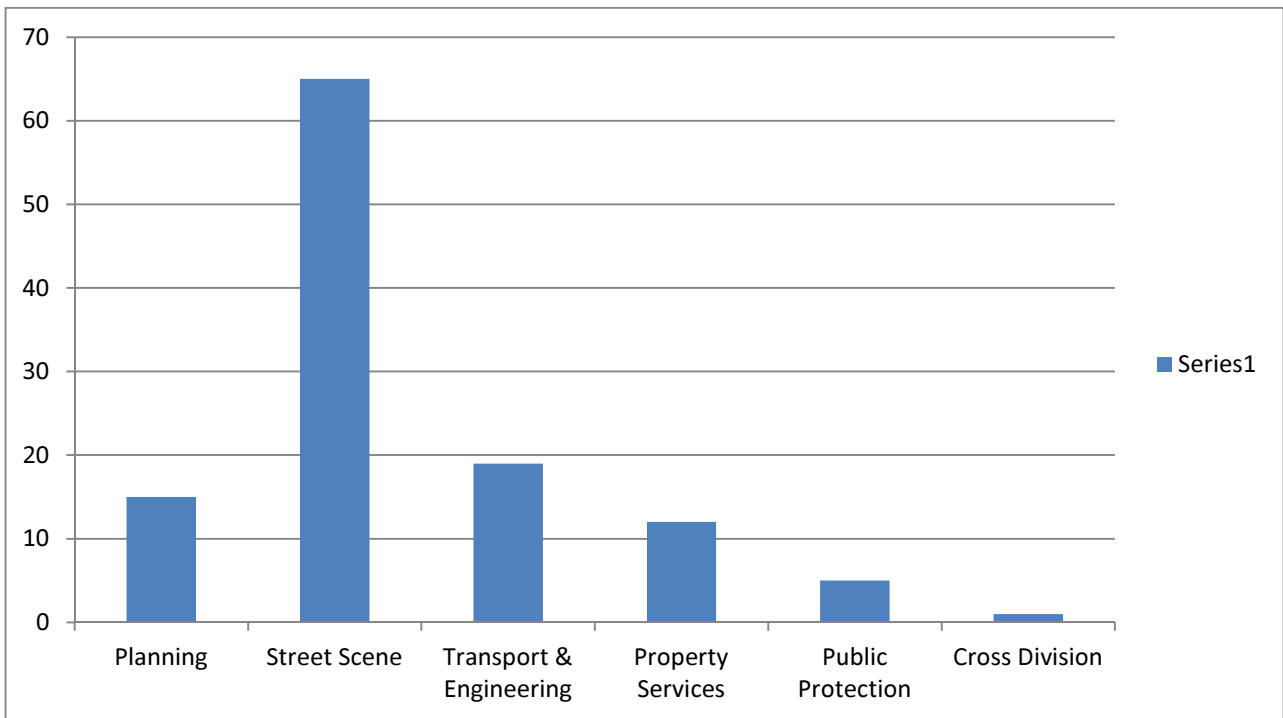
3. Summary of findings

- 117 complaints were investigated during this period, compared to 135 complaints during the previous year's Q2
- 70 of these complaints (60%) received a response within the allocated time period. This reflects a decrease from the same period, with last year's percentage of 69%.
- 5 Public Protection complaints were recorded, there were none last year. Planning has seen a slight decrease from last year's figure of 19 to this year's total of 15.

Report C

4. Complaints investigated and responded to within Q2 of 2015/16

SERVICE	Stage 1			Stage 2		
	No. of Complaints responded to ¹	No. receiving a full response within allocated time period ²	No. receiving a full response after allocated time period ³	No. of Complaints responded to	No. receiving a response within allocated time period ⁴	No. receiving a response after allocated time period
Environment	104	64 (62%)	40 (38%)	8	4 (50%)	4 (50%)
Public Protection	3	2 (67%)	1 (33%)	2		2 (100%)
TOTAL	107	66 (62%)	41 (38%)	10	4 (40%)	6 (60%)



¹ This is the cumulative figure of complaints investigated and responded to within the period of the report this financial year

² Any corporate complaint which has been investigated and responded to within 10 working days.

³ Any complaints which have been investigated and responded to outside the allocated time period

⁴ Any corporate complaint which has been investigated and responded to within 10 working days.

Report C

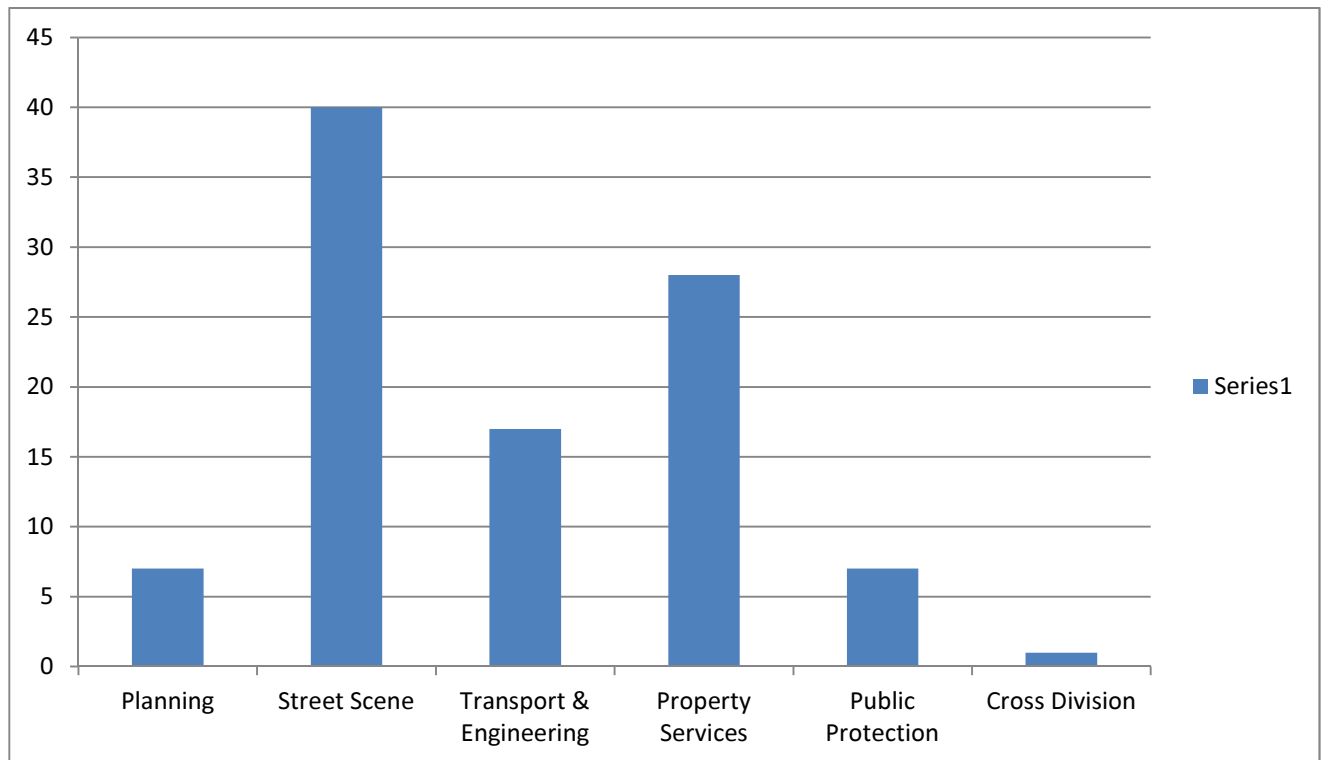
5. Complaints determined by the Ombudsman during Q2 2015/16

	Concluded by Ombudsman 2015-16	Ombudsman conclusion					
		Settled	Not Upheld	Discontinued	Out of jurisdiction	Referred back to Authority	Upheld
Environment	14	2	0	4	4	4	0

6. Compliments

- 100 compliments were received in Q2 for 2015, up from the previous year's 57.

SERVICE	No. of compliments received
Planning	7
Street Scene	40
Transport & Engineering	17
Property Services	28
Public Protection	7
Cross Division	1
Total	100



Report C

7 Complaint & Compliment Analysis

7.1 Environment

Complaints	Planning		Street Scene		Property Services		Transport & Engineering		Cross Division	
Stage 1 Complaints Investigated	10		64		11		18		1	
Upheld	3	30%	18	28%	4	36%	5	28%		
Partially Upheld	2	20%	21	33%	5	46%	4	22%		
Not Upheld	5	50%	25	39%	2	18%	9	50%	1	100%
Stage 2 Complaints Investigated	5		1		1		1			
Upheld					1	100%	1	100%		
Partially Upheld	1	20%	1	100%						
Not Upheld	4	80%								

Analysis of the trends

- Property Services**

Three complaints were upheld in relation to Grounds Maintenance. Two involved grass cutting (not clearing up litter beforehand and clearing cut grass) and one involved the parking of a van near to a school entrance. A complaint regarding communication was partially upheld.

Two complaints regarding Building Maintenance were upheld. A Stage 2 complaint involved concerns with lack of permission and quality of work on a chimney stack that was in shared ownership. The second related to delays in addressing damp issues in a property.

Four complaints were partially upheld. These related to the tidying of rubble and fencing in a garden, delays in addressing repairs to a shed roof that was in shared ownership and also delays to work following a visit from a Building Inspector. A complaint about the standard of work carried out at a property was partially upheld because of a minor element concerning communication issues around the way Housing Services allocated the disruption payment.

- Street Scene**

One complaint was partially upheld for the Enforcement Team regarding concerns with the way a fly tipping referral was addressed. It was actioned and the resident was happy with the outcome.

Four complaints were partially upheld for Highways. They concerned the timing of road works, the manner of a member of staff whilst spraying weeds and delays to works to a pavement. A Stage 2 complaint addressed enforcement action taken because of road safety concerns.

18 complaints were upheld for Refuse, Recycling & Street Cleansing and 22 were partially upheld. The issues raised addressed subjects such as the poor quality of garden waste sacks, mess being left behind after a collection, damage to bins, not abiding to advertised Bank Holiday collection days and

Report C

a delay in collecting a dead rat.

- **Transport and Engineering**

Parking Enforcement had one complaint that was upheld (the manner of a member of staff) and three that were partially upheld (manner/ conduct of staff and a payment machine in a car park).

A complaint was upheld for School Transport. It looked into the way issues concerning Passenger Assistants are investigated.

Three complaints were upheld for Traffic Management. They concerned crossing points not being flush with the pavement, issues with correspondence and a delay in passing on details of a traffic survey. One was partially upheld. This involved concerned with correspondence not being addressed.

- **Planning**

Three Planning complaints were upheld. They concerned a delay in processing an application regarding height of trees in a neighbouring property obscuring light and two complaints regarding delays in answering correspondence. The three partially upheld complaints related to guidance on lobbying Members around Applications, clarity around the withdrawal of an Application and subsequent updating of the website and a Planning Enforcement matter.

- **Cross Divisional**

Concerns were raised regarding signage, hedges and Authority vehicles using an access only lane.

Report C

Compliments	Planning	Street Scene	Property Services	Transport & Engineering	Cross Division
Compliments received per division	7	40	28	17	1

Analysis of the trends

- **Property Services**

- *"The new toilets look amazing. I'm sure the children will be delighted tomorrow"* - Ysgol Glanyfferi
- *"The Parc looks like a little jewel. Thanks for assistance with event also"* - Parc Howard
- *"...gratitude to all staff who worked so diligently to allow this to happen in such a short time"* – Carmarthen River Festival

- **Street Scene**

- *"His work, and the manner in which he did it, was most appreciated by members of the community"* - Highways
- *"Thanks for being very prompt and getting the job done straight away"* - Highways
- *"They are always cheerful, and go about their jobs with a smile"* – Refuse Crew
- *"They have done a brilliant job cleaning the street and the rear lane"* - Cleansing Team
- *"I must congratulate you on your efficiency, I am impressed. Well done and thank you very much"* – Public Lighting

- **Transport and Engineering**

- *"Thank you both for your support & efforts in building such a strong working relationships"* –Roads Policing Officer
- The work of Kerb Craft has been acknowledged by school pupils
- *"Thanks for the araf/slow signage on the road at the Graig, so prompt"*
- Parking Enforcement were thanked for their assistance during the Llandeilo Jazz Festival

- **Planning**

- *"The Website Is excellent. A terrific service, particularly for residents living in remote areas"*
Building Control and Planning officers were acknowledged for the way in which they had handled cases. Officers were also thanked for their part in an all Wales Seminar

Report C

7.2 Public Protection

Complaints	Public Protection	
Stage 1 Complaints Investigated	3	
Upheld	1	33%
Partially Upheld		
Not Upheld	2	67%
Stage 2 Complaints Investigated	2	
Upheld		
Partially Upheld		
Not Upheld	2	100%

Analysis of the nature of complaints and the trends

5 complaints have been recorded during Q2, 3 Stage 1 and 2 investigated at Stage 2. There were none recorded during Q2 last year.

The Stage 1 complaint that was upheld related to the manner of a member of staff during a phone call. An apology was issued and the member of staff was required to attend customer care training.

Compliments	Public Protection
Compliments received per division	7

Analysis of the trends

There was a slight increase, up to 7, from last year's 5 at Q2

"Thank yourself and your colleagues for your excellent work and their professionalism" Court Case

"Most helpful and gave me a lot of useful advice.....such a good service." Pest Control

"I would like to thank you for all your assistance in ensuring our permit was issued in time"

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REPORT D

RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS FOR CARMARTHESHIRE – Apr 2015 – September 2015

The format of these tables has changed because, since April 2014, the force has adopted the new national outcomes framework and no longer reports a detection rate. The move from detections to outcomes is a significant change, with an emphasis on greater transparency on how all crimes recorded by the police are dealt with. The previous focus on detections (i.e. crimes resolved via a sanction against the offender, such as a charge, summons or caution) only gave a partial picture of the work police do to investigate and resolve crime.

	Carmarthenshire			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	727	678	7.2%	49
Burglary Dwelling	125	120	4.2%	5
Burglary Non Dwelling	166	146	13.7%	20
Drug Offences	542	561	-3.4%	-19
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	41	65	-36.9%	-24
Possession of Weapons	22	32	-31.3%	-10
Public Order Offences	132	195	-32.3%	-63
Robbery	5	7	-28.6%	-2
Sexual Offences	156	127	22.8%	29
Theft	917	767	19.6%	150
Vehicle Offences	169	214	-21.0%	-45
Violence Against the Person	1051	874	20.3%	177
Total	4053	3786	7.1%	267

REPORT D

	CARMARTHEN TOWN AC			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	137	98	39.8%	39
Burglary Dwelling	25	30	-16.7%	-5
Burglary Non Dwelling	51	28	82.1%	23
Drug Offences	89	105	-15.2%	-16
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	9	15	-40.0%	-6
Possession of Weapons	4	8	-50.0%	-4
Public Order Offences	36	31	16.1%	5
Robbery	1	0	.0%	1
Sexual Offences	32	24	33.3%	8
Theft	218	181	20.4%	37
Vehicle Offences	14	30	-53.3%	-16
Violence Against the Person	217	188	15.4%	29
Total	833	738	12.9%	95

REPORT D

	CARMARTHEN RURAL AY			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	Sep 2015 YTD	SPLY	% Change	Vol Change
Burglary Dwelling	46	48	-4.2%	-2
Burglary Non Dwelling	12	12	.0%	0
Drug Offences	15	10	50.0%	5
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	17	35	-51.4%	-18
Possession of Weapons	4	8	-50.0%	-4
Public Order Offences	0	2	-100.0%	-2
Robbery	3	8	-62.5%	-5
Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0
Theft	11	19	-42.1%	-8
Vehicle Offences	37	44	-15.9%	-7
Violence Against the Person	6	17	-64.7%	-11
Total	77	74	4.1%	3

REPORT D

	LLANELLI EAST AZ			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	92	141	-34.8%	-49
Burglary Dwelling	15	7	114.3%	8
Burglary Non Dwelling	17	23	-26.1%	-6
Drug Offences	55	58	-5.2%	-3
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	5	6	-16.7%	-1
Possession of Weapons	1	2	-50.0%	-1
Public Order Offences	9	27	-66.7%	-18
Robbery	1	1	.0%	0
Sexual Offences	20	13	53.8%	7
Theft	96	89	7.9%	7
Vehicle Offences	45	46	-2.2%	-1
Violence Against the Person	128	112	14.3%	16
Total	484	525	-7.8%	-41

REPORT D

	LLANELLI TOWN AL			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	238	190	25.3%	48
Burglary Dwelling	38	43	-11.6%	-5
Burglary Non Dwelling	37	45	-17.8%	-8
Drug Offences	159	176	-9.7%	-17
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	11	17	-35.3%	-6
Possession of Weapons	9	13	-30.8%	-4
Public Order Offences	50	85	-41.2%	-35
Robbery	3	4	-25.0%	-1
Sexual Offences	38	27	40.7%	11
Theft	310	252	23.0%	58
Vehicle Offences	56	63	-11.1%	-7
Violence Against the Person	296	224	32.1%	72
Total	1245	1139	9.3%	106

REPORT D

	GWENDRAETH AT			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	85	80	6.3%	5
Burglary Dwelling	10	12	-16.7%	-2
Burglary Non Dwelling	24	23	4.3%	1
Drug Offences	73	66	10.6%	7
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	3	7	-57.1%	-4
Possession of Weapons	1	2	-50.0%	-1
Public Order Offences	13	16	-18.8%	-3
Robbery	0	1	-100.0%	-1
Sexual Offences	29	18	61.1%	11
Theft	116	72	61.1%	44
Vehicle Offences	24	22	9.1%	2
Violence Against the Person	131	109	20.2%	22
Total	509	428	18.9%	81

REPORT D

	AMMAN TOWY AW			
Category	Crime YTD	Crime SPLY	% Change	Change in Crimes
Arson & Criminal Damage	129	121	6.6%	8
Burglary Dwelling	25	16	56.3%	9
Burglary Non Dwelling	22	17	29.4%	5
Drug Offences	149	121	23.1%	28
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	9	12	-25.0%	-3
Possession of Weapons	7	5	40.0%	2
Public Order Offences	21	28	-25.0%	-7
Robbery	0	1	-100.0%	-1
Sexual Offences	26	26	.0%	0
Theft	140	129	8.5%	11
Vehicle Offences	24	36	-33.3%	-12
Violence Against the Person	202	167	21.0%	35
Total	754	679	11.0%	75

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ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Referral to the Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To consider and note a referral from the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in relation to the format of performance monitoring reports to scrutiny committees.

Reasons:

- To enable Committee members to exercise their scrutiny role.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Pam Palmer (Customer Focus & Policy / Council Business Manager)

<p>Directorate: Chief Executive's</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Bernadette Dolan</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Administration & Law</p> <p>Senior Consultant</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 224010 lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224030 badolan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Referral to the Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee

Background

The Community Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider the following referral from the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee:

Agenda Item: End of Year Departmental Performance Management Report – 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015

Date: 24th July 2015

Issue: The format of performance monitoring reports to scrutiny committees

At its meeting on the 24th July 2015, the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee considered its End of Year Departmental Performance Management Report for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015.

During consideration of the report, concerns were expressed about the format and length of Report B. It was also felt that the information was out of date by the time the Committee considered it. The Performance & Information Manager advised that members had requested a move from exception based reporting to a balanced and comprehensive format several years ago. He would however accept changing the format back to exception based although this would need to be agreed by the Chairs & Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum following consultation with other committees. He reminded members that they had full access to the PIMS system at any time and could generate reports within it. The roll-out of tablets to members would also improve matters and he could review PIMS with IT services to see how the format of the report could be improved in the longer term.

The Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee therefore unanimously resolved that “other Scrutiny Committees are offered the opportunity to receive Performance Management Report B on an exception basis”.

Following the meeting, the Performance & Information Manager met with the Chairs & Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum on the 27th July. The Forum asked him to look at alternative formats for the Performance Management reports.

On the 21st September, the Performance & Information Manager demonstrated a prototype “dashboard” report format to the Forum which facilitates drilling down into the PIMS system so that off- target Improvement Plan deliverables are easily identified as well as those that are on-target. Further development on this is required to enable access via Councillors’ i-Pads.

An all-member seminar has therefore been organised for 2:00pm on 14th January 2016 in 'Y Ffwrnes to demonstrate to and consult with members on the revised format. Further details about the seminar will be circulated in due course.

It is hoped to introduce a new format later in the New Year.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

- 1. Local Member(s) – N/A**
- 2. Community / Town Council – N/A**
- 3. Relevant Partners – N/A**
- 4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A**

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
End of Year Departmental Performance Management Report – 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 (Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee – 24th July 2015)	<p>Cymraeg http://online.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/agendas/cym/POAD20150724/MINUTES.HTM</p> <p>English http://online.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/agendas/eng/POLI20150724/MINUTES.HTM</p>

**ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12th NOVEMBER 2015**

**Explanation for non-submission
of scrutiny reports**

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER(S)	EXPLANATION	REVISED SUBMISSION DATE
Review of Gambling Policy	Sue Watts	<p>The responses to this consultation have far exceeded previous consultations.</p> <p>As a result, the collation and consideration of the responses have taken additional time to implement.</p>	11th December 2015
Review of Licensing Policy	Sue Watts	<p>The responses to this consultation have far exceeded previous consultations.</p> <p>As a result, the collation and consideration of the responses have taken additional time to implement.</p>	11th December 2015

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ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To scrutinise the progress made in relation to actions, requests or referrals recorded during previous meetings of the Committee.

Reasons:

- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to monitoring performance.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Pam Palmer (Communities and Council Business Manager)

<p>Directorate: Chief Executive's</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Matthew Hughes</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Administration & Law</p> <p>Assistant Consultant</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 224010 lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224029 mahughes@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12th NOVEMBER 2015

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update

During the course of a municipal year, several requests for additional information are made by the Committee in order to assist it in discharging its scrutiny role.

The attached report provides members of the Committee with an update on the progress made in relation to these requests.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes	<p>Meetings held up to July 2015: http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/committees-meetings/agendas-minutes-(archive)/</p> <p>Meetings from September 2015 onwards: http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ie/ListMeetings.aspx?Committeed=134</p>

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**Pwyllgor Craffu DCA - Diweddraf am Weithrediadau ac Atgyfeiriadau
EPP Scrutiny Committee - Actions and Referrals Update**

Meeting Date	Minuted Action / Referral / Request	Progress Update	Officer	Target / Completion Date	Completed / On-going
8th April 2015	Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2015 - Unanimously resolved that the Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2015 be recommended for formal approval and adoption by the Executive Board.	At its meeting on the 11th May 2015, the Executive Board unanimously resolved to recommend to Council that the Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2015 be approved. The Strategy and the Board's recommendation was considered by County Council at its meeting on 9th June 2015. County Council resolved that the Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2015 be approved.	Robin Staines / Sue Watts / Alun Rees	9th June 2015	Completed
15th May 2015	Stray Horses - The Executive Board be asked to write to the Welsh Government expressing the Committee's concern that legislation continued to be introduced without any additional funding being provided to assist local authorities in its implementation.	The Executive Board Member for Environmental & Public Protection wrote to the Welsh Government in May 2015 outlining the Committee's concerns. A response from Rebecca Evans AM (Deputy Minister for Farming & Food) was received on the 30th June 2015. The Minister's response was circulated to the Committee on the 19th August 2015.	Cllr. Jim Jones / Robin Staines / Roger Edmunds	19th August 2015	Completed
	Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2015/16 - Unanimously resolved that a task and finish group be established to research different approaches to car parking charges that could be applied in the county.	The Group's membership has been confirmed as: Councillors Peter Cooper (Labour), Alun Davies (Plaid), Ivor Jackson (Independent), John Jenkins (Unaffiliated) and Elwyn Williams (Plaid). The Group held its first meeting on the 24th September 2015.	Matthew Hughes	24th September 2015	Completed
8th June 2015	Dog Control Orders: Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 - Unanimously resolved that the proposals outlined in the report be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board, subject to the inclusion of the following additional proposals (a) an order for dogs to be kept on leads at all times on all sports pitches, parks and playgrounds; (b) an order for dogs to be kept on leads at all times on all public highways.	The Executive Board considered this item at its meeting on the 13th July 2015. Following consideration of the report, the Board unanimously resolved to commence the statutory order making process in order to allow the proposed public space protection orders (PSPOs) to be implemented, subject to further formal consultation. The Board also agreed that the E&PP Scrutiny Committee's additional two recommendations be considered in 6 months.	Christina HARRY / Mario Cresci / Ainsley Williams / Michael Roberts	13th July 2015	Completed

**Pwyllgor Craffu DCA - Diweddraf am Weithrediadau ac Atgyfeiriadau
EPP Scrutiny Committee - Actions and Referrals Update**

	Waste Service: Defining the strategic direction and the transition from 60% to 70% recycling - Resolved that the recommendations outlined in Section 2 of the report be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board, subject to the following amendments; (Recommendation 5) termination of the current green/garden waste kerbside collection service when the new vehicles and routes are introduced (from April 2016), subject to an extension of the compost bins scheme in order to off-set the impact of terminating the service; (Recommendation 6) a kitchen caddy food bin liner trial be introduced from Autumn 2015 with the aim of increasing the participation in food waste recycling.	The matter was considered by the Executive Board at its meeting on the 27th July 2015. The Board unanimously resolved that the introduction of kitchen caddy food bin liners as a trial in specific targeted areas from Autumn 2015 with the aim of assessing their effectiveness in increasing participation in food waste recycling, prior to making a decision on a wider roll-out to all households, be approved. It also agreed to review the current green/garden waste kerbside collection service in order to ascertain whether it could be run satisfactorily on a commercial basis.	Christina Harry / Mario Cresci / Ainsley Williams	27th July 2015	Completed
18th September 2015 (Joint meeting with E&C Scrutiny Committee)	Sustaining Post-Sixteen College/School Transport - Unanimously resolved that the Executive Board ask the other Welsh local authorities for full details of how they implemented charges for post-sixteen transport and seek clarification as to whether these had affected post-sixteen education in the long term.	The Committee's comments will be included in the consultation report and its recommendation will be considered by the Executive Board at a future meeting.	Eifion Bowen / Steve Pilliner / Jackie Edwards / Gaynor Morgan	To be confirmed	On-going
18th September 2015	Substance Misuse Services Visits Update - Resolved that the Chair of the Task & Finish Group (during the Substance Misuse Review) accompanies the Executive Board Members on future visits.	The committee's request has been noted and Cllr. Jackson will be invited to attend future visits.	Kate Thomas / Cllr. Ivor Jackson	18th September 2015	Completed

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18th SEPTEMBER 2015

(NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT MEETING)

Present: Councillor A.P. Cooper (Chair)

Councillors: A. Davies, D.B. Davies, J.A. Davies, D.C. Evans, I.J. Jackson, A. James, J.P. Jenkins, A.D.T. Speake, S.E. Thomas, D.E. Williams

Councillor J.D. James – Substitute for Councillor K.P. Thomas
Councillor M.J.A. Lewis – Substitute for Councillor W.J. Lemon

Also in attendance:

Councillor H.A.L. Evans – Executive Board Member for Technical Services
Councillor P.A. Palmer – Executive Board Member for Communities (including Community Safety, Social Justice / Crime & Disorder)

In attendance as an observer: **Councillor D.J.R. Bartlett**

The following officers were in attendance:

Mr. E. Bowen – Interim Director of Environment
Chief Inspector C. Templeton – Dyfed-Powys Police (*for Item 6*)
Mr. R. Edmunds – Trading Standards Services Manager (*for Item 8*)
Ms. R. James – Group Accountant
Mr. J. McEvoy – Road Safety & Traffic Manager
Ms. K. Thomas – Community Safety Manager
Mr. M. Hughes – Assistant Consultant

Venue: County Hall Chamber, Carmarthen (11:20am – 12:30pm)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W.J. Lemon, K.P. Thomas and W.G. Thomas.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor	Minute Item(s)	Nature of Interest
Cllr. D.E. Williams	8. Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2015/16	Legal owner of Cystanog Bends (on B4300, Capel Dewi)

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3. DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS

There were no declarations of party whips.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions were received.

5. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on Thursday 12th November 2015, be noted.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

The Chair welcomed Councillor P.A. Palmer (Chair of the Community Safety Partnership) and Chief Inspector C. Templeton (Dyfed-Powys Police) to the meeting.

The Committee received the annual report from the Carmarthenshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) which was presented by the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Police Liaison, Community Safety, Social Justice / Crime & Disorder (and Chair of the Partnership). The report included progress made in tackling crime and disorder during 2014/15 and updates from two key partners, namely the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Probation Services. It also highlighted key areas of partnership working and current priorities for the multi-agency action groups which were driving forward the community safety agenda.

The following issues were raised during consideration of the report:

Reference was made to safety risks in and around inland waterways and it was asked who had responsibility for leading on such matters as the RNLI did not have sufficient manpower to carry out this work. The Executive Board Member for Communities informed the Committee that she had recently held a meeting with a new group in Carmarthen (the Carmarthenshire Water Safety Partnership) and the matter was due to be discussed at the next Community Safety Partnership meeting. Issues that needed addressing included clarifying which organisation took responsibility for maintenance of safety equipment such as lifebuoys. She reassured the Committee that the various organisations would work in partnership to address this and was happy to provide an update at a future meeting of the Committee.

In response to a question about the amount of data from CCTV cameras that had been used to solve crime, the Community Safety Manager informed the Committee that this information had previously been included in the annual report. However, as of

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June 2015, there was no longer any statistical collation following the end of live monitoring.

It was asked whether volunteers could be used to monitor live CCTV cameras from their own homes. The Community Safety Manager stated that operators had to abide by Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) and Data Protection requirements and that it would be inappropriate for untrained volunteers to view live images of members of the public. However, discussions were on-going with Police representatives as to the future and best use of the cameras.

A question was asked about the '#PaulsPledge' campaign and clarification was sought as to what support Paul Pugh was receiving from the Partnership. The Community Safety Manager informed the Committee that Dyfed-Powys Police were leading on this campaign and that the Authority provided travelling expenses for Mr. Pugh when promoting his campaign at events throughout the county. Other charities were also supporting Mr. Pugh's work.

The reduction in most categories of crime was welcomed but concern was expressed about seasonal crime in rural areas (e.g. sheep rustling during lambing season), as it was suggested that many residents in rural areas felt somewhat alone in facing these problems. The Chief Inspector acknowledged that whilst crime figures had reduced, the Force understood that it still needed to improve its operations and understand its communities, especially those in the rural areas. The introduction of mobile police stations was an element of this work.

Reference was made to speeding on roads in the vicinity of the first phase of the Cross Hands East development (e.g. Black Lion Road) and that signage needed to be improved to remind drivers of the 30mph limit. The Chief Inspector agreed to feed this information back to the relevant officers in the Police Force.

It was asked whether there had been a change in the types of crime being reported and recorded. The Chief Inspector informed the Committee that offences relating to historical sexual abuse had increased significantly during the past 12 months. It was particularly encouraging that victims were prepared to come forward and the Police was prepared to deal with this increase.

Concern was expressed at the number of high number of fatalities amongst motorcyclists and it was suggested that the many initiatives in place were not reducing these figures. The Road Safety & Traffic Manager and Chief Inspector acknowledged that the number of fatalities was of great concern and that education was key. The Road Safety & Traffic Manager reminded the Committee that the engagement initiative in Llandovery was only introduced during 2015/16 and its impact would be reviewed in due course. This was a partnership approach alongside the Police and the Fire Service where officers met motorcyclists and discussed road safety issues as well as offering opportunities to attend the Authority's road safety course. He also added that the Welsh Government was currently investigating innovative approaches to target the problem and more details were expected early in the new year.

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In response to a question about the Rural Route Treatment initiative, the Road Safety & Traffic Manager informed the Committee that this initiative which had commenced in 2007, focused on high-speed routes with a history of accidents rather than just simply improving specific junctions or bends. The projects typically involved engineering works, new signage and road markings and revised speed limits. The initiative had been recognised by the Welsh Government as an example of best practice and the Authority had been successful once again in securing funding from the Welsh Government for specific schemes in 2015/16.

A question was asked about the A40/A48 routes in and around Carmarthen. The Road Safety & Traffic Manager informed the Committee that the Welsh Government and the South Wales Trunk Road Agency had recently reviewed and amended speed limits across the trunk road network in Carmarthenshire and there had been changes made to speed limits on the approaches to Carmarthen. The Authority liaised with the Trunk Road Agency on a regular basis.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

7. SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES VISITS UPDATE

The Committee considered an update on the visits made by the Executive Board Members, with responsibility for substance misuse and health and social care, to substance misuse service providers. The visits had been undertaken in response to a recommendation by the Committee's Task & Finish Group, following its review of Substance Misuse Services during 2013/14.

The following issues were raised during consideration of the report:

It was suggested that it was those individuals who did not ask for assistance, were the ones causing the most disruption in communities. The Council was applauded for recently utilising new legislation to tackle ongoing anti-social behaviour at a property in Pen-y-Groes by issuing a Closure Notice to safeguard tenants and residents next to the property. The Executive Board Member for Communities agreed that it was important to show that unacceptable anti-social behaviour would not be tolerated but also to remind individuals that assistance such as that provided by the substance misuse treatment services, was available.

The Chair suggested that for future visits, the Chair of the Task & Finish Group which undertook the review of substance misuse services, be invited to attend alongside the relevant Executive Board Members. The Committee agreed to the proposal.

RESOLVED that:

7.1 The report be received

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7.2 That the Chair of the Task & Finish Group (during the Substance Misuse Review) accompanies the Executive Board Members on future visits.

8. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2015/16

Cllr. D.E. Williams declared an interest in that he is the legal owner of Cystanog Bends (on B4300, Capel Dewi).

The Committee considered the Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report for the Environment Department, Public Protection Services and the Community Safety Team, as at 30th June 2015 in relation to the 2015/16 financial year. The following issues were raised in relation to the report:

In response to a question about the current status of the transfer of public conveniences, the Group Accountant noted that the £44,000 variance was related to the costs still being incurred as part of the three-year rolling programme of transfers.

Reference was made to the variance of £50,000 in the Civil Design service and clarification sought regarding the source of income. The Group Accountant informed the Committee that the income came from both internal and external clients and that a review of hourly rates and productivity was currently being carried out to try and make good the possible shortfall in income. The Interim Director of Environment informed the Committee that the Highways and Non-Highways Design Teams were being brought together at present. This had been proposed by the previous Director and the restructuring was being undertaken to pool skills and knowledge, lessen the reliance on external consultants and address the peaks and troughs in demand.

In response to further comments regarding income generation and costs associated with vacancies, the Interim Director of Environment agreed that the work of the Design Service was an opportunity to generate income for the Authority. One example of this was the work being undertaken with external public sector organisations to manage regional contractor frameworks. The costs associated with vacancies showed that all posts in this service created income for the Authority and that employing staff was a risk when demand for work reduced. This was another reason that the Local Authority was working with other public sector organisations, thus ensuring better planning of future work programmes.

It was asked why there was a variance of £393,000 in the Property Services budget due to an unachievable income target, when it was known that the Carmarthenshire Home Standard work would eventually decrease as the project was completed. The Group Accountant and the Interim Director of Environment informed the Committee that the Service was considering various efficiencies and that the matter was being looked at by senior officers as it was a long recognised issue which was now coming to a head.

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It was asked whether earmarked reserves (corporate or departmental) would be utilised to address the forecasted end of year variance of £379,000. The Group Accountant informed the Committee that there were departmental and specific reserves which could be used to meet the overspend but that the most recent budget monitoring exercise for the end of August 2015, had shown that the overspend had reduced. The Interim Director of Environment noted that reserves were often held for projects that would save the Authority money in the long-term (e.g. upgrading public lighting network with energy efficient bulbs) but that a list of those reserves and what they were specifically allocated for, could be circulated to the Committee.

Clarification was sought regarding the variance of £17,000 in the Public Protection Service in underachievement of fee income in 2015/16. The Trading Standards Services Manager informed the Committee that this reflected the current financial climate and was related to the Safety Work undertaken to monitor and regulate storage of dangerous materials (e.g. explosives). The variance was also influenced by court cases and the Authority's ability to recover costs.

In response to a query about the work at the Trebeddrod Reservoir, the Group Accountant acknowledged that there were no details in the report but that £112,000 had been spent on the project to date. She added that further information could be circulated to the Committee.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

9. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORTS

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the reasons for the non-submissions of the Impact of Local Authority Trading Standards in Challenging Times report, the Street Lighting Review report as well as the Protection Services Annual Report 2014/15, be noted.

10. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 26th JUNE 2015

Councillor D.C. Evans requested that the minutes be amended to reflect the fact that he had been present at the last meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 26th June 2015 be signed as a correct record, subject to the amendment noted above.

SIGNED: _____ (Chair)
DATE: _____

JOINT ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION AND EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18th SEPTEMBER 2015

(NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT MEETING)

Present: Councillor A.P. Cooper (Chair)

Environmental & Public Protection

Councillors: A. Davies, D.B. Davies, J.A. Davies, D.C. Evans, I.J. Jackson, A. James, J.P. Jenkins, A.D.T. Speake, S.E. Thomas, D.E. Williams

Education & Children

Councillors: D.J.R. Bartlett, C.A. Campbell, J.M. Charles, W.G. Hopkins, P. Hughes-Griffiths, J.D. James, P.E.M. Jones, M.J.A. Lewis, T. Theophilus

Councillor W.T. Evans – Substitute for Councillor W.J. Lemon

Mrs. V. Kenny – Roman Catholic Church Representative (E&C Scrutiny Committee)

Mr. S. Pearson – Parent Governor Member (E&C Scrutiny Committee)

Also in attendance:

Councillor H.A.L Evans – Executive Board Member for Technical Services

Councillor G.O. Jones – Executive Board Member for Education & Children

The following officers were in attendance:

Mr. E. Bowen – Interim Director of Environment

Mr. R. Sully – Director of Education & Children

Mr. S. Pilliner – Head of Transport & Engineering

Ms. J. Edwards – Principal Business & Development Officer

Mr. M. Hughes – Assistant Consultant

Venue: County Hall Chamber, Carmarthen (10:00 – 11:05am)

1. TO APPOINT A CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to appoint Councillor A.P. Cooper as Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I.W. Davies, W.J. Lemon, D.W.H. Richards, K.P. Thomas, W.G. Thomas and J.E. Williams.

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3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor	Minute Item(s)	Nature of Interest
Councillor D.J.R. Bartlett	Item 6	He is a governor at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman.
Councillor C.A. Campbell	Item 6	Has two children in secondary education who may continue in post-sixteen education.
Councillor A. James	Item 6	Has children in full time education.
Mr. S. Pearson	Item 6	Has children in full time education.

4. DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS

There were no declarations of party whips.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions were received.

6. SUSTAINING POST-SIXTEEN COLLEGE/SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Councillor D.J.R. Bartlett declared an interest in that he is a governor at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman.

Councillor C.A. Campbell declared an interest in that he has two children in secondary education who may continue in post-sixteen education.

Councillor A. James declared an interest in that he has children in full time education.

Mr. S. Pearson declared an interest in that he has children in full time education.

The Committee considered a report outlining a proposal to charge for post-sixteen college/school transport. The report was presented to members of both Scrutiny

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Committees in order that they might offer comments, as part of the formal consultation process.

The Head of Transport & Engineering informed the Committee that at its meeting on the 24th February 2015, the County Council approved a three year budget strategy, part of which included agreement to “continue with a Home to School College Transport Service with the introduction of a charge, which would be introduced on a phased basis over a number of years, subject to “any children on free school meals being exempt as well as children currently at Pantycelyn school also being exempt”.

The Head of Transport & Engineering also reminded the Committee that post-sixteen transport was a non-statutory service and that the Council to date, had chosen to exercise discretion and provide a service. However, due to the significant financial challenge facing the Authority at present and for the foreseeable future, this proposal had been developed in order to sustain a post-sixteen transport service, following discussions with major partners.

The following issues were discussed during consideration of the report:

Reference was made to discussions at a previous meeting of the Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee in June 2015 when members were informed that discussions with schools and Coleg Sir Gâr were on-going and it was asked what progress had been made. Clarification was also sought in relation to the subsidy currently provided to the service. The Head of Transport & Engineering informed the Committee that throughout discussions, officers had sought to sustain the service. The College was also facing financial pressures and whilst officers had sought further contributions, this was not possible. However, the College had committed to maintain its current contribution of approximately £700,000 to support the service. The net effect of the Authority’s subsidy was £477,000.

In response to a question about the resolution passed by County Council in February 2015, the Head of Transport & Engineering reaffirmed that any pupils in receipt of free school meals would be exempt from the charge and that all the children currently based at the Pantycelyn Campus of Ysgol Bro Dinefwr, would also be exempt. However, children in primary school in the Llandovery area who would be moving up to Ysgol Bro Dinefwr in the future, would not be exempt should they choose to continue in post-sixteen education.

It was suggested that education was a key factor in improving the well-being of communities and grave concern was expressed that a charge would not only deprive those youngsters who were poorer financially but those who were culturally poor and not necessarily appreciated or supported at home from attaining a good standard of education. The Head of Transport & Engineering recognised that this was a difficult issue and that all the Committee’s comments would be considered as part of the consultation process.

Reference was made to the member Focus Group which had met in recent months to discuss school transport policy. It was stated that the Group was united in its

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opposition to a charge for post-sixteen transport but when faced with the reality of the budget situation, members had considered £100 a head to be a reasonable charge, should it be implemented. However, the charge of £200-250 proposed in the report far exceeded this and was unacceptable, especially as in due course, it would only increase. The Head of Transport & Engineering acknowledged that the Focus Group had been opposed to the charge but could not recall any discussion relating to a charge of £100. He informed the Committee that the charge had been calculated based on the current budget commitment, an assessment of pupil numbers and take up of the service.

It was asked whether youngsters would be expected to pay up front for transport or whether this could be done in stages throughout the year. Reference was also made to the stigma attached to free school meals and reassurance was sought that those receiving free transport would not be identified. The Interim Director of Environment agreed that different methods of payment could be considered and the Head of Transport & Engineering confirmed that this suggestion would be captured as part of the consultation process. He also reassured members that all pupils, regardless of whether they paid or not, would receive the same pass.

Concern was expressed about the divisive nature of the proposed charge by burdening younger people with additional costs for education, even before they considered a degree at university. It was suggested that there was little breakdown of all the figures quoted in the report, especially in relation to the numbers of pupils on existing routes, the numbers currently eligible for free school meals, as well as the potential impact of Universal Credit on those currently eligible for free school meals. Reference was also made to areas such as Brynaman where pupils in different local authority areas would be paying different costs for attending sixth form in schools or colleges (e.g. Neath Port Talbot currently charged £100 whilst Carmarthenshire were looking to charge £200+). The Head of Transport & Engineering reminded the Committee that the principle was agreed by County Council and this was simply the commencement of the consultation process which was required for a change in policy. He acknowledged that charges did vary across the eight Welsh authorities but that it was a continually changing picture. He noted that a number of students were already travelling to Gower College from Carmarthenshire and paying approximately £280 per year. He also reminded the Committee that the school/college bus network was constantly reviewed to ensure it was being utilised to its full potential (with a current 95% occupancy).

It was suggested that the majority of the Committee was unhappy with the proposed charge and how this had been included within the overall budget strategy leaving members feeling unclear about many issues. It was asked how the other local authorities had approached and consulted on this matter and whether Carmarthenshire's consultation process could be stopped pending more information being sought regarding the implications of this proposal. The Interim Director of Environment stated that the implementation of the consultation process was being undertaken in accordance with the decision made by County Council. He reminded the Committee that the Environment Department had faced large reductions in funding for many years and whilst in the past, such reductions could be absorbed

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within existing services, proposals such as this were now impacting directly on the county's residents. The Head of Transport & Engineering stated that the consultation process was a statutory requirement which had to be undertaken and could not be postponed. The budget strategy included a reference to post-sixteen transport which was now being consulted on before County Council considered a formal change to policy. He reminded members that they could make additional representations during the consultation process as well as through the forthcoming budget consultation process which would be commencing in the Autumn.

The importance of the principle of a free education was highlighted and concern was expressed that there would be families, who whilst were not eligible for free school meals, would struggle to pay such a charge. It was argued that the Authority should be encouraging young people to remain in education and that charging for post-sixteen transport would actually discourage participation in further education. The consultation referred to in the report was also queried and it was suggested that the majority of those who responded to the last budgetary consultation and who agreed with the proposal to charge, were actually middle-aged with no children. It was also felt that the charge would hinder the development of Welsh-medium education in the County's secondary schools as pupils would opt for the nearest school with a 6th Form rather than one offering Welsh-medium provision.

Reference was made to the increase in school meal costs and along with an additional charge for attending post-sixteen education, it was suggested that the impact on families with two children or more would be significant. It was acknowledged that there were financial and moral duties of care to be considered but that the Authority could learn from other authorities' experiences. It was also asked whether the impact of parents not paying and then driving pupils to school instead (as well as resultant emissions) had been considered and whether the equalities impact assessment had actually taken minority groups would be placed at a disadvantage financially, into consideration. The Head of Engineering & Transport informed the Committee that the Equalities Impact Assessment had been undertaken and as it was a 'live' document it would be amended on an on-going basis, as responses were received during the consultation process. He reminded the Committee that there was a Council resolution in place to proceed with the consultation and that following this, all views submitted would be collated and considered prior to a final decision by County Council.

The Committee declined to endorse the proposal outlined in the report and it was proposed that prior to proceeding further, the Executive Board request further details from the other Welsh local authorities who had already implemented charges for post-sixteen transport, to clarify how these had been implemented and their effect on post-sixteen education in the long term.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Executive Board ask the other Welsh local authorities for full details of how they had implemented charges for post-sixteen transport and clarification as to whether these had effected post-sixteen education in the long term.

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SIGNED: _____ (Chair)

DATE: _____