



**time** to change:

***FIVE YEARS  
AND COUNTING***

**2012 PROGRESS REVIEW OF THE  
SWANSEA ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY**

<b><i>Executive Summary</i></b>	3
<b><i>Introduction and Overview</i></b>	4
<b>Action Plans</b>	4
<b>Indicators</b>	4
<b>Assessment Process</b>	5
<b><i>Review of Strategic Priorities</i></b>	
<b>NE1:</b> Establish and maintain data on the natural environment and monitor change	6
<b>NE2:</b> Protect and safeguard our valued natural assets and halt loss of biodiversity	7
<b>NE3:</b> Maintain and enhance the quality and diversity of the natural environment	9
<b>NE4:</b> Promote awareness, access and enjoyment of the natural environment	11
<b>BE1:</b> Improve the quality and attractiveness of the city centre, other settlements, neighbourhoods and streetscapes	14
<b>BE2:</b> Promote sustainable buildings and more efficient use of energy	16
<b>BE3:</b> Ensure the supply of high-quality, affordable and social housing within mixed, settled and inclusive communities	18
<b>BE4:</b> Protect and promote historic buildings and heritage sites	20
<b>WM1:</b> Protect and improve river and ground water	22
<b>WM2:</b> Maintain and improve bathing and drinking water quality	23
<b>WM3:</b> Restrict development on flood plains, reduce flood risk and improve flood awareness	24
<b>WM4:</b> Restore contaminated land ensuring minimum risks to the environment and public health	25
<b>WM5:</b> Reduce waste going to landfill and increase reuse, recycling and composting	26
<b>WM6:</b> Identify suitable sites and sustainable technologies for dealing with waste	29
<b>ST1:</b> Promote more sustainable forms of travel and transport	30
<b>ST2:</b> Improve access to services, workplaces and community facilities	33
<b>ST3:</b> Improve air quality and reduce air pollution	35
<b>ST4:</b> Improve air quality monitoring and reporting mechanisms	37
<b>EA1:</b> Encourage and support good practice in ESDGC in local education establishments	38
<b>EA2:</b> Actively promote sustainable living	41
<b>EA3:</b> Promote active citizenship and increased participation in decision-making processes	43
<b>EA4:</b> Encourage good environmental practice amongst organisations and businesses	45
<b><i>Appendices</i></b>	
<b>1: Detailed Assessment Matrix</b>	47
<b>2: Sources of Indicator Data</b>	48

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Swansea Environment Strategy, published by Swansea Environmental Forum (SEF) in 2006, provides a long-term vision and strategic priorities for the natural and built environment in Swansea. This report outlines the findings of the latest biennial review, which assessed progress made towards the Strategy's priorities in the last two years and follows on from reviews published in 2008 and 2010.

The assessment process involved collecting recent data for the Strategy indicators and updates on all the actions listed in the Swansea Environment Strategy Action Plan 2010-12. The indicator data and action updates were provided by a wide range of partner organisations and additional data and other relevant achievements were also taken into account as part of the review and assessment process.

SEF is the lead strategic partnership for all aspects of the natural and built environment in Swansea and works within the context of the Community Strategy and in support of the Swansea Local Service Board (formerly also known as the Better Swansea Partnership). The five *shared priorities* agreed with the BSP/LSB in 2008 – air quality, climate change, carbon management, biodiversity and Swansea Bay water quality – have remained a high priority for SEF over the past two years. The built heritage, highlighted in the 2010 strategic review, has also been a particular focus during this period. The review found evidence of good work being done in each of these key areas – particularly in terms of research, training and increased collaboration between organisations – but it also points to the need for more effort and resources if significant progress is to be achieved.

The review shows that particularly good progress continues to be made in waste management, aspects of environmental education, and sustainable building practices. Significant progress was also noted with the priorities relating to access and enjoyment of the natural environment, and flood risk management and awareness.

Areas of particular concern highlighted in this review include the restoration of contaminated land, the provision of public transport, the attainment of Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) and the availability of affordable housing.

The restoration of contaminated land in Swansea continues to be achieved through development projects, rather than a proactive programme of work, and has therefore been affected by the weakness of the economy. There also lacks an effective system for monitoring how much land has been satisfactorily restored.

Whilst public transport infrastructure in Swansea has been improved, there is evidence that the number of services are reducing. This may be contributing to the continued dominance of car use and the persistence of air pollution and road congestion issues.

The economic slowdown has affected the provision of new housing in general, including affordable housing. Though the Council continues to make significant investments in improving its housing stock, full compliance with WHQS is still a major challenge.

However, improvements have been made within each of the Environment Strategy's five themes and 75% of actions proposed in 2010-12 Strategy Action Plan were completed – a notable increase from the previous two action plans.

Most of the strategy indicators have continued to provide useful information on the progress of the priorities but during this review some indicators have been added, changed or removed. Several indicators are still under development, particularly in the natural environment and biodiversity section.

# INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Swansea Environment Strategy – *Time to Change* – was published by Swansea Environmental Forum (SEF) in September 2006, following fifteen months of development and consultation with a great number of partners, members and the public. The Strategy is arranged around five key themes – The Natural Environment and Biodiversity; The Built Environment and Energy Use; Water, Land and Waste Management; Sustainable Transport and Air Quality; and Environmental Awareness and Action. For each, there is an overarching vision and a set of strategic priorities (or aims).

The Strategy also sets out a framework for monitoring and reporting on progress. An initial one-year review was undertaken about eighteen months after the strategy was formally published. The Forum then committed itself to carrying out and publishing biennial reviews. This latest report – *Five Years and Counting* – outlines the findings of the third progress review, which was undertaken April-June 2012 and had a particular focus on the preceding two financial years.

Swansea Environmental Forum is the lead strategic partnership for all aspects of the natural and built environment in the City and County of Swansea. It is an independent organisation, initially set-up in 1985, which brings together individuals, statutory bodies, businesses and voluntary groups to promote environmental sustainability and develop collaborative projects to improve the environment.

Further information can be found on [www.swanseaenvironmentalforum.net](http://www.swanseaenvironmentalforum.net) including downloadable copies of the Environment Strategy, action plans and reviews.

## **ACTION PLANS**

An Environment Strategy Action Plan was also produced in 2006 to sit alongside the Strategy itself and show how organisations would contribute to progressing the strategic priorities outlined in the Strategy. This first action plan covered the period 2006-8 and has been updated on a biennial basis at the same time as the progress reviews – new action plans being prepared for 2008-10 and 2010-12. A new action plan will also be published alongside this report to cover the period 2012-14.

The first Action Plan (2006-8) included approximately 140 specific actions of which 57% were completed by the end of March 2008. The second Action Plan (2008-10) listed over 150 specific actions of which 61% were completed – including at least 50% of the actions in each of the five thematic sections. In the third action plan, used in the assessment of this latest review, there were nearly 280 actions listed – reflecting a greater number of contributions from a wider range of organisations. The overall completion rate had increased to 75% and the achievements in each of the five sections ranged from 68% to 84%.

## **INDICATORS**

A set of indicators was agreed and published within the Environment Strategy to help SEF monitor and measure change. These have been reviewed and amended in each review in response to the availability and suitability of data.

Following the first strategy review (2008) a set of 51 indicators were agreed. Of these, just 35 (68%) provided suitable data in the second strategy review (2010) but 26 secondary indicators were also used, though some of these were not particularly robust – being subject to too many external variables or being obtained from surveys with relatively small samples numbers.

During this latest review, there were still a few indicators for which data was not available. These were either retained for further development or discontinued. A few additional indicators were added. A further review of the indicator set will be undertaken by SEF following the publication of this review.

It should be noted that in a few cases, data published in previous reports has been amended in this report to rectify errors or inconsistencies.

## **ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

This strategy review is focussed primarily on the progress made towards achieving the 22 priorities presented in the Strategy. To assess progress, information was gathered relating to the agreed indicators, the actions proposed in the last Strategy Action Plan and additional data, actions and other information that came to light during discussions with partners.

Each strategic priority has been assigned a RAG (red, amber, green) status to provide a very simple summary of progress. The overall RAG status for each priority is based on an assessment of five elements: the indicator data (primary indicators), the achievement of actions listed in the 2010-12 action plan, additional data (secondary indicators), further actions and achievements collected from partners and recorded in this report, and a comparison to progress or the position in other parts of Wales (where available). The criteria used to assign RAG status under each element is provided in the table below. The overall status is determined by combining the status for these five elements (where assessed) with a weighting towards the indicators and other data, and then the actions, unless the quality or quantity of data is poor, in which case the status relating to actions may take precedence.

	<b>GREEN</b>	<b>AMBER</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>indicator data</b> (primary indicators)	significant improvement is evident	some improvement is evident	change is minimal or negative	no indicator or inadequate data
<b>other data</b> (secondary indicators)	significant improvement is evident	some improvement is evident	change is minimal or negative	no additional data considered
<b>action plan (2010-12)</b>	all or almost all actions achieved (85-100%)	most actions achieved (50-85%)	most actions not achieved (less than 50%)	
<b>additional actions</b>	several additional actions achieved	some additional actions achieved		no additional actions considered
<b>comparison with Wales</b>	better than average	about average	below average	not considered
<b>OVERALL STATUS</b> <i>(taking into account the above aspects)</i>	good progress has been made towards achieving the priority	some progress has been made but the breadth or rate of progress could be improved	insufficient progress is being made and more decisive action is needed	

The following pages provide the detailed review and the overall RAG assessment for each of the 22 strategic priorities in turn. A table showing the assessment for each element is provided on page 47.

It should be noted that the strategy review is looking for evidence of positive improvements and so where there is little or no change then a red status would generally be assigned. In this review, two priorities were assigned a red status and 6 priorities were assigned green status. (In the last review there were 4 red and 4 green).

An arrow has been placed within the RAG status box for each priority (both on the relevant page in the next section and in the table on p.47) which shows whether the RAG status has increased (↑), decreased (↓) or stayed the same (↔) when compared to the last review. The status has decreased for two priorities but increased for five priorities which suggests that progress overall has been better in the past two years than in the period leading up to the previous review.

# REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## NE1: Establish and maintain data on the natural environment and monitor change

### SUMMARY

Though several local organisations continue to undertake surveys of species and habitats, a more co-ordinated approach to monitoring change and better use of recording systems is still needed.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Swansea Biodiversity Partnership  
City and County of Swansea (Nature Conservation)  
Countryside Council for Wales  
SEWBREC (South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

A draft set of indicator species has been produced, but not formally agreed.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Swansea Council's Nature Conservation Team has undertaken a comprehensive pond survey and has continued with the urban bat survey.

An assessment of accessible natural green space in Swansea has been completed and an online map and report published. The SINC verification survey is now close to completion.

The national Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) online facility has been undergoing redevelopment and, because of this, the review of the local BARS framework and actions has been delayed.

A service level agreement between the Council and SEWBREC (South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre) has not been agreed due to lack of funding.

The Welsh Government has organised training on invasive species and a trial of natural control of Japanese Knotweed is underway. The proposed website on the control of Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species has still not been prepared.

A comprehensive open space audit has been undertaken to provide data for the LDP (Local Development Plan).

## NE2: Protect and safeguard our valued natural assets and halt loss of biodiversity

### SUMMARY

An increasing number of management plans are being put in place for important local sites and actions taken to improve ecological features. Training is being provided to improve understanding of why and how valuable natural assets should be protected.

**AMBER**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Nature Conservation, AONB)  
 Countryside Council for Wales  
 Swansea Biodiversity Partnership  
 The Gower Partnership Group

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2007	2009	2011
<b>Total area of LNRs, AONB and SINCs</b>				
- LNRs and AONB		200 km <sup>2</sup>	200 km <sup>2</sup>	200 km <sup>2</sup>
- SINCs		96 km <sup>2</sup>	96 km <sup>2</sup>	103 km <sup>2</sup>
		2001-2006	2007-2013	2013-2018
<b>Percentage of SAC, SPA and SSSI features in or recovering towards favourable condition</b>	- SSSI features	(29%)	-	-
	- SAC and SPA features	46%	-	-

The area of LNRs (Local Nature Reserves) and AONB (Area of Outstanding natural Beauty) in the City and County of Swansea have remained the same. It was agreed that this indicator remain as the local authority may look to declare further LNRs in the future and there are calls for the AONB to be extended. The number of candidate SINCs has increased from 124 to 131 sites with an associated increase in area.

Condition assessments of SAC (Special Areas of Conservation), SPA (Special Protection Area) and SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) features are ongoing. Due to the six year cycles for carrying out these surveys, there is no update on SSSI figures and the report for SACs/SPAs will next be available in early 2013.

A further indicator – ‘*Percentage loss of important habitats*’ – is being discontinued as it is felt that this is measured through existing indicators or those currently being developed.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The new CCW Special Sites Project continues to be a successful mechanism for monitoring work undertaken by CCW and partners towards getting statutory sites into favourable conservation management, and enabling CCW to support partner organisations in completing jointly agreed actions. CCW itself completed 7 actions in 2011/12 and has planned 4 further actions in 2012/13.

A review of Swansea Biodiversity Action Plan is still ongoing, supported by four ecosystem subgroups – Marine and Coastal; Woodland; Wetland; and Grassland, Heathland and Farmland. It had been hoped that funding might be identified for a LBAP (Local Biodiversity Action Plan) officer to progress the LBAP and support the subgroups, but this has not yet been secured so in the meantime, an existing member of the Council's Nature Conservation Team has taken on part of the role. The local authority has produced new ecosystems display panels to help highlight aspects of the LBAP at events.

The review of the Gower AONB Management Plan is also ongoing – the draft plan will go out for consultation during Summer 2012 and is expected to be completed and published in Summer 2013.

Though the Nature Conservation Team was not able to find suitable funding for a new officer to promote and provide training about the NERC Biodiversity duty (Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act), they were able to deliver some internal biodiversity training through existing staff resources and by contracting a private consultant. This has resulted in the preparation of a number of Service Specific Biodiversity Action Plans which will collectively form the CCS Corporate Biodiversity Action Plan. Nature Conservation Team staff have also promoted the ecosystem benefits of biodiversity through various internal and external presentations.

The proposal in the last action plan to seek adoption of SINC's as Supplementary Planning Guidance was not pursued as the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) will soon be replaced by the Local Development Plan (LDP).

A management scheme for Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries EMS (European Marine Site) has been produced. A draft management plan for Swansea Bay has also been produced which will help to ensure protection of the SSSI and other important ecological and historical features.

A series of meetings has been held to explore sustainable solutions for the management of the Gower Commons and make recommendations for long term. A report has been produced and a number of actions developed including the establishment of the Common Sense bracken compost enterprise.

Environment Agency Wales, working with a range of local partners, has established a new awareness-raising project – Stop Waste in Our Landscape – to address concerns about the disposal of building rubble and unwanted soil on Gower and the potential impact such practices may have on landscape, heritage and biodiversity features.

## NE3: Maintain and enhance the quality and diversity of the natural environment

### SUMMARY

New habitats are being created, improved and brought into active management by a range of organisations and community volunteers but the amount of land managed under agri-environment schemes has reduced, perhaps due to scheme changes.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Nature Conservation, Parks)  
 Countryside Council for Wales  
 Swansea Biodiversity Partnership  
 Welsh Government

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Number of Green Flags / Green Flag Community Awards</b> (formerly Green Pennants)	3 / 1	3 / 1	4 / 1	4 / 1	4 / 1
<b>Area of land managed under agri-environment agreement</b>	5,483ha	-	9,371ha	8,299ha	8,011ha
- <i>Tir Cynnal</i>	1,842ha	-	3,052ha	2,866ha	2,636ha
- <i>Tir Gofal</i>	3,298ha	-	5,455ha	4,452ha	4,395ha
- <i>Organic Farming Scheme (area)</i>	343ha	-	864ha	981ha	980ha
- <i>Organic Farming Scheme (schemes)</i>	(118)	-	13	21	21
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<i>Rating of parks and open/green spaces (Swansea Voices Survey - v. good / f. good)</i>	87%	87%	91%	-	90%
<i>Ease of access to parks and open spaces (Swansea Voices Survey - v. good / f. good)</i>	62%	-	-	-	71%

The number of Green Flags and Green Flag Community Awards (formerly known as Green Pennants) in Swansea has remained the same for the past few years – Victoria Park, Clyne Gardens, Singleton Botanical Gardens, Brynmill Park and Oystermouth Castle Woods being the successful recipients. In the last action plan, the Council parks officers had proposed to submit an application for a Green Flag for Cwmdonkin Park but this was postponed until after the extensive development work on site.

The area of agricultural land in Swansea managed under the OFS2 organic farming scheme, and the number of individual schemes in Swansea, has increased in the past two years. The area managed under Tir Cynnal and Tir Gofal has dropped a little, though still much higher than in 2007. The decrease is probably due to scheme agreements coming to an end and some landowners not reapplying under the new Glastir scheme, which from 2012 replaces all previous agri-environment schemes.

Glastir has been introduced to meet wider and long-term Welsh Government objectives and European environmental obligations. It is designed to achieve ambitious goals to improve the environment and the countryside, and deliver tangible outcomes at both farm and landscape level in key areas such as carbon, water quality and habitat and biodiversity management. A review of Glastir is being carried out in early summer 2012 in order to ensure that the full benefits of the scheme can be achieved in Wales.

The Swansea Voices Citizens' Panel survey continues to show a very high users' rating for parks and open spaces. In a recent Swansea Voices Survey (12.3), which focused on Swansea parks and open spaces, 71% of respondents rated *ease of access* as very or fairly good (up from 62% in 2007). The aspect that attracted greatest criticism in this survey was *keeping parks and open spaces clear of dog foul*, with just 35% viewing this service as very or fairly good and 21% considering it to be poor or very poor. In terms of frequency of use, 49% of respondents said they normally visit a park or open space in Swansea at least once a week (down from 59% in 2007).

It has been agreed that no meaningful data is available to support the previous indicator '*Percentage area of green space actively managed*'. It is suggested that it could be replaced by '*Area of Council-owned green space or SINC's actively managed for biodiversity*'. This alternative indicator is still under development.

## **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

With funding from the Environment Agency, the Council's Nature Conservation Team coordinated a ponds project which saw the creation of over 70 ponds and wetland habitats and the restoration or improvement of a further 12. Environment Agency Wales also created approx. 3 hectares of new coastal grazing marsh at Llanrhidian using appropriate habitat management.

CCW have completed reviews and updates of the core management plans for three of the four SACs in the Swansea local authority area. The updating of the Bishop's Wood LNR management plan is almost complete.

The management of some SINC's has been improved through the council's Communities and Nature Programme, primarily involving a range of volunteer and community tasks. Additional funding was secured from the Welsh Government's Local Environmental Quality fund to enable a significant amount of additional management and enhancement work to be undertaken on selected SINC's.

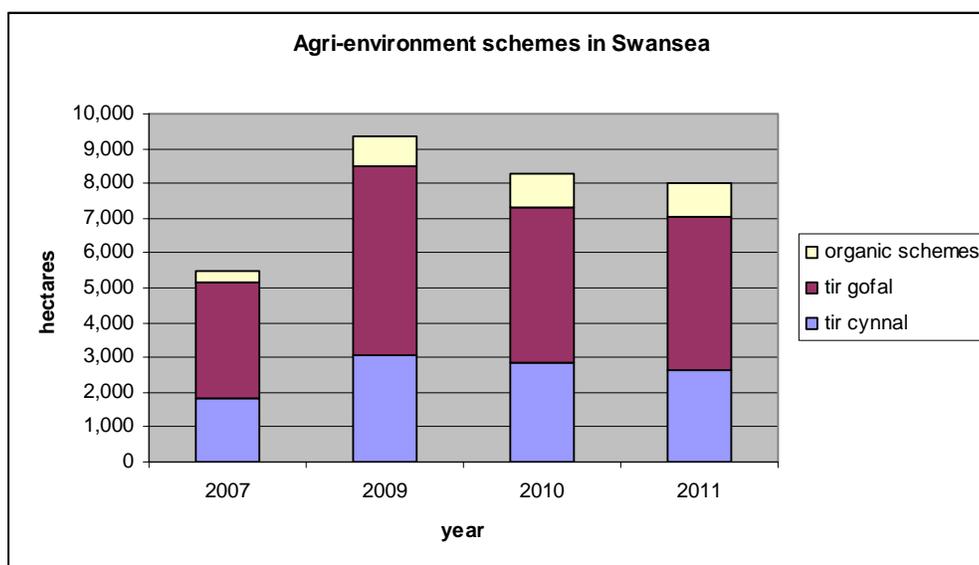
Several site developments have taken place at Llys Nini to improve the range and quality of habitats, including scrub reduction to help improve the purple moor grass fen habitat.

Mumbles Development Trust secured funding to undertake sustainable management of five areas of woodland in the Mumbles area and coordinated the planting of 1,200 trees in Clyne Woods. Recently, the Trust involved 100 children in planting wildflower seeds in the Castle Orchard, Oystermouth.

A Swansea Bay Management Plan steering group was established and a successful conference held to explore the management of the Bay. The marine and coastal ecosystems subgroup has continued to meet but a broad local forum or network for coastal and marine management is still to be set-up.

Collaborative work to deal with drainage misconnections has contributed to reducing the number of pollution sources to improve compliance with the Shellfish Waters Directive in Swansea Bay.

The proposal in the last action plan to explore opportunities for visitor payback and user charging schemes has not been progressed and the slow economy has had an impact on the funding available through 106 agreements for biodiversity.



## NE4: Promote awareness, access and enjoyment of the natural environment

### SUMMARY

There is some evidence that more people are visiting the natural environment in Swansea and that more information, interpretation and organised activity is being made available to help people make the most of the experience.

GREEN



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City & County of Swansea (Nature Conservation, Countryside Access, AONB)  
 Swansea Environmental Education Forum  
 Swansea Biodiversity Partnership  
 Rural Swansea Action

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Length of easy-to-use footpaths and other rights of way</b>	46.4%	47.3%	55.8%	59.1%	51.2%	55.0%	58.6%
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Visitors to a selection of sites</b>							
National Trust: Penmaen, Cwm Ivy, Rhossili (beach / cliff)	379,735	648,651	571,960	638,285	652,755	624,560	-
CCS: Brandy Cove, Caswell	-	-	-	-	104,519	118,259	-
CCW: Crymlyn Bog, Oxwich (dunes / point)	-	-	-	-	-	22,684	-
<i>Biodiversity events in annual environmental events booklet</i>	97 (34%)	98 (34%)	85 (30%)	78 (24%)	121 (38%)	166 (39%)	174 (40%)

Though the figures for ease of use of footpaths (based on an annual random survey of 10% of the network) can vary from year to year, the trend is clearly upwards.

The indicator 'Visitors to a selection of sites' uses data from visitor counters placed at 9 points (all but one are in Gower). The figures from the National Trust suggest an upward trend though there is fluctuation, probably affected by weather and the number of organised events taking place. For example, the data for each of the Trust's points shows a notable decline in 2008 which was probably due to a poor summer. As more data becomes available at more sites, the trends may become clearer.

The Swansea Environmental Events leaflet has been produced each year since 2000 (see also EA2) and many of the events listed relate specifically to biodiversity. The proportion of biodiversity-related events has varied decreasing from almost 50% in 2005 to just 24% in 2009, partly as a wider range of environmental activities were included in the listings. The number and proportion of biodiversity events does appear to have increased significantly in more recent leaflets. In each of the last two years, there have been two editions produced which has enabled additional events to be included. (It should be noted that the assessment of what actually constitutes a biodiversity event is not cut and dry but generally excludes events where the focus is on heritage, waste, food, art and craft or the general enjoyment of the countryside.)

It has been agreed that one of the indicators previously included for this strategic priority – 'Number of wildlife sites with interpretative information' – is not easily or effectively measurable and so it has therefore been discontinued.

An additional indicator is being considered which would build on baseline data collected for the recent assessment of accessible natural green space in Swansea. This indicator might be based on the proportion of people in Swansea that live within 300 metres of an accessible semi-natural green space of at least 1 hectare in size.

## **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

SEEF (Swansea Environmental Education Forum) and the Council's Nature Conservation Team commissioned and published a comprehensive local best practice guide for school grounds and launched it at a successful teachers' conference in March 2011.

The Down to Earth Project, using an AONB Sustainable Development Fund grant, worked with several schools on Gower, developing sustainable school grounds and outdoor learning spaces/classrooms. The Down to Earth Project has also continued to provide regular volunteer opportunities in practical conservation, traditional/sustainable farming and building, with approx. 100 beneficiaries per year. It has also promoted sustainable tourism through a programme of courses in traditional/sustainable building and adventure activities on Gower, with approx. 150 beneficiaries per year.

Funding was sought, but not secured, for an outdoor learning development officer but the SEEF outdoor learning directory was updated and republished by the Council's Nature Conservation Team. CCW commissioned research into out-of-classroom learning in the Swansea area and a report was published with a long list of recommendations, though most of these are yet to be implemented.

The Communities and Nature Project – a CCW-managed and Convergence-funded scheme to increase economic growth associated with the natural environment – has grant-aided a number of schemes in Swansea which have engaged communities in and facilitated wildlife sites' management work. For example, the Swansea Nature Network project, run by the Council's Nature Conservation Team has, to date, involved the training of 11 volunteer wardens who are now actively supporting the 11 selected CAN sites, and has established a pool of approx. 20 regular volunteers that join monthly task days on the sites.

Funding has been secured through the Rural Development Plan to enable the Council's Nature Conservation Team to establish the Countryside Connections project which provides opportunities for people in rural parts of Swansea to access, enjoy and look after their natural environment.

BTCV has continued to be a key provider of volunteering opportunities within the Swansea area, supporting almost 5,000 volunteer hours in the past two years. Much of their work has been at the Llys Nini site, where they have established a local delivery unit (see also EA3) as part of a Communities and Nature project. A number of nature and heritage trails have been established at Llys Nini.

Mumbles Development Trust has maintained the Mumbles Green Action Team and organised volunteer activities such as woodland management, litter picks, beach cleans and guided walks. The trust has also engaged local schools, the Gower College Learning Support Department and the local HSBC Community Initiatives team in woodland management tasks and tree planting.

A successful programme of local events was run during Wales Biodiversity Week 2011 and 2012. The Gower Walking Festival, organised by the Mumbles Tourist Information Centre, has gone from strength to strength.

The Wales Coast Path, including around Gower, has been completed, bar a few small stretches requiring improvements. A Gower Coastal Path leaflet has been published.

Cycling and walking leaflets for Gower and Mawr has also been produced with RDP funding.

The annual environmental events leaflet has been developed with two editions being produced in both 2011 and 2012 (see above).

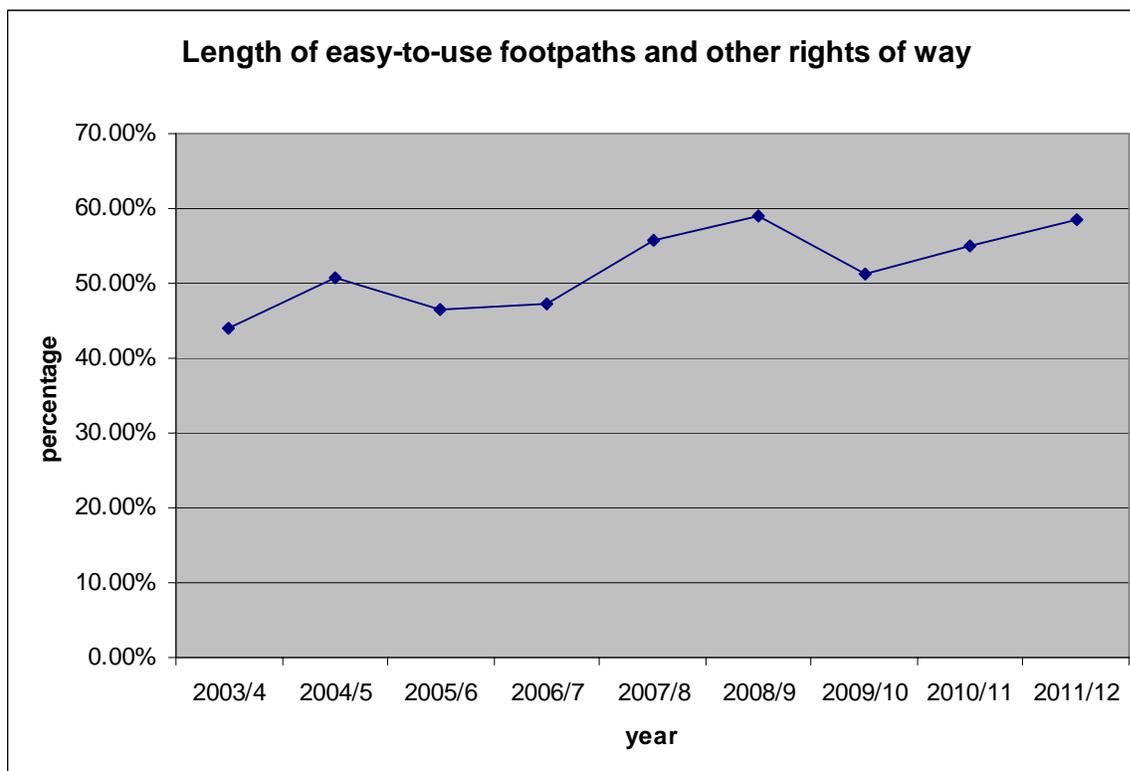
The Penllergare Trust has made great strides in Penllergare Valley Woods: undertaking extensive woodland management work, including the construction of new pathways; commissioning ecological surveys; developing trails and publishing a trails leaflet; engaging a large number of volunteers and planting over 10,000 trees; setting-up a Woodland Centre and expanding its Wild for Woods schools programme (see EA1).

Swansea Environmental Forum collaborated with Transition Swansea and the Council's Environment Department to establish a community gardening / edible land project – Swansea Grows Greener. SEF secured a grant from the Welsh Government's Local Environmental Quality fund to help initiate three pilot community growing schemes – Vetch Veg in Sandfields (a project being co-ordinated by the Taliesin as part of the Cultural Olympiad), Fairfield Allotments in Townhill (that had fallen into disuse) and Garth Farm (the Council's former tree nursery). A community growing networking group was established bringing together representatives from interested voluntary group and various Council services, including parks, nature conservation, housing and community regeneration. Transition Swansea provided advice and support for several local community growing projects (see EA3).

The Nature Conservation Team has produced 5 ecosystem displays, a new leaflet for Bishops Wood LNR and, in conjunction with the local community association, a leaflet for Crwys Community Woodland. Recently, an interpretation plan and a leaflet for Swansea Bay have also been produced.

The Friends of Bishop's Wood has been developed and involves about 30 people.

The Council secured funding from the Better Woodlands for Wales fund, administered by Forestry Commission Wales, and the Heritage Lottery Fund to make improvements to infrastructure, access, recreation facilities and interpretation in Clyne Valley Country Park. A new nature trail – the Ynys Newydd Trail – and a new adventure play area have been established by the entrance near the Derwen Fawr Civic Amenity Site. A planned leaflet for Clyne Valley Country Park has been put on hold until ground works associated with the development of a BMX track have been completed. The Clyne Valley Community Project was set up in 2010 as a local voluntary group to work with Swansea Council on improving access and encouraging use and enjoyment of the Country Park.



## BE1: Improve the quality and attractiveness of the city centre, other settlements, neighbourhoods and streetscapes

### SUMMARY

Some significant redevelopment work is underway in Swansea city centre and some outlying settlements and there is evidence to suggest that street cleanliness and public satisfaction with their local neighbourhoods has improved.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Regeneration, Streetscene)  
Keep Wales Tidy  
City Centre Partnership

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Percentage of public satisfaction with their local area</b> (Swansea Voices Survey - v.good/ f.good)	91%	91%	93%	-	93%	-
<i>Neighbourhood - general cleanliness</i>	72%	67%	70%	-	79%	-
<i>Neighbourhood - overall appearance</i>	73%	68%	70%	-	80%	-
<i>City Centre - general cleanliness</i>	66%	43%	61%	-	-	58%
<i>City Centre - overall appearance</i>	41%	36%	46%	-	-	41%
	<b>2006/7</b>	<b>2007/8</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
<b>Percentage cleanliness at high standard</b> (LEAMS A, B+ and B)	91.7%	91.2%	92.5%	93.7%	92.6%	93.0%
<i>Cleanliness Index</i>	-	65.95	65.7	65.2	67.75	64.61

The most recent Swansea Voices Survey data relating to neighbourhoods shows satisfaction rates have remained high. Ratings for cleanliness and overall appearance in neighbourhoods have notably improved whilst the similar ratings for the City Centre have remained about the same.

The second primary indicator is based on an annual inspection using the Local Environmental Audit Management System (LEAMS) grading system and the percentage of sites at grade B or above. This clearly improved over the past few years and Swansea is now above the average for local authorities in Wales. The Cleanliness Index for Swansea improved in 2010/11 but fell back in 2011/12.

Keep Wales Tidy has developed a new survey methodology that looks at the overall quality of streets (SQL). The process measures a variety of issues that affect a street's quality and weights them according to public perception of their impact e.g. dog fouling has a higher weighting than weeds. If this system is used in Swansea then this may become a useful indicator.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The preparation of the Local Development Plan (LDP) has progressed with the main actions to date being the preparation of a thorough and sound evidence base and initiating the Candidate sites process. A Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report has been published to reflect the information sourced to inform the Plan. A number of studies are ongoing or will be commissioned in the near future including: Retail Capacity Study; Economic Strategy and Employment Land Review; Population and Household Analysis; Strategic Housing Market Assessment; Affordable Housing Viability Study; Landscape Assessment and Open Space Assessment. The draft vision, strategic objectives and growth options are expected to go out for consultation from June to September 2012. Work is also currently ongoing in producing Topic Papers of key subject areas which will inform the formulation of LDP policies.

The Picton Lanes Initiative has been initiated as the adopted regeneration strategy for that part of the city centre with four strands: public realm enhancement, development of the Oxford Street car park,

building enhancement, and branding and promotion of the area. To date public realm enhancements have been largely completed, a number of grant-assisted building enhancement projects have been completed and there has been a launch of the Independent Quarter – an initiative to highlight the independent businesses which operate in the area. The development of the car park has been delayed due to market conditions.

Work has been progressing with the Urban Village in Swansea High Street, a major mixed use development being undertaken by Coastal Housing Group.

The Tawe Bridges project has been completed to facilitate improvements to traffic flows, and advance works for the extensive Boulevard scheme have been completed at the bottom of Wind Street and Westway. Detailed design work is ongoing and it is anticipated the works between the Princess Way junction and the Tawe Bridges will be undertaken in two phases during 2012-13. The final scheme will bring environmental improvements and improve the look of this important artery, whilst providing enhanced pedestrian and cycle facilities.

The current regeneration agenda in the Western Valleys include a Town Improvement Grant (TIG) scheme in Pontarddulais and Clydach with up to 65% grant assistance available to support enhancements of commercial properties in the town centres. The Council has short-listed eligible properties and is now looking to develop proposals. An Environmental Enhancement Programme is running concurrently in Pontarddulais and will include new street furniture, public lighting, upgraded paving and public art.

A programme of infrastructure works including strategic landscaping is being delivered to create a strategic business park at Felindre utilising significant ERDF and WG funding. Consultants were appointed in May 2011 to design, deliver and project manage the infrastructure works and coordinate delivery of the associated landscaping works. The provision of the foul water sewer infrastructure has already been completed, while construction of the primary electricity sub station has commenced and is programmed for completion by November 2012.

The Ice House Square lighting artwork, *Lightlines*, was switched on at the end of 2011 and community arts projects have taken place in the Eastside, funded as part of the SA1 Public Art Strategy.

Many local community groups, such as Mumbles Development Trust and the Swansea Canal Society, have been undertaking litter picks, tree planting and other projects to improve the appearance of local neighbourhoods. Keep Wales Tidy, and the local authority, continue to support local community activities, such as litter picks, through the Tidy Towns initiative. A Streetscene approach has been introduced by the Council for highway maintenance and street cleansing.

## BE2: Promote sustainable buildings and more efficient use of energy

### SUMMARY

An increasing number of new developments and refurbishment projects in Swansea are incorporating energy efficiency and other sustainable building measures. Carbon emissions are beginning to be monitored and reduction targets achieved.

**GREEN**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Housing, Corporate Building & Property Services)  
Low Carbon Swansea Partnership  
Housing Associations / Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
<b>SAP rating for housing in Swansea</b>	- private housing	79	-	64	68	61		
	- social housing	61	-	55	54	-		
<b>Number of developments meeting Ecohomes or BREEAM standards (excellent or very good)</b>		7 (6)	15 (13)	24 (18)	33 (25)	34 (26)		
		2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in CCS corporate buildings (average tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>/M<sup>2</sup>)</b>		0.069	0.067	0.066	0.065	0.064	0.063	0.062

SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating is a calculation of the energy efficiency of homes using a sophisticated modelling system. The methodology was changed in 2008 so the figures for 2009 and 2010 cannot be compared to the 2007 figures. The methodology changed again for the 2011 figure. The SAP rating for social housing relates only to Council housing stock. Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) data from let properties is fed into the model. The SAP rating for private housing was established as part of the Private Sector House Condition Survey conducted in 2010, and is based on a sample of 1,000 properties.

BREEAM is an environmental assessment method for buildings and is managed by the BRE (formerly the Building Research Establishment). It involves a scoring system with a five star scale – Pass, Good, Very Good, Excellent and Outstanding. The number of developments in Swansea that meet the BREEAM standard continues to increase.

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from CCS corporate buildings continue to reduce. CCS registered as a participant in the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) in September 2010 and has developed a reporting system to ensure compliance. In 2011, the Council also included energy consumption and carbon emissions in its Annual Statement of Accounts, for the first time, one of the first local authorities in Wales to do so. Scope 1 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (from fossil fuel used in buildings and the Council's own vehicles) dropped from 48,622 tonnes in 2009/10 to 45,118 in 2010/11.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The Council secured significant funding through the Arbed programme (a Welsh Government initiative to tackle climate change, help eradicate fuel poverty and boost economic development and regeneration). The Swansea scheme was focused on energy efficiency improvements in over 300 properties in Clydach, Pontarddulais and Hafod. Though this was a cross-tenure scheme, 60% of the funding was applied to Council housing stock and included the installation of new boilers, external wall insulation, draught-proofing measures and fuel switching (to mains gas supply). The Council was also successful in securing funding through CESP (Community Energy Saving Programme) and CERT (Carbon Emission Reduction Target) to match Arbed funding, and also through the CERT to provide loft insulation in suitable Council homes during 2012. The Council has also upgraded heating control systems and installed automatic lighting controls in some of its non-domestic properties.

Swansea Environmental Forum established the Low Carbon Swansea project to raise the profile of carbon management and provide a coordinated approach to reducing carbon emissions across Swansea, primarily through sharing information and good practice. The initiative was adopted as a Swansea Local Service Board project and has received funding from Environment Agency Wales and the Welsh Government, enabling SEF to employ a project manager for two years from April 2012. A Low Carbon Swansea Partnership has been formed, initially involving representatives of LSB bodies and other major public sector organisations. This group met twice in 2011/12.

Coastal Housing Group completed their SA1 waterfront development constructed to meet CSH level 4, with a shared energy scheme and a 'brown roof'. The housing association also completed the refurbishment and rooftop extension of former Barons Night Club to CSH level 3+ and the development of 112 homes in Cwmfelin to Ecohomes standard, with a pilot of 6 flats to CSH level 3+.

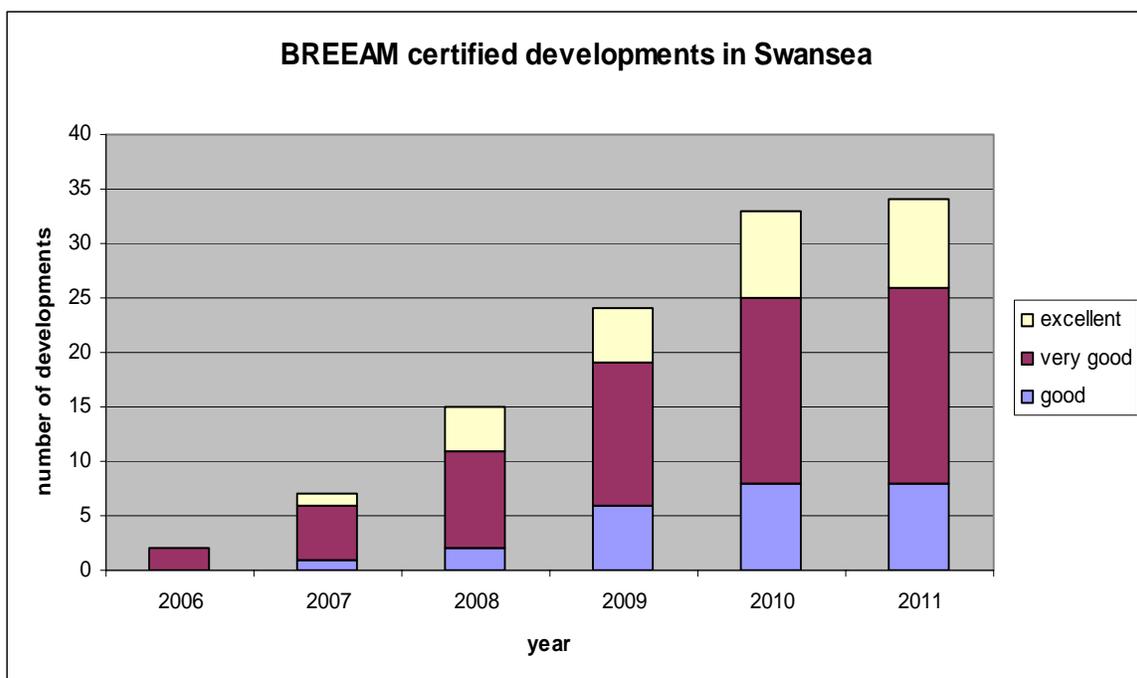
Family Housing provided social housing in St.Thomas to CHS level 3+ with solar water heating and heat recovery units, and a supported housing development in Swansea High Street with a combined heat and power unit and under floor heating. The association also secured significant Arbed, CESP and CERT funding (over £1,700,000) which enabled them to undertake external wall insulation, fuel switching, boiler upgrades, solar hot water and solar PV installations.

Swansea Metropolitan University installed an array of 45 PV panels to roof of Mount Pleasant campus library to generate 8kW of energy, and installed 3 solar water heating panels and a grey water reuse system at the Townhill campus. Having piloted rainwater harvesting successfully on two halls of residence on the Townhill campus, they intend to expand this to the whole site by 2014. They have also trialled waterless urinals successfully and now have a rolling programme to install these in all heavy footfall areas across all campuses

Gower College Swansea has installed 24 PV panels at the Tycoch campus, and is planning further installations to aid teaching. The CHP has been reintroduced at the Gorseinon Belgrave Road campus and new heating controls have been installed at the Tycoch site.

Groundwork Trust, with RDP funding, is running a Positive Energy programme in the rural areas of Swansea involving workshops and presentations to schools and community groups on energy issues.

Various proposals for a tidal lagoon in Swansea Bay have been put forward by different bodies in the past few years. There has been a notable increase in domestic solar installations (approx. 500 panels were installed between March 2010 and December 2011, according to data listed on the Regional Learning & Skills Observatory), probably due at least in part to the successful FITs scheme. Some proposals for larger, commercial solar arrays are also emerging.



## BE3: Ensure the supply of high-quality, affordable and social housing within mixed, settled and inclusive communities

### SUMMARY

The supply of housing in Swansea, including affordable and social housing, is not meeting current or future demands. Though improvements continue to be made to the social housing stock, the Welsh Housing Quality Standard is still not being met.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Housing, Planning, Environmental Health)  
Housing Associations / Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Proportion of social housing meeting WHQS (council / RSLs)</b>	-	-	-	-	- / 38%	-	-
<i>Proportion of new housing that is affordable</i>	2%	2%	9%	29%	17%		-
<i>Number of affordable homes built</i>	13	12	102	299	124	104	257
<i>Number of homelessness preventions</i>	-	-	-	632	797	866	910
<b>Proportion of private housing left vacant</b>	4.41%	3.40%	3.59%	3.47%	3.24%	3.27%	2.56%
<b>Number of homes brought back into use and problem buildings demolished or renovated (total since 2005/6)</b>	9	16	39	61	88	117	156

Swansea Council has not yet been able to provide data on Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) compliance of its housing stock as a complete stock condition survey is still being undertaken – due to be completed by July 2012. The Council continues to make significant investments in improving its housing stock but full compliance with WHQS is still a major challenge.

The figure for local registered social landlords (or housing associations) achieving WHQS by the end of 2009/10 was derived from figures provided in a Wales Audit Office report, published in January 2012. Gwalia had achieved 47% compliance by 31st March 2010 and predicted full compliance by the end of 2014/15. Family Housing achieved 31% compliance and predicted full compliance by end of 2012/13. Coastal Housing Group achieved 32% compliance and had predicted full compliance by the end of 2013/2014 but has instigated an accelerated programme aiming to complete a year earlier. The combined figure took into account the number of properties for each RSL. (It should be noted that these figures relate to each RSL's whole housing stock, not just those located within Swansea).

The local authority was only able to provide a combined figure for the proportion of new housing that is affordable between 1st April 2009 and 31st March 2011 and as yet doesn't have the figure for 2011/12. The 2007-11 target for new affordable housing units, outlined in the Council's Affordable Housing Delivery Statement, was not met. This was primarily attributed to the economic downturn and the significant reduction in new housing developments coming forward.

The economic downturn and the consequential reduction in supply of housing have had a notable impact on the level of homeless presentations (people presenting themselves as homeless). Because of the shortage of social housing in Swansea, the Council has focussed on early prevention work in Housing Options, a service which provides advice on the range of opportunities and support available. The new secondary indicator included above – '*Number of homelessness preventions*' – refers to the number of people going through the Council's Housing Options service who receive advice and support to enable them to avoid homelessness.

The level of empty properties in Swansea has continued to fall and the Council has continued to deal with disused homes and other problem buildings. Funding for the Council's Empty Property Officer was cut in 2011-12 but the post was reinstated in April 2012. The Welsh Government has launched the Houses to Homes initiative which will offer property owners interest-free loans to help bring privately owned empty properties back into use.

### **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

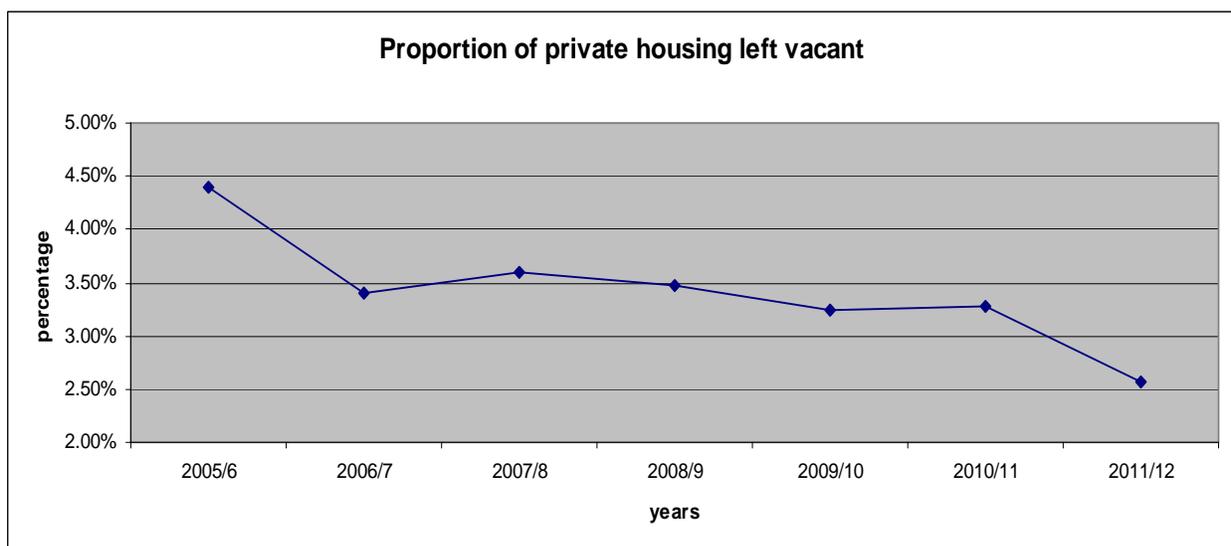
The Private Sector House Condition Survey 2010, commissioned by the local authority, included assessments under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) and the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) and highlighted the substantial cost of remedial works that would be required to meet the standards. The study also suggested that fuel poverty is experienced by 15% of private households in Swansea (12,900 households). Though this figure appears to be lower than the Welsh average (26% in the Living in Wales survey 2008) it does not include social housing where the figure would be expected to be significantly higher.

The Hafod Renewal Area programme continued and is expected to be completed by March 2013. The Private Sector House Condition Survey will be used to help determine the focus for housing renewal in future years. The Council has continued to provide Homefix Loans (approx. 50 in the past two years) and to undertake disabled adaptations works (approx. 1,000 adaptations each year).

The Council is currently developing a new Local Housing Strategy (2012-2017) which is expected to be published in January 2013.

The new Empty Property Strategy, referred to in the last action plan, has been delayed and is now expected to be introduced by end 2012. The Council enforced the sale of four properties but more work needs to be done on this with corporate procurement before preferred purchasers can be used. The last action plan also included the Council's intention to identify a high priority empty property for compulsory purchase order procedure but no suitable property was identified.

Local housing associations have completed a number of developments in the past two years to provide affordable housing. For example, Grwp Gwalia developed 14 affordable flats for older residents at the site of former Health Centre, Clydach and 26 affordable flats on the site of the former Roma Fish Bar in Gorseinon; Coastal Housing Group provided 112 homes in Cwmfelin; and Family Housing provided social housing elements in the Viridian development in St. Thomas and completed a supported housing development in Swansea High Street, which is now managed by Cyrenians.



## BE4: Protect and promote historic buildings and heritage sites

### SUMMARY

Some major heritage projects are underway in Swansea and a new group has been formed to help raise the profile of Swansea's heritage and support collaborative work.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Planning, Regeneration, Culture and Tourism)  
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)  
Swansea Civic Society  
Swansea Built Heritage Group

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Percentage of buildings at each level on the 'Buildings at Risk' register</b>	<i>not at risk</i>	-	71.95%	-	-	-
	<i>vulnerable</i>	-	20.31%	-	-	-
	<i>at risk</i>	-	7.74%	-	-	-
<b>Number of venues / visitors in 'Open House' events</b>		31/1,000	43/1,500	50/1,750	35/1,300	25/1,100

A Buildings at Risk survey for the whole of Wales was carried out by Cadw in 2008 and this study provides the only data available for the first indicator. The local authority's Building Conservation Team have been undertaking a condition review of properties identified as 'at risk' or 'vulnerable' – this process is ongoing. Cadw proposes a regular programme of 5-yearly surveys to feed into an all-Wales register of listed buildings at risk so it is anticipated that a further survey will take place in 2013.

The number of venues involved in the Open House events has reduced and, though the number of attendees is based on estimates from just a sample of venues, it appears that this has fallen too in recent years.

It has not been possible to collect data for the previously proposed indicator '*Number of historic buildings, heritage sites and character areas interpreted*' so it is suggested that this is no longer used.

Keep Britain Tidy has introduced a Green Heritage Award in England (part of the Green Flag system for parks and community green spaces) and is considering a similar scheme in Wales. If such a scheme is introduced in Wales, it may provide a useful additional indicator for this priority.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

A development study for Swansea Castle and the surrounding area was commissioned by the local authority and now funding is being sought for the hard landscaping of the Castle forecourt with new interpretation as the next step of improvement works in the area. The ultimate goal is to create a visitor centre on the site to allow daily public access to the Castle but this will be subject to being able to secure future funding. Extensive conservation works have been undertaken at Oystermouth Castle and a new visitor facility (Alina's Chapel) has been opened. Restoration work on Cwmdonkin Park was delayed but work has recently started.

Grwp Gwalia completed the refurbishment and conversion of the former Swansea Central Police Station (Grade 2 listed building) for provision of student accommodation, artists' studios, conference facilities, commercial offices and an arts cafe/bar.

The Penllergare Trust has secured tenure of the Penllergare Estate and significant HLF funding for restoring parts of the historic landscape of Penllergare Valley Woods over the next few years. It has already developed some Trails around the site and produced a trail leaflet.

The Gower AONB Design Guide was adopted as SPG in November 2011 and a printed version is expected to be published in June 2012. A Gower AONB Highways Design Good Practice Guide was also completed and published in December 2011.

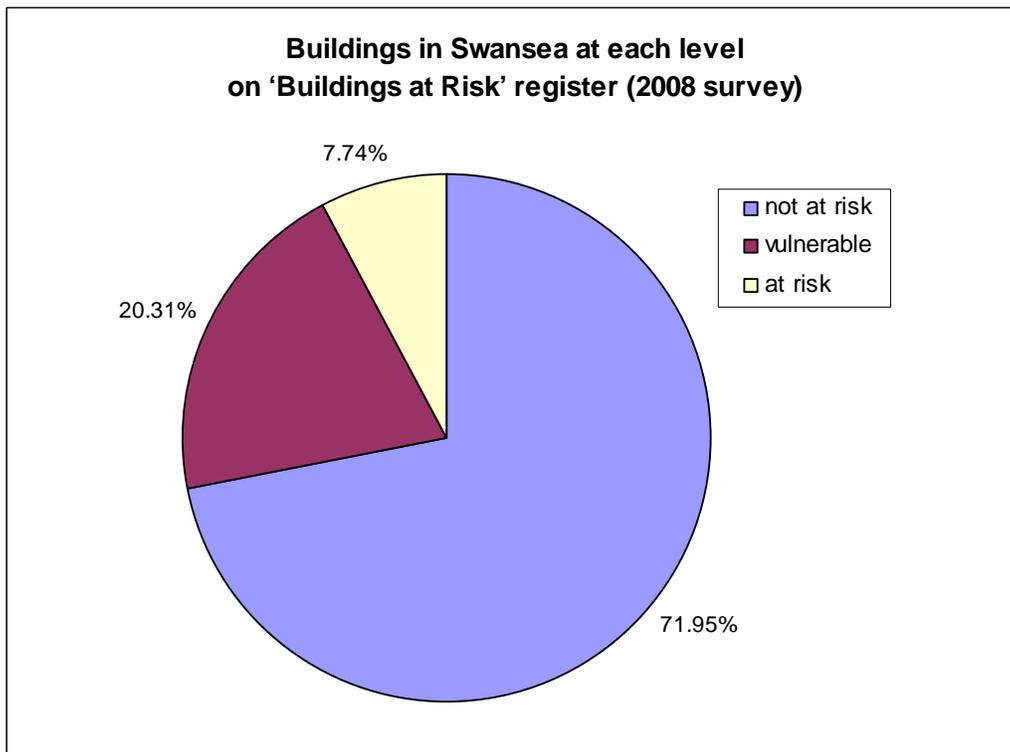
Glamorgan–Gwent Archaeological Trust, in collaboration with Cadw, has established a network of AFORDIR Volunteers to monitor the condition of sites and monuments around the coast in response to coastal erosion and sea-level rise.

The production of a series of heritage trails across Swansea and Gower, proposed in the last action plan, was not achieved as funding was not secured for this project.

In response to the last strategy review, in which the built heritage was highlighted as an area in need of greater prioritisation, SEF established a new Swansea Built Heritage Group to bring together interested individuals and representatives of local organisations such as GGAT, Swansea Civic Society, the Gower Society and the local authority. The inaugural meeting took place in July 2011 and was followed up in December 2011 with a planning workshop to explore what actions were needed. A 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the group took place in April 2012 to consider a proposal for setting up a Building Preservation Trust in Swansea.

Swansea Council and Swansea University have entered into a formal agreement that they will jointly explore the potential for redeveloping the Hafod Copperworks site. The first Swansea Copper Day took place in March 2011: a successful and very well attended celebration event with a comprehensive programme of talks and site tours. Channel 4s Time Team undertook a dig at the White Rock site in early 2012 which further raised awareness of the area.

The local authority has embarked on a programme of Conservation Area Appraisals, starting with the Ffynone area. The character of the Conservation Area will be appraised and then issues and opportunities for better managing that character will be identified. Residents, stakeholders and members of the Ffynone community were invited to two public meeting and workshop sessions in November 2011.



## WM1: Protect and improve river and ground water

### SUMMARY

A new more stringent system for assessing water quality in rivers and other water bodies has been introduced. Continued collaboration between key organisations is helping to address pollution sources and enable progress towards higher standards.

**AMBER**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Environment Agency Wales  
Dwr Cymru Welsh Water  
City and County of Swansea (Pollution Control)  
Swansea Bay Bathing Water Quality Working Group

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Percentage of watercourses achieving good status</b>	- <b>GQA chemical</b> (grades A+B)	81%	84%	77%	85%	94%	90%	-
	- <b>GQA biological</b> (grades A+B)	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	81%	-
<b>Percentage of water bodies at good ecological status (WFD)</b>		-	-	-	-	26%	29%	29%
Percentage of RQO compliance		73%	89%	82%	82%	91%	88%	-

Environment Agency Wales is no longer using the GQA system but is now assessing rivers according to the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The WFD system also covers estuaries, coastal waters, groundwater and lakes, as well as rivers. When compared to previous data sets, it looks as if our rivers have deteriorated. Fewer water bodies are meeting the required criteria under the new system because the standards set are higher and take into account a wider range of factors. The new system reports on over 30 measures, grouped into ecological status and chemical status, and use the principle of 'one out, all out' which means that the poorest individual result determines the overall classification. The new indicator '*Percentage of water bodies at good ecological status*' will replace both the GQA indicator and the RQO compliance indicator in future reviews.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The Swansea Bay Bathing Water Quality Working Group, a partnership between the local authority, Environment Agency Wales and Dwr Cymru Welsh Water, continues to make progress in identifying and tackling sources of diffuse pollution and misconnections in sewage and surface water systems. Two new officers were employed by the Council, with funding from Environment Agency Wales, to investigate misconnections.

Environment Agency Wales officers continue to visit industrial sites, e.g. Llansamlet and Fforestfach, to inform businesses of their obligations. The Agency also commissioned a survey of the drainage networks in Fforestfach and Crofty to assist in this work.

## WM2: Maintain and improve bathing and drinking water quality

### SUMMARY

A comprehensive research project involving extensive sampling and modelling should improve understanding of bathing water quality in Swansea Bay and enable authorities to target resources at improving water quality and complying with new regulations.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Pollution Control)  
Environment Agency Wales  
Dwr Cymru – Welsh Water

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Percentage of bathing waters at guideline standard</b>	87.5%	100%	87.5%	75%	87.5%	87.5%
<b>Number of Blue Flags / Green Coast Awards in Swansea</b>	4 / -	5 / 5	5 / 5	5 / 4	4 / 4	4 / 5
<i>- Wales</i>	45 / -	50 / 49	48 / 46	42 / 44	45 / 50	41 / 47

Seven of the eight designated bathing waters have continued to reach guideline standards but Swansea Bay still fails to meet the standard. The new standards being introduced under the Water Framework Directive will rate beaches as excellent, good, sufficient or poor and the directive requires that all beaches reach sufficient. Using the new modelling system, the Environment Agency Wales predict that in 2015 seven of Swansea's eight designated bathing waters will reach excellent standard but that Swansea Bay will be classed as poor.

The number of Blue Flags and Green Coast Awards in Swansea reduced from 10 in 2007 and 2008 to 8 in 2010 and then back to 9 in 2011. Across Wales, the total number of these awards has fluctuated in recent years but the number of Blue Flags has generally been falling. Though it is still to be agreed, it is likely that under the Water Framework Directive the excellent standard will be the requirement for Blue Flag status and this would make it more challenging to gain the Flag.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

A significant European grant was secured by Aberystwyth University, working in partnership with the City and County of Swansea and Environment Agency Wales, for extensive sampling and data collection in Swansea Bay to support the development of an accurate modelling system. This will enable the local authority to predict bathing water quality failures and make use of discounting within the WFD regulations. Procedures for informing the public on bathing water quality in compliance with the new directive still need to be established.

Though the Swansea Bay Bathing Water Quality Working Group has not been formally meeting over the past two years (while the research work has been going on), the partners (as in WM1) continue to make progress in dealing with the main sources of pollution affecting bathing water quality.

A conference on the management of Swansea Bay took place in September 2011. This event was organised by Swansea University's SEACAMS initiative, working in partnership with the local authority and SEF, and was very well attended by a wide range of stakeholders with interests as diverse as biodiversity, tourism, regeneration, archaeology and fisheries.

The local authority has implemented a new private water supply inspection programme that incorporates a risk assessment based approach and a charging scheme, in line with new regulations.

## WM3: Restrict development on flood plains, reduce flood risk and improve flood awareness

### SUMMARY

Awareness of flood risk appears to be improving and the number of properties at high risk in Swansea has fallen. Continued flood awareness campaigns, informed planning controls and a major project in the Lower Swansea Valley will bring further progress.

**GREEN**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Environment Agency Wales  
City and County of Swansea (Planning)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2005	2007	2010	2012
<b>Number of properties at high risk of flooding</b>	4,429	-	4,589	4,216
<i>Percentage of properties at risk from flooding</i>	4.1%	-	4.1%	3.7%
<i>Percentage of at risk properties on flood warning system</i>	-	8%	56%	67%

The number of properties in Flood Zone 2 (with a 1,000 to 1 chance of flooding in any year) has decreased to 4,216 and has dropped to below 4%. According to 2008 data listed on the Regional Learning & Skills Observatory the percentage for Swansea is much lower than for most other counties in the South-west Wales region.

The number of properties in Swansea registered to the flood warning service has increased to 2,841 (67% of those at risk) – a slightly lower proportion than had been targeted.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

According to the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report produced as part of the Local Development Plan process, in the twelve months to 31st March 2009, 182 new units were constructed on land areas identified by the Environment Agency as susceptible to flooding.

More effective and sophisticated modelling has enabled Environment Agency Wales (EAW) to gain a better understanding of flood risk in the Swansea area, particularly in the areas of the Lower Tawe catchment and Black Pill. The EAW through their Welsh Government funded flood awareness campaign are undertaking extensive face to face and community based awareness sessions to ensure a better understanding and preparedness for flooding in the Swansea area. This work is expected to continue until at least April 2013.

CCS has commissioned a Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment (SFCA) be undertaken to inform the forthcoming Local Development Plan utilising the most up to date mapping data supplied by EAW. The main objective of the SFCA is to identify and assess the sources of flooding on a strategic scale, including fluvial, groundwater, drainage, overland flow and from artificial sources.

The local authority is working in partnership with Environment Agency Wales and has secured significant funding for a flood scheme in the Lower Swansea Valley. The Flood Risk Management Project will involve physical works including the removal of the north bank of the river (near the caravan park), the raising of some flood defences and the removal of bridges. A new web page has been set-up on the Council's website and a key part of the project involves consulting and working with businesses and residents in the area.

## WM4: Restore contaminated land ensuring minimum risks to the environment and public health

### SUMMARY

The restoration of contaminated land in Swansea continues to be achieved through development projects rather than a proactive programme of work. The mapping of contaminated land remains incomplete.

RED



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Pollution Control)  
Environment Agency Wales

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2007	2010	2012
<b>Area of contaminated land remaining in Swansea (hectares)</b>	2,172	2,149	(2,149)

The latest estimate of the area of contaminated land remaining in Swansea is that it has remained the same for the past few years. The figures are approximations based on the redevelopment of contaminated sites. Though some redevelopments have been undertaken over the past two years, it has not been possible to verify completion and take the remediation on these sites into account as there is currently no system in place to do this. Further resourcing may be necessary to enable data to be generated for this indicator.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The economic climate has resulted in a slowing down of developments though some works have been ongoing in SA1 and other areas of Swansea.

A proposed review of the local authority's Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy has not been undertaken and the map of contaminated sites has not been completed or made accessible to the public.

Welsh Government funding for dealing with contaminated land has been cut so it is likely that the local authority will only be able to progress remediation work through planning and development. However, revised statutory guidance on the contaminated land was published in draft form in early 2012 and is likely to have some impact on the way contaminated land is dealt with by local authorities.

## WM5: Reduce waste going to landfill and increase reuse, recycling and composting

### SUMMARY

Recycling and composting in Swansea continue to increase, waste going to landfill is falling and fly tipping incidents are reducing. Recycling services are being improved and promoted to increase participation and meet ever more challenging targets.

**GREEN**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Waste Management)  
Swansea Waste Disposal Company  
Swansea Waste Forum

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Average household waste arising / municipal waste arisings</b> (kg per person)	521kg / 620kg	504kg / 609kg	476kg / 567kg	470kg / 551kg	438kg / 516kg	402kg / 472kg
<b>Percentage of municipal waste recycled, reused or composted</b>	29% (21% rec, 8% com)	30% (22% rec, 8% com)	32% (23% rec, 9% com)	35% (22% rec, 13% com)	40% (26% rec, 14% com)	45% (29% rec, 16% com)
<b>Percentage of waste at civic amenity sites that is recycled or composted</b>	31%	50%	54%	58%	59%	54%
<i>Percentage commercial waste recycled, reused or composted (CCS)</i>	15%	19%	18%	19%	17%	20%
<i>Amount of material reused</i>	195 tonnes	344 tonnes	519 tonnes	566 tonnes	447 tonnes	246 tonnes
<i>Percentage of LAS allowance used</i>	67%	69%	68%	67%	78%	73%
<b>Number of fly tipping incidents</b> (Wales)	7,401 (54,841)	7,323 (61,995)	5,081 (55,349)	4,042 (48,179)	2,902 (41,750)	2,003 (-)

Municipal recycling and composting rates have continued to steadily increase, primarily due to improvements to the kerbside collection scheme. Recycling rates from waste collected at amenity sites has steadily increased until a dip last year. Recycling figures for the Council's commercial collection have fluctuated around similar levels in recent years. (It should be noted that the figure for commercial waste does not include the recycling services provided by other operators).

The figure recorded for amount of material segregated for reuse has dropped in the past two years. This is now also included in the overall percentage of municipal waste recycling (though current levels of reuse have little effect, registering less than ½% of the total waste diverted from landfill).

The total waste arisings in Swansea have continued to fall (probably affected by the continuing economic downturn). One of the main drivers for diverting biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) from landfill is the *Landfill Allowance Scheme (LAS)* which sets an annual (and reducing) limit on the amount of BMW that each local authority in Wales can landfill. Swansea has kept well within the limit each year but this is likely to become increasingly challenging as the allowance reduces.

The reduction in fly tipping incidents in Swansea continues, dropping by 70% in the last 5 years. The rate of improvement has also exceeded that for Wales as a whole. In 2006/7, incidents in Swansea were 14% of the total in Wales but this fell to just 7% of the Wales total by 2010/11.

## **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

Kerbside plastic collections were introduced by the local authority in 2010 and fortnightly segregated waste collections, including kitchen waste, were rolled out across the City and County of Swansea in 2010–11. The local authority promoted waste reduction, reuse and greater recycling participation through surveys, road shows, door-knocking and extensive advertising campaigns. The Council Recycling Team also coordinated a Wise up to Waste week of events to promote positive attitudes to waste management, working in partnership with several organisations.

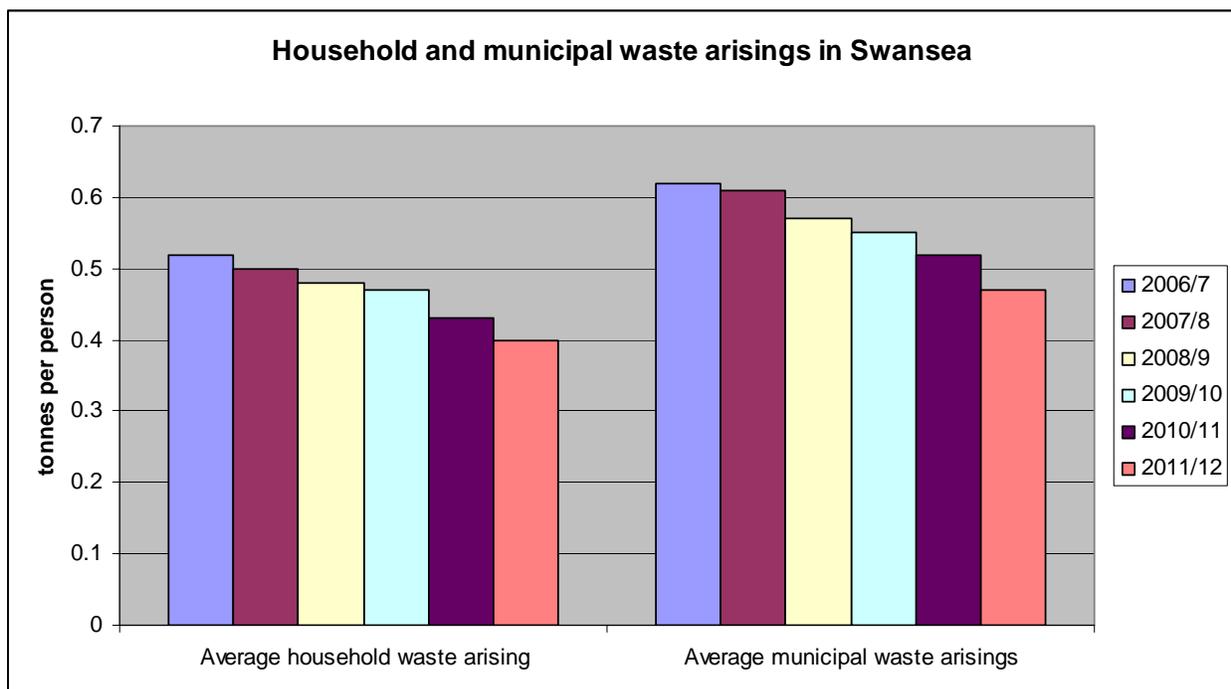
The Council has established the Swansea Waste Action Team (SWAT) who help sort through items from the bulky waste collection and either restore and pass on the furniture to local organisations for reuse, or strip them down for recycling. This is based at the Council's Clydach depot where a waste education classroom has also been set-up. The Recycling Team offer educational activities relating to waste, either at this facility or in schools. The Team also produces a regular schools newsletter and funded a theatre group roadshow to visit all primary schools in Swansea with a recycling message.

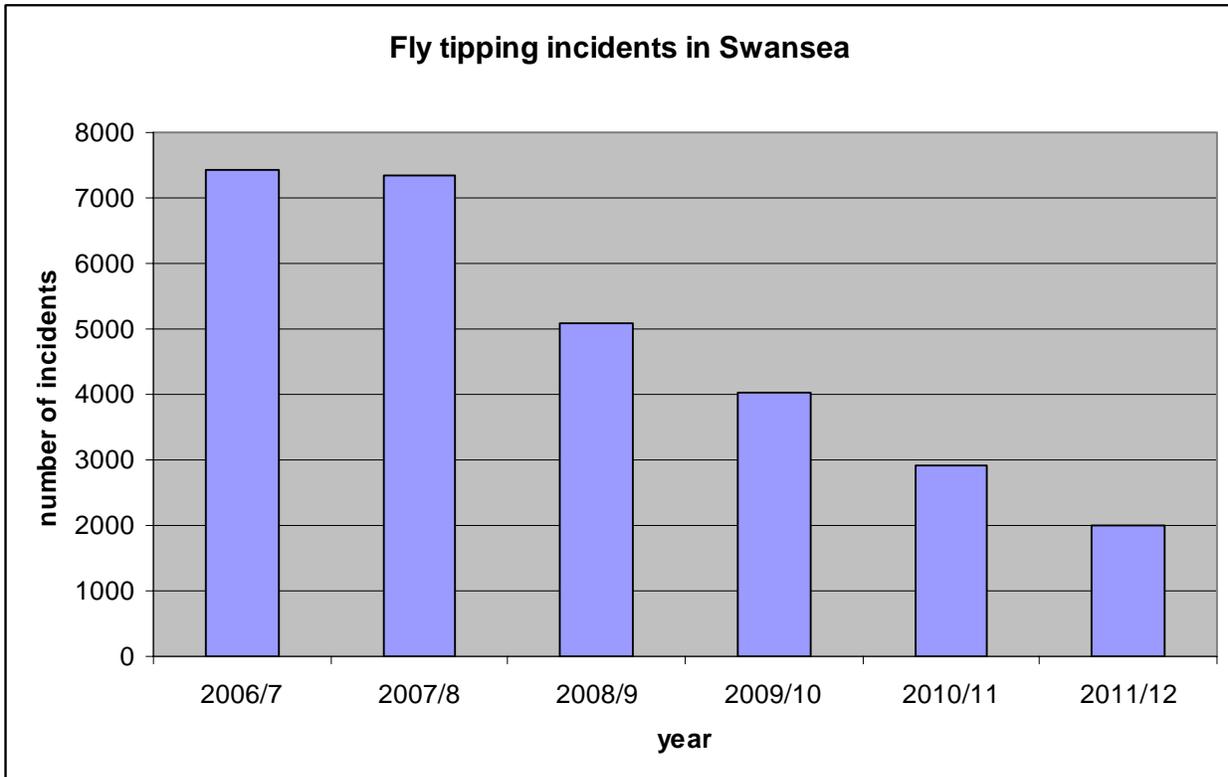
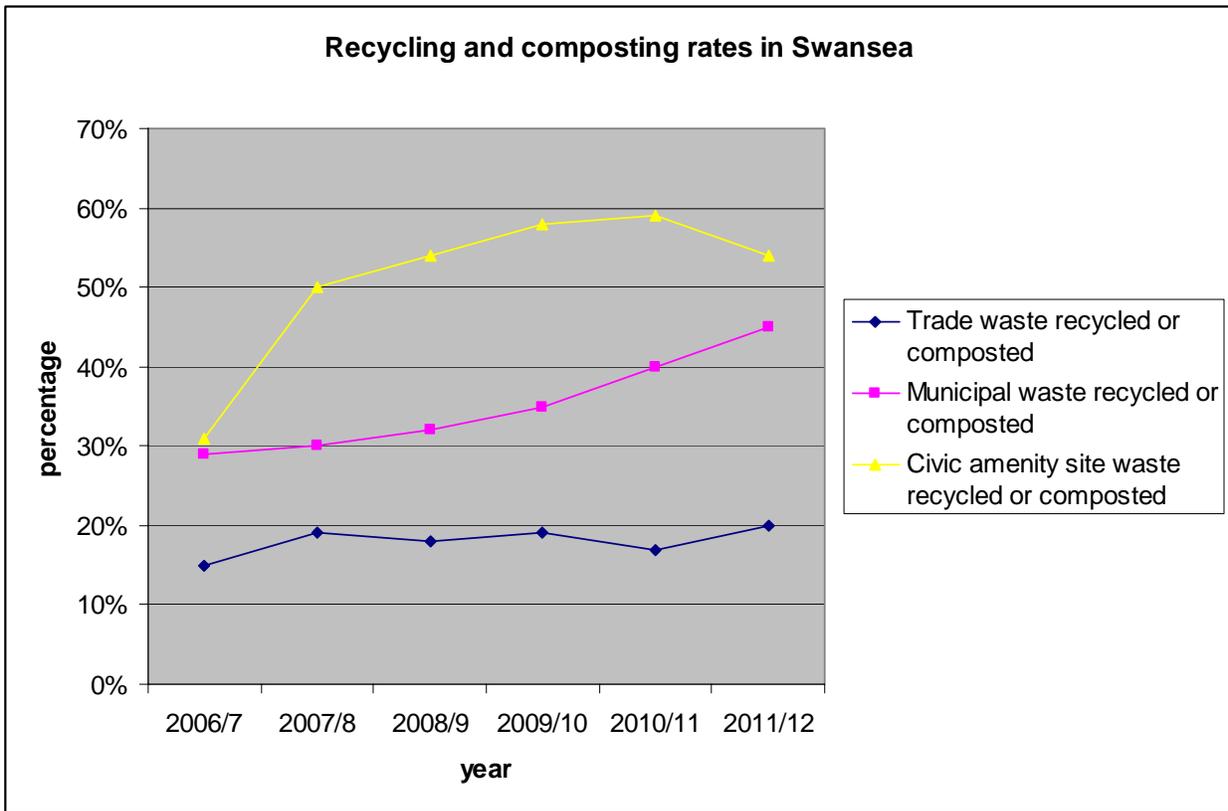
The Council runs an online Swap Shop where residents can exchange unwanted goods free of charge. Approximately 6,700 items have been placed on the web site and/or requested.

The Swansea Waste Forum has continued to meet on a regular (though less frequent) basis and arrange open meetings to discuss waste issues. Funding for the SCRAP coordinator post (which also supported the Forum) came to an end in 2011 but the local authority agreed to provide officer support to maintain the Forum website and arrange Forum meetings.

Environment Agency Wales, working with a range of local partners, established a new awareness-raising project – Stop Waste in Our Landscape – to address concerns about the disposal of building rubble and unwanted soil on Gower and the potential impact it may have on landscape, heritage and biodiversity features.

A new waste strategy for Wales – Towards Zero Waste – was launched in June 2010 and set out ambitious targets of reducing waste by around 1.5% (of the 2007 baseline) each year across all sectors in Wales and aiming for all sectors to be recycling at least 70% of their waste by 2025.





## **WM6: Provide and develop suitable sites and sustainable technologies for dealing with waste**

### **SUMMARY**

Plans are progressing for regional facilities to deal with food waste and residual waste.

**AMBER**



### **LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS**

City and County of Swansea (Waste Management)  
Swansea Waste Disposal Company  
Environment Agency Wales  
Regional Sustainable Waste Management Project Board

### **INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA**

No indicators have been agreed for this priority.

### **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

Considerable progress has been made in the Regional Procurement of food waste treatment utilising anaerobic digestion technology. This is being progressed through the Regional Sustainable Waste Management Project Board, involving six local authorities in South West Wales with Swansea as the lead authority for the procurement. The aim is to establish a hub for food waste treatment by 2014.

Similarly, an outline business case is now being developed to secure residual waste treatment for the region by 2018. The future of the Landfill site at Tir John is also under active consideration and is being progressed through the Tir John Programme Group, but will ultimately play less of a role as the strategy moves from landfill into treatment.

The in-vessel composter at the Baling Plant has been closed and the compostable waste is currently being exported outside the area.

The Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) introduced on April 2010 completely changed the waste exemption system.

A waste permit for the dismantling of ships has been granted to Swansea Drydocks.

A significant incident in 2011 was a fire at a storage facility in Fforestfach which was housing an illegal deposit of material – a by-product of tyre recycling.

## ST1: Promote more sustainable forms of travel and transport

### SUMMARY

Public transport facilities have been improved in Swansea but car use remains the dominant form of travel for most people, though there is some evidence that cycle use is increasing and park and ride patronage is holding up.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Transportation, Highways)  
 SWWITCH (South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium)  
 Sustrans  
 Wheelrights  
 BayTrans (Swansea Bay Sustainable Travel and Tourism Partnership)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Modal split</b> City Centre User Survey	car / p&r	56%	55%	57%	53%	49%	52%	-
	bus / train	24%	28%	27%	27%	30%	27%	-
	foot / cycle	17%	16%	14%	18%	20%	19%	-
<b>Modal split</b> SWWITCH Household Travel Survey (whole region)	car	-	68% (71%)	-	-	-	73% (63%)	-
	bus / train	-	11% (10%)	-	-	-	7% (9%)	-
	foot / cycle	-	19% (17%)	-	-	-	18% (27%)	-
		<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Number of cyclists using NCN</b>	Blackpill Lido	-	228,000	142,000	-	-		
	Clydach Connect2					6,000		
Cycle route counter data	Blackpill Lido	-	-	-	154,000	176,000	184,000	185,000
	Blackpill North	-	-	-	152,000	160,000	173,000	114,000
	Civic Centre				138,000	160,000	174,000	184,000
	Tawe Bridges				45,000	38,000	49,000	61,000
				<b>2003</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2011</b>
Main form of transport for shopping (SVS):	- car / van			69%	74%	77%	78%	66%
	- bus / train			11%	20%	13%	10%	19%
	- walking / bicycle			6%	14%	8%	8%	8%
	- park and ride			-	-	-	-	4%
	- other			14%	4%	2%	4%	3%
Main form of transport for leisure (SVS):	- car / van			66%	63%	67%	67%	58%
	- bus / train			11%	17%	13%	11%	19%
	- walking / bicycle			11%	20%	16%	19%	10%
	- park and ride			-	-	-	-	1%
	- other			12%	5%	4%	3%	12%
Main form of transport for work (SVS):	- car / van			69%	49%	61%	64%	43%
	- bus / train			11%	7%	9%	6%	13%
	- walking / bicycle			11%	9%	8%	11%	7%
	- park and ride			-	-	-	-	0%
	- other			9%	36%	21%	18%	37%

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Number using park and ride facilities</b>	208,512	255,552	304,235	334,440	320,986	297,068	309,435

As the last Council survey of transport modes on major routes in Swansea was carried out in 2005 and no further such surveys are planned, the first indicator under this strategic priority has been changed from 'Modal split on key routes into Swansea' to simply 'Modal split' with data from the City Centre User Survey and the SWWITCH Household Travel Survey being used. The first relates to travel specifically to Swansea city centre and it should be noted that the survey data does not include figures for cycling until 2009/10. The second indicator source relates to the general travel habits of those surveyed. A further SWWITCH Household Travel Survey is proposed for 2015/16, at the end of the current Regional Transport Plan (RTP) period.

The City Centre User Survey suggests there has been little change over the past six years in the way people travel to Swansea, with around half of those surveyed using the car or park and ride facilities. The Household Travel Survey shows that the car is used for 2/3rds of all journeys. Whilst at least 1/4 of those questioned in the City Centre Surveys said they travelled to the City by public transport, the figure is much lower for all journeys (indicated by the Household Travel Surveys).

The latest data collected through the Swansea Voices surveys suggests that travel by personal motor vehicle for shopping, leisure and work has decreased a little over the past 2 years, with the proportion of people using public transport almost doubling to match figures from the 2005 survey. The figures listed for 'other' include those that responded 'not applicable' or 'do not travel', which in relation to transport to work are quite high. (Please note that due to rounding, changes in categories, and some surveys allowing multi-responses, the sets of figures do not all add up to 100%).

The figures given for cyclists using the NCR (National Cycle Routes) are estimates based on Cycle Route User Surveys carried out by Sustrans at Blackpill (2006 and 2007) and in Clydach (2009). A further survey is expected to take place at Blackpill in 2012 and in Clydach once the Connect2 work is completed. The survey reports include detailed data about those surveyed, purpose of travel and factors influencing route usage, etc.

Council cycle counters are in place in several locations on cycle paths around the Swansea area. Data from four key locations (different to those in previous review report) is used – the data for Blackpill Lido providing a comparison with the Sustrans survey data. It is suggested that data from a new counter at Clydach will also be added in future reports. These approximate annual figures are derived from daily averages with any gaps in data being filled with averages from preceding and subsequent figures for the same month at the location. The figures show some fluctuation, largely attributed to weather conditions. Despite a string of poor summers, the data clearly shows a general upwards trend.

Patronage of the park and ride facilities in Swansea dipped in 2009 and 2010 but increased again in 2011. The Fforestfach site was closed for a month in early summer 2011 due to a nearby fire – reducing the total figure for the year by an estimated 5,000.

### **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

There have been major public transport infrastructure improvements: Swansea's new bus station was opened in December 2010 and the refurbishment of the High Street train station is well underway. Work has now also started on redoubling the rail track west of Swansea. A Swansea Voices Survey (13.3), undertaken in 2012, gave Swansea Bus Station a high rating with 95% rating its appearance as very or fairly good and 91% rating cleanliness as very or fairly good.

Another Swansea Voices Survey, undertaken in November 2011, included questions on the park and ride services with 23% of respondents saying they had used the park and ride services in the previous 12 months. Of those, only 6% used the service at least once a week and 53% used the service less than once a month. In the last action plan, there was a proposal to extend the Landore park and ride facility but this has not been undertaken, and a site for a park and ride facility in west of Swansea has still not been secured.

The cycle track 'missing link' in Loughor has been completed, and the Connect 2 cycle path project in Clydach has almost been completed but work on land access agreements for the remaining sections of the North Gower Trail are still ongoing.

Cycle parking stands have been installed in the Quadrant and St.David's car parks and cycle parking provision has been incorporated into the High Street train station refurbishments. The Council's pool bike scheme has also been developed.

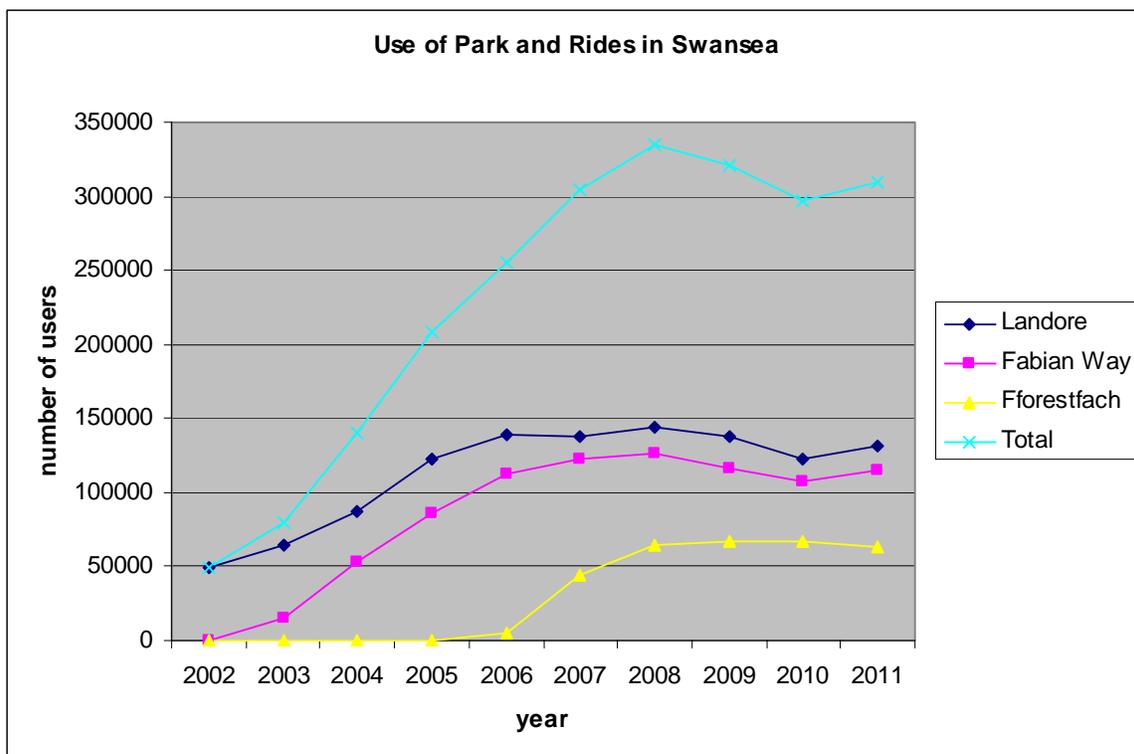
There has been an increase in the number of publications that promote cycling and the greater use of buses to access walks in rural areas of Swansea. For example, a cycling and walking leaflet for rural Swansea was published by the Council with funding through the RDP.

In Autumn 2010, the inaugural Gower Cycling Festival took place with a programme of cycle rides with a range of difficulty levels. This was organised by Wheelrights, working in partnership with the Council and other partners, and has become established as an annual event.

Bikability Wales continues to provide opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in cycling through the provision of a variety of cycles and cycling opportunities. A total of 4,900 people attended sessions to use cycles in the last year and 37 level 1 and 2 National Standards Cycle training sessions took place. Wheelrights also continues to provide cycling classes for adult beginners.

The aim to introduce a Swansea Bay Public Transport Tourist Ticket for local bus and train travel has still not yet been realised but it is perhaps not so necessary now as 95% of bus services are provided by First Cymru which offers an area wide rover ticket. The train station refurbishment has included the installation of screens providing bus information. Tactile map books are now also available at the bus and train stations to assist travellers that use Braille.

The number of local produce markets in the Swansea has increased (though some have come and gone) and a popular annual food fayre now takes place at the Gorseinon Centre – helping to reduce food miles. Swansea Rural Action undertook a research study looking at the capacity and needs of local agriculture and food sectors to supply local markets, publishing the study report in Autumn 2009. The group also organised a 'Meet the Producer' event in Swansea – held in Penclawdd in June 2010.



## ST2: Improve access to services, workplaces and community facilities

### SUMMARY

An increasing number of organisations and schools in the Swansea area are preparing and developing travel plans. Access to facilities within Swansea remains generally good but the frequency of public transport services to and from Swansea has fallen.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Transportation, Highways, Road Safety)  
SWWITCH (South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2006-2009		2010	2011	
<b>Number of organisations with local travel plan awards</b>	bronze	36		6	5	
	silver	16		4	3	
	gold	1		4	4	
	platinum	-		-	1	
<b>Number of schools with local travel plan awards</b>	bronze	10			5	
	silver	1				
	gold	1			1	
	platinum	-		-	-	
	<b>2006/7</b>	<b>2007/8</b>	<b>2008/9</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
<i>City Centre User Survey (very or fairly easy to access)</i>	89%	93%	95%	95%	96%	-
		<b>2003</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2011</b>
<i>Ease of getting to facilities and services (SVS – very or fairly easy)</i>						
		93%	95%	94%	92%	94%
	- local shopping facilities	87%	88%	82%	82%	85%
	- city centre shopping facilities	89%	93%	92%	91%	91%
	- GP	92%	92%	89%	90%	92%
	- parks and open spaces	88%	90%	88%	88%	92%
	- public transport (bus stop / train station)	63%	72%	66%	68%	71%
	- recycling facilities	62%	68%	63%	67%	66%
	- civic amenity site	77%	68%	66%	72%	82%
	- sport / leisure centre	75%	78%	76%	78%	77%
	- County Hall, Guildhall, council offices	88%	86%	84%	88%	72%
	- local library	79%	83%	80%	78%	77%
	- cultural facilities (cinema / theatre)	71%	78%	74%	78%	75%
	- local hospital	94%	96%	96%	96%	95%
	- pharmacy or chemist	62%	72%	64%	71%	71%
	- place of work					
			<b>2007</b>	<b>2010</b>		
	<i>Frequency of public transport services direct from Swansea to key regional settlements (bus / train)</i>		279 / 127	155 / 108		

SWWITCH has continued to organise annual travel plan award ceremonies and awarded 14 new awards in 2010 and 13 in 2011 to organisations based in or operating in Swansea – as in previous years, this is a large proportion of those awarded across the region. An annually-renewable Platinum level was introduced in 2009 to ensure Gold award winners continue their work – the first two of which were awarded in the 2011 ceremony (held in March 2012), and one of which was to a Swansea-based organisation.

Six schools are known to have developed travel plans in 2011, but it has not been possible to access

full information on school travel plans and other data related to the *Safe Routes in Communities* projects over the past two years due to the loss of the local authority's *Safe Routes in Communities* officer post.

The City Centre User Survey suggests ease of access to the City Centre has remained fairly constant over recent years. The latest Swansea Voices Survey data suggest that the proportion finding it easy to get to most local facilities and services has also remained roughly the same. Ease of access to sport / leisure centres has jumped up but access to local libraries has dropped.

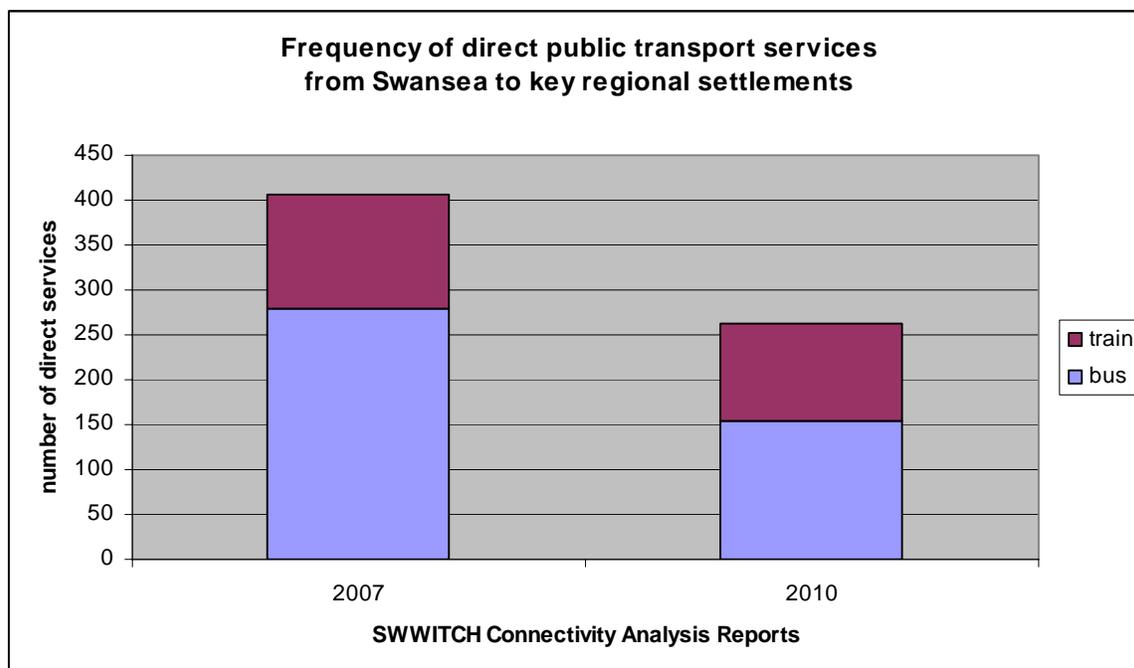
The Environment Strategy previously included '*Accessibility index for Swansea*' as an indicator under this strategic priority but with no existing data available or resources identified for developing such an indicator, it has now been withdrawn. Instead, a new secondary indicator relating to connectivity has been introduced – '*the frequency of direct train and bus services from Swansea to other key settlements in the south-west Wales region*', using data provided by SWWITCH. The data clearly shows a notable drop in frequency of both bus and train services between 2007 and 2010.

## **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

SWWITCH has established a Programme Management Group which meets monthly to oversee delivery of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) programme. During the first two years of delivery, all the allocations have been spent and in both years good performance has resulted in additional funding being made available. However, the scale of funding for RTPs across Wales is significantly below that which was expected and it has been suggested that there is no real prospect of any of the three tiers of programme set out in the RTP (preferred, second best or minimum) being completed.

The bus service operators' grant and the local transport service grant are both being cut by 25% in 2012/13 - this is expected to have a major impact on the frequency and range of services.

The Welsh Government's *Safe Routes in Communities* scheme funds capital works such as crossings, traffic calming measures, cycle paths, footpaths and secure cycle facilities. In 2010/11, *Safe Routes in Communities* projects took place in the Caemawr, Clase, Brynmill and Penclawdd communities but Swansea Council was unsuccessful in its bid for 2011/12 funding. However, the Council has received confirmation that it has been successful in its bid for a 2012/13 grant for a scheme in the Penlan Communities First area.



## ST3: Improve air quality and reduce air pollution

### SUMMARY

Air quality in Swansea continues to be a concern and the Air Quality Management Area has been extended to reflect an increased number of failures across the City.

RED



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Pollution Control)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Number of days when air pollution is moderate or higher</b>	138	58	142	126	108	59
<b>Number of roadside NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites exceeding annual mean limit</b>	-	17	23	28	57	(35)
<i>Number of roadside NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites close to exceeding annual mean limit</i>	-	10	14	10	26	(20)
<b>Number of PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring sites exceeding annual mean limit</b>	-	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of PM<sub>10</sub> monitoring sites exceeding annual mean limit</b>	-	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Number of PM<sub>10</sub> exceedences of 24-hour mean limit</i>	- Swansea AURN	7	6	4	0	5
	- Morfa	22	15	26	1	-
	- Morriston	10	12	6	1	9

Increase in NO<sub>2</sub> failures during 2010 resulted in parts of Sketty and Fforestfach being declared as AQMAs and merged with the existing Hafod AQMA – renamed The Swansea AQMA 2010.

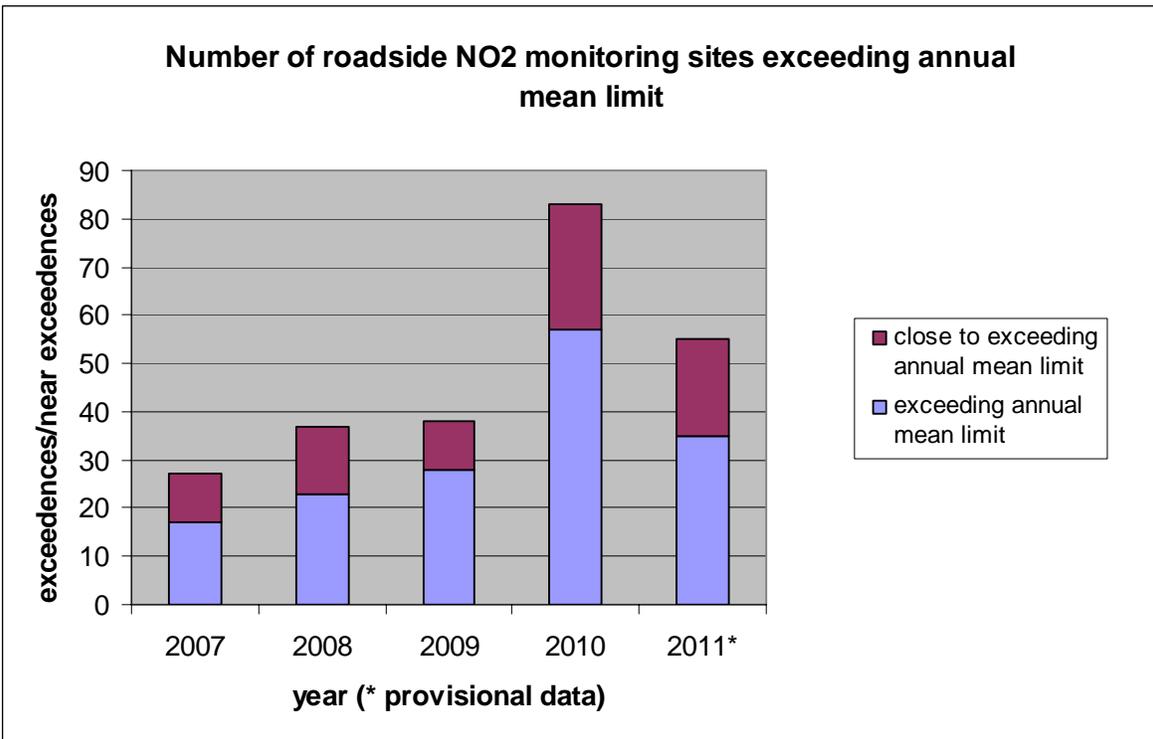
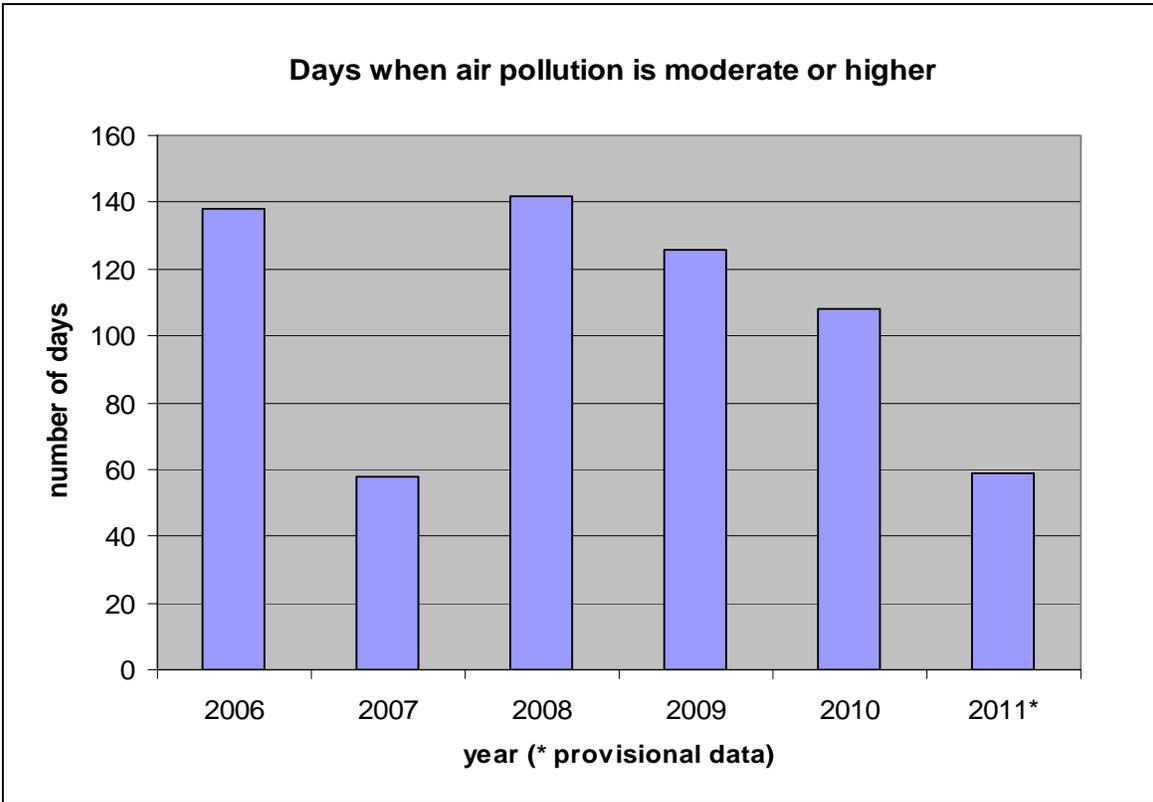
The NO<sub>2</sub> data for 2011, which is still provisional, may be impacted by the weather – Met data for that year suggests that conditions aided dispersion.

In 2011, the Morfa PM<sub>10</sub> station was relocated and is no longer part of the network. The PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> instruments in the Swansea AURN were replaced in November 2011, which may have affected the data. It has been suggested that in future reports 'close to exceeding limits' data for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, is included as is for NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The Air Quality Improvement Task Group met in September 2009 and February 2011, the latter meeting involving researchers from Swansea University. In March 2011, SEF arranged a seminar on Low Emission Zones, involving representatives of the transport and transportation sectors, to explore the possibility of introducing an LEZ in Swansea.

Funding has been secured, through the Boulevard development scheme, for roadside signs to warn of poor air quality and encourage traffic to divert to less polluted routes.



## ST4: Improve air quality monitoring and reporting mechanisms

### SUMMARY

A high level of air quality monitoring and reporting is being maintained in Swansea but proposed personal alerting systems are yet to be developed.

**AMBER**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

City and County of Swansea (Pollution Control)

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Number of NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring locations</i>	-	71	134	137	274	291 (211)
<i>Number of hits on Swansea Air Quality website</i>	163,139	168,538	202,668	211,791	186,343	202,545

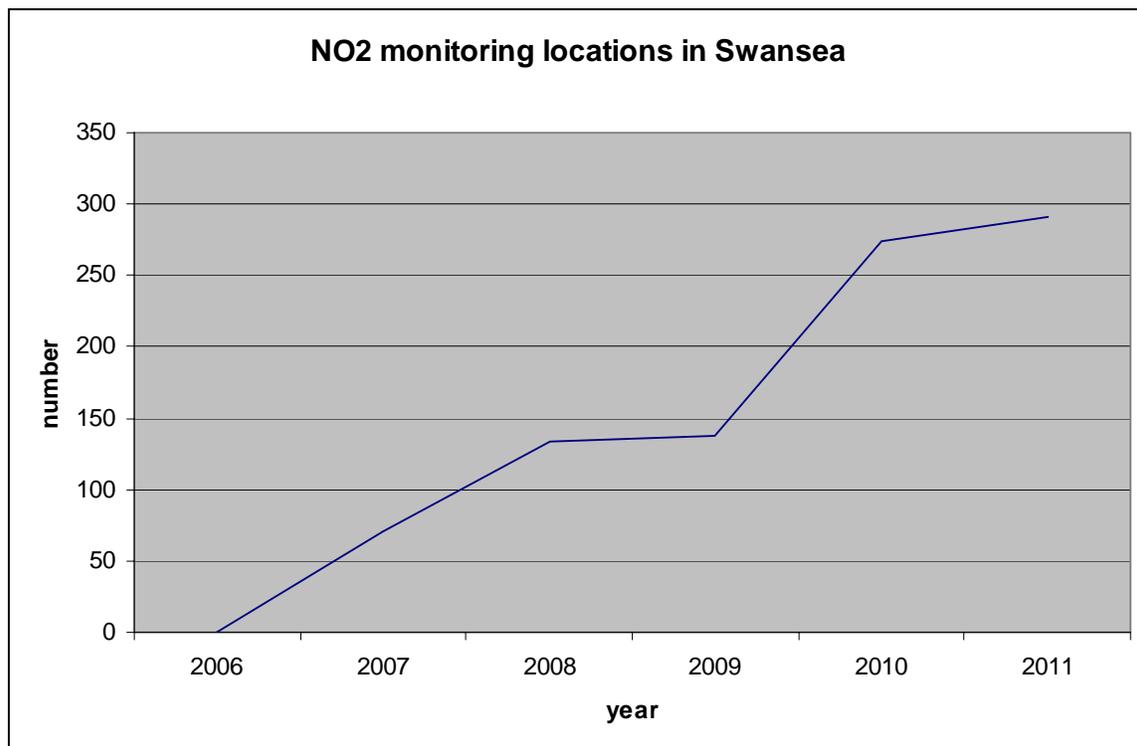
The number of active NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring sites between January and June 2011 was 291 but due to the need to reduce costs, they were removed from all sites where the NO<sub>2</sub> bias corrected means for the last 2 years had been below 30ug/m<sup>3</sup> – leaving 211 sites from June to December for that year.

The number of hits on the Swansea Air Quality website remains high.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Though the validation of the Nowcaster system has been completed, a mechanism for alerting media of poor air quality has not yet been established. The proposed alert system for local GP's to use to warn patients of poor air quality has still to be developed, though some discussions have taken place.

Regular monitoring of background radiation has still not been re-established.



## EA1: Encourage and support good practice in ESDGC in local education establishments

### SUMMARY

A significant number of Swansea schools and other education establishments are making good progress within national and local ESDGC schemes. Despite financial pressures and competing priorities, schools are still participating in environmental education activities.

**GREEN**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Swansea Environmental Education Forum  
Keep Wales Tidy

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Percentage of schools with Eco-School Green Flag</b>		-	23%	-	38%	-	51%
<b>Percentage of schools at other Eco-School levels</b>	- registered	-	92%	-	98%	-	100%
	- bronze	-	47%	-	70%	-	93%
	- silver	-	35%	-	55%	-	79%
	- platinum	-	-	-	1%	-	7%
		2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Percentage of schools in local award schemes</b>	<b>Swansea schools Recycling Awards</b>	92%	96%		-	-	-
	<b>Swansea Sustainable Schools Scheme</b>		-	-	8%	17%	(23%)
<b>Number of supported schools visits to key sites and facilities (number of pupils)</b>		164 (4,000)	273 (4,400)	346 (4,700)	406 (8,100)	379 (7,500)	-
<b>Number of ESDGC training sessions for school staff</b>		8	10	4	0	6	-
<b>Number of school staff attending ESDGC training sessions</b>		107	127	74	0	66	-
		2005/6	2006/7	2007-09	2009-10	2010-12	
<i>Number of times Green Boxes loaned out</i>		33	29	-	18	17	

The number of Swansea schools progressing with the Eco-School scheme has continued to increase. By the end of March 2012, every school in Swansea had registered in the scheme (93% for Wales) and over half had attained the coveted Green Flag. 15 schools were still at Bronze level and 27 were at Silver level (of which 17 were thought to be actively working towards the Green Flag). 7 schools in Swansea hold Platinum awards (for having gained four consecutive Green Flags), which is the highest number of Platinum awards in any Welsh local authority area. Across Wales, 715 schools have gained Green Flag status and 43 have Platinum awards.

The Swansea Sustainable Schools Scheme was launched in Autumn 2008 and the first round of assessments took place in June 2010 with 9 awards being issued (7 bronze and 2 silver). By the end of March 2012, this had increased to 24 awards involving 21 different schools (19 bronze, 1 bronze plus and 4 silver) with a further 3 or 4 expected by the end of the 2011/12 academic year. The Swansea Schools Recycling Awards were superseded by the Swansea Sustainable Schools Scheme, but the data has been retained in this report for comparison.

Data for the indicator relating to supported schools visits is collected from 5 key members of SEEF that have been delivering a range of ESDGC and environmental education sessions to school groups for many years – The Environment Centre, Swansea Community Farm, Bishop's Wood Countryside Centre, Forest School SNPT and the WWT National Wetlands Centre Wales (Llanelli). The data is collected by academic year (September to July). Overall, the figures show a steady increase in visit sessions to 2009/10 with a small fall back in 2010/11 – but the situation for each organisation varies.

The Environment Centre has been funded by CCW for many years to deliver about 25-30 sessions each year – a combination of environmental workshop with Plan-It Eco and field visits to Crymlyn Bog NNR. In 2008/9, the figures dropped to 20 but increased to 40 in 2009/10 – this didn't reflect an increase in funding or sessions delivered but was simply due to where the sessions fell in the cross-over between academic years and financial years.

Swansea Community Farm experienced a drop in school visits in 2010/11 which it puts down to a cut in education budgets and school funding but the figures have picked up again in the last year, partly due to running 30 OCN pilot sessions. The figures for the last two years have also been raised by several sessions attended by Welsh baccalaureate students.

The environmental education service provided by the Council's nature Conservation Team at Bishop's Wood has seen a significant fall in school visits over the past few years, partly due to the retirement of one of its wardens (who has not been replaced).

The changes with WWT follow the overall pattern with a notable increase in sessions and pupil numbers peaking in 2009/10. The figures included are just for Swansea schools, which make up between a third and a half of all the school groups visiting WWT each year.

The number of sessions delivered by Forest School SNPT increased significantly between 2006/7 and 2009/10 – peaking at 224 in that year – but dropped back in 2010/11. However, the total number of pupils remained high. The variance in ratio between visits, or sessions delivered, and the number of pupils generally depends on the proportion of Forest School and Community Farm sessions, as these often involve smaller group sizes.

The indicators for number of ESDGC training sessions and school staff attending sessions refer specifically to INSET organised by SEEF and do not really reflect the total number of sessions provided by SEEF members and others. In the early 2000's, SEEF acted as a coordinator for a range of INSET training delivered by various SEEF members, and for several years published an annual training programme for local schools. However, with a cut in resources and changed priorities, SEEF has done less coordination of INSET delivery and not publish a joint programme since 2007/8. In 2009/10, SEEF didn't organise any INSET sessions, though a number of member organisations undoubtedly did. It is therefore suggested that these two indicators should be discontinued.

There are nine Green Boxes – ESDGC themed resource boxes with a selection of books and educational resources which are loaned to schools on a half-termly basis. The boxes were not loaned out through much of 2007 to 2009 as the boxes were being updated and relocated. Since May 2009, they have been based at the Education, Learning and Resource Service in Port Talbot. The number of loans has reduced significantly in recent years with just 17 over the last two year period.

### **ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS**

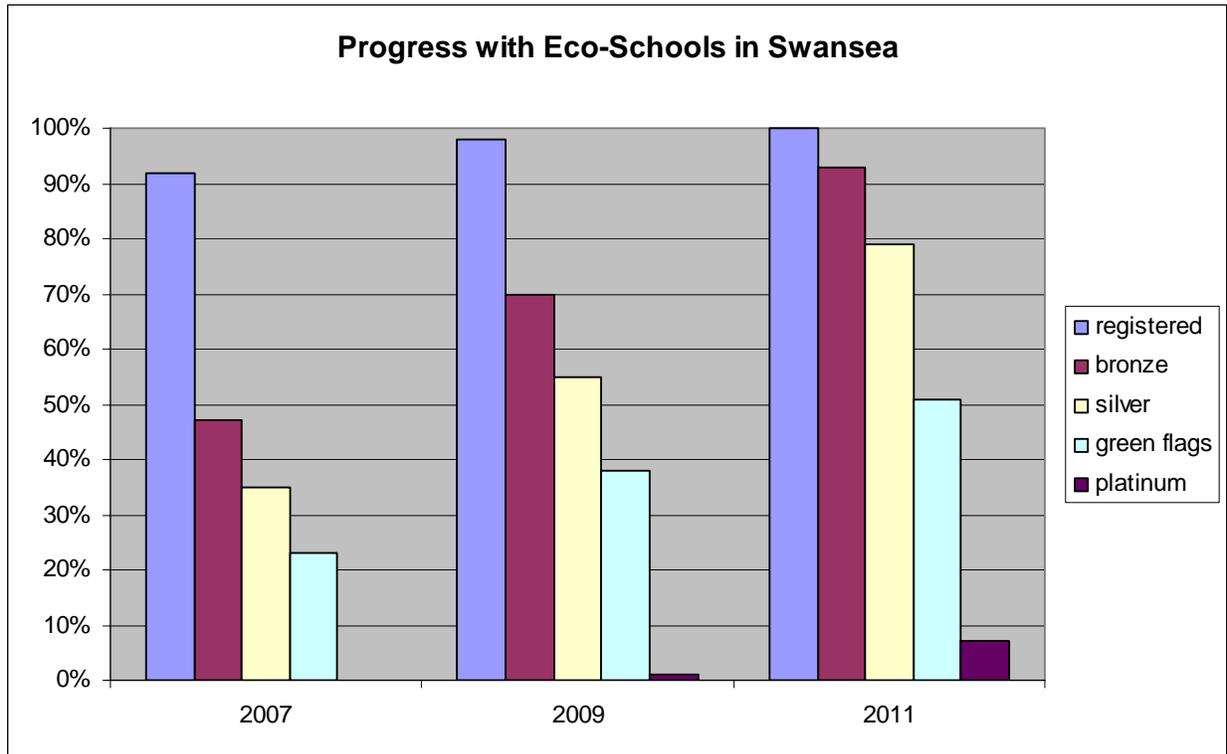
The Gower Society continues to fund environmental and heritage projects in local schools and field studies activities. Over the last two years, the Society has funded 16 projects and given financial assistance for more than 60 school field trips (in addition to its own monthly children's activities).

The Penllergare Trust set-up a Woodland Centre in August 2010 and over the past 3 years has delivered on-site educational sessions to over 2,000 pupils.

Groundwork Trust BNPT initiated a Positive Energy programme in the rural areas of Swansea involving workshops and presentations to schools and community groups on energy issues.

Gower College Swansea has established an ESDGC committee involving representatives from estates, finance, student services and senior management. The Gorseinon campus is now Green Dragon level three, in line with the Tycoch campus.

Swansea University has attained Silver level in the Ecocampus scheme and is aiming to reach Platinum level and achieve ISO14001 by the end of 2013.



## EA2: Actively promote sustainable living

### SUMMARY

The number and range of activities, community groups and information sources that support and promote sustainable living in Swansea continue to increase.

GREEN



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Sustainable Swansea Initiative  
Swansea Environmental Education Forum  
The Environment Centre  
Transition Swansea

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Number of hits on Sustainable Swansea and Environment Centre websites</b>	Sustainable Swansea	13,975	28,467	-	25,9023			-
	Environment Centre	11,150	15,015	30,419	36,017	35,875	37,572	-
<i>Number of events listed in annual environmental events leaflet</i>		282	292	288	331	316	428	434

The total number of annual hits on the Environment Centre website has clearly increased. Because of changes to the Sustainable Swansea website both in 2009 and 2011, it hasn't been possible to access comprehensive data. The 2009 entry is derived from the number of hits between May 2009 and March 2010.

It had been hoped that hits on the SEF and SEEF websites would be added in this review but it has not been possible to gather consistent data for either. At the time of the last strategy review, it appeared that the average number of hits per month on the SEF website was over 3,000 but a sample taken in 2010 showed that the number of hits was more like 500 per month – suggesting a considerable drop. Hits data that is available for the SEEF website suggests approximately 500-600 hits per month with surges at times when teachers are informed by email of new information being added e.g. the termly Green Envelope information.

In both 2011 and 2012, the availability of additional funding allowed for two (overlapping) editions of the annual environmental events leaflet to be produced – the first for February to July and the second for June to December. This is not a very accurate or robust indicator of the number of events taking place as editorial choices are made about inclusion in the leaflet and there are capacity, resource and timing constraints. However, it does perhaps reflect a general increase in the number of events taking place and the number of groups organising events in Swansea. After excluding any events repeated in the second editions, the total number of events listed has significantly increased – perhaps partly due to having two editions in the last two years which allows for additional events that are organised after the publication of the first edition to be included in the second edition.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Transition Swansea has developed and becoming increasingly active in the past couple of years – the group's Ning website membership grew by 50% in the year 2011/12. The group organised a range of environmental film screenings, discussions and workshops, including several Open Edible Garden Days. The group has taken over responsibility for maintaining and developing the garden at the Environment Centre, which is used as a learning facility for workshop sessions, and also provided advice and support for the Vetch Veg project, the Zion chapel garden project and the Townhill community garden project (see also NE4).

BTCV continued to provide training in conservation and countryside skills, awarding 71 training

certificates in the past two years (exceeding their target of 60).

The Down to Earth Project provided 2 day ESDGC training events relating to the use of the outdoors with over 100 teachers, youth workers and informal educators participating over the past two years. The project has also provided residential experiences for 'disadvantaged' client groups in ESDGC, with about 40 beneficiaries each year, and long term educational programmes for 'hard to reach' groups in ESDGC, with approx. 100 beneficiaries per year.

The local authority's recycling team and Swansea Waste Forum organised an annual Wise up to Waste week (see WM5) and Wheelrights, working with other local cycling organisations and the local authority, organised the first Gower Cycling Festival in 2010 (see ST1).

SEF worked with the Co-operative and the Waterfront Museum, under the banner of Sustainable Swansea, to bring the Tarnished Earth exhibition to Swansea in October 2011. The exhibition project was not as large and well-resourced as previous Sustainable Swansea organised exhibitions (Earth from the Air and Hard Rain) but its prominent position will have facilitated a reasonable degree of public engagement with the issues it raised. Two associated film screenings took place (attracting 60-70 people in total) and two school visits and workshops were arranged (with 60 pupils and 5 teachers).

Over the past two years, the Gower Society has provided approximately £30,000 worth of grants (other than to schools), which is rather less than in previous years, due to the current financial situation.

In 2010, the Swansea Bea Fest provided an opportunity for several environmental groups and projects to come together in an Ecozone to raise awareness of environmental issues. This event was not repeated in 2011.

The Environment Centre has maintained its environmental information services, including the regular Green Light newsletter and introducing regular e-bulletins. The Centre has also started to organise an annual programme of environmentally themed activities and training workshops.

Swansea Community Farm has extended its programme of activities for all ages, especially its family weekends, with a wide range of activities such as beekeeping courses and jam-making.

The number of local produce markets in the Swansea has increased (see ST1), making it easier for people to buy local food, support the local economy and reduce the need for transporting food around the world (food miles).

## EA3: Promote active citizenship and increased participation in decision-making processes

### SUMMARY

Whilst the number of volunteers with some organisations has fallen, the range of volunteering opportunities seems to continue to grow along with the number and range of groups, projects and partnerships involved in environmental activity in Swansea, with a growing emphasis on community engagement and collaboration.

**AMBER**



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Sustainable Swansea Initiative  
Swansea Environmental Forum  
Swansea Environmental Education Forum

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Number of volunteers / volunteer hours in environmental projects</b> ( <i>National Trust, BTCV and Swansea Community Farm</i> )	6,076 / 59,522	3,095 / 39,229	1,333 / 28,843	533 / 18,562	510 / 23,601

The data for volunteers and volunteer hours is provided by three key local organisations that have a strong history of engaging volunteers in environmental activity. This does not by any means provide an indication of the total level of volunteering in environmental activity but simply provides a snapshot. These figures show a rapid decline with the number of volunteers halving each year from 2007 to 2010 but with the number of volunteer hours reducing at a slower rate. The difference in rate of decline of these two figures suggests that the average contribution made per volunteer has increased – from approx. 10 hours per volunteer in 2007 to about 35 in 2010. The total number of volunteers in 2011 only dropped a little whilst the volunteer hours increased with the average volunteer hours per volunteer increasing further to 45 hours each.

BTCV experienced a dramatic decline in volunteering in Swansea during 2009 and 2010 (from over 5,000 in 2007 to just 11 in 2010), largely due to the end of local community projects involving large numbers of volunteers. This is by far the main influence on the changes to the overall figures for this indicator. The number of local BTCV volunteers, and particularly the number of volunteer hours, started to pick up again in 2011, perhaps partly due to the establishment of a base at Llys Nini.

The number of volunteers and volunteer hours at Swansea Community Farm trebled between 2004 and 2008 and, following a peak in 2008/9, has remained at a similar level in the last few years with approx. 200 volunteers providing around 10,000 volunteer hours each year. The figures for the National Trust have generally continued to slip since the Whiteford Lodge, which hosted working holidays, was closed.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

BTCV has continued to support volunteering opportunities within the Swansea area, exceeding their 2-year target of 3,000 volunteer hours (almost 5,000). Their work has primarily been at the Llys Nini site, where they have established a local delivery unit, and supported 90 volunteers undertaking habitat and site improvements; and at Crymlyn Bog National Nature Reserve, where they have been working on invasive species control for one day a week, and recently secured significant grant aid for the installation of a new boardwalk.

The Gower AONB service, the National Trust and other organisations collaborate to provide conservation volunteering opportunities on Gower. A variety of volunteer opportunities have also been provided by Communities and Nature projects, Mumbles Development Trust, the Tidy Towns initiative, the Down to Earth Project and the Penllergare Trust (see NE4 and BE1 for further details).

Sustainable Swansea (managed by SEF in partnership with the Environment Centre, Swansea CVS

and the City and County of Swansea) organised a series of digital media training courses in both Morriston and Pontarddulais leading to the development of community Green Maps for each of those areas. A community carbon footprinting pilot project was also undertaken in Morriston.

Sustainable Swansea was not able to secure funds in 2011 for the Green Team environmental holiday play scheme nor was it able to find funding to continue the Trailblazers II, which was piloted in 2009 to support 14–25 year olds with volunteering opportunities on the Swansea Sustainability Trail.

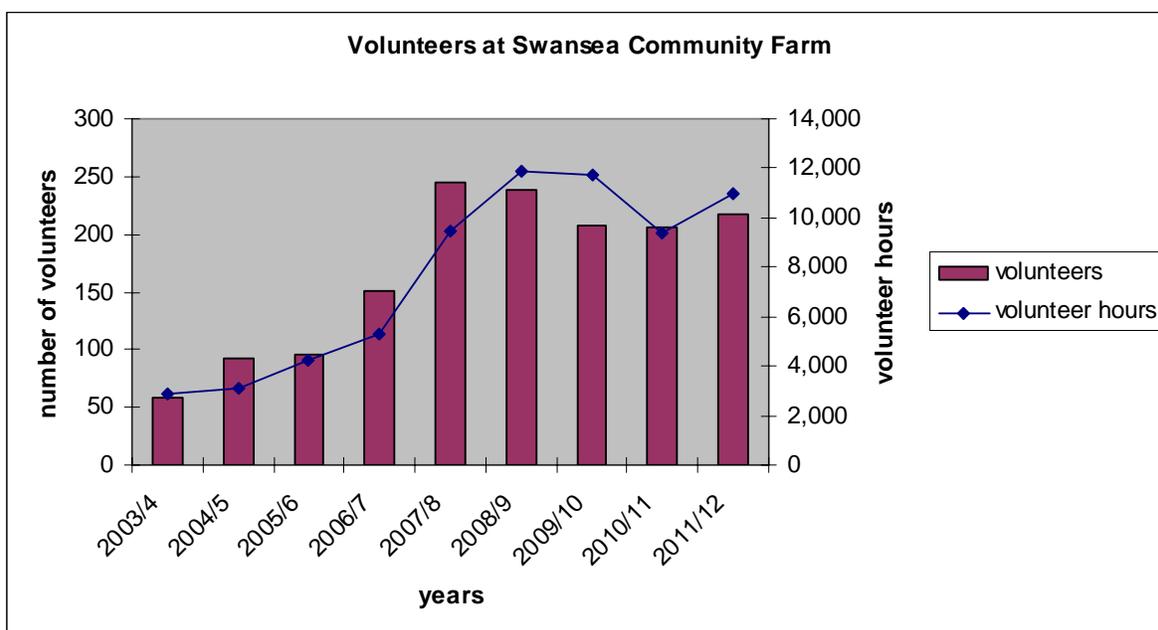
Swansea Environmental Forum has continued to serve as the strategic partnership for the environment in Swansea with an executive committee that includes representatives of many local environmental bodies and interest and expertise. SEF has also continued to organise thematic evening meetings open to its members and the general public – topics for these events in the past two years have included Swansea Bay, tidal energy, climate change, and the built heritage. SEF has established and/or maintained task groups and subgroups to oversee key strategic priorities and projects. The Built Environment and Energy Group developed initial ideas that led to the creation of the Low Carbon Swansea Project (see BE2). The air quality improvement task group met a couple of times in the last period (see ST3) and a new partnership relating to the built heritage was established (see BE4).

The Swansea Waste Forum has continued to meet and organise open events on a number of themes including annual ‘question times’.

The Swansea Fair Trade Forum has continued to bring together organisations and interested individuals to help raise the profile of fair trade in Swansea during Fairtrade Fortnight and through other events throughout the year.

Though funding sources to support SEEF have diminished, the Environment Centre and the SEEF Working Group have managed to retain the SEEF coordinator post, though with reduced hours. The schools subgroup has continued to meet and oversee SEEF initiatives relating to schools. (See also EA1 and NE4).

The Environment Centre has continued to provide services to environmental organisations and partnerships, including office space, meeting rooms, administrative facilities and project management support. The number and type of organisations and groups based at the Centre has changed several times in recent years as new initiatives have come and gone.



## EA4: Encourage good environmental practice amongst organisations and businesses

### SUMMARY

Good environmental practice in Swansea continues to be highlighted and promoted through the Sustainable Swansea Awards and Swansea Sustainability Trail. The number of organisations participating in the Green Dragon Environmental Standards is still well below previous levels but other management schemes are also being used.

AMBER



### LEAD BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Sustainable Swansea Initiative  
Groundwork Wales  
Swansea Environmental Education Forum

### INDICATORS AND OTHER DATA

		Mar 2007	Feb 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012
<b>Number of Green Dragon Awards (level 2+)</b>	- Swansea	63	22	19	24
	- Wales	<i>approx 900</i>	358	250	338
		<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
<i>Sustainable Swansea Awards applicants</i>		51	57	45	41

The number of businesses and other organisations attaining Green Dragon Environmental Standards reduced significantly in 2008/9 after the main funding for the scheme came to an end. The take up in Swansea has remained at around 6-7% of the total in Wales. Groundwork Wales, which currently runs the scheme, is hoping that in the next few years it will surpass the previous high level of participation.

Some organisations have chosen to use alternative EMS schemes instead of Green Dragon. For example, Swansea Environment Centre is working towards achieving Ecocentre status and Swansea University, which was also previously part of the Green Dragon scheme, has now opted to implement Ecocampus instead. The university is currently at Silver level, with an ambition to obtain Gold through to Platinum (and ISO14001) by the end of 2013.

The number of applications to the Sustainable Swansea Awards has fluctuated and in 2010 was notably lower than in 2006. A breakdown of applicants by category (e.g. business, school, etc.) was included in the last strategy review report but as the categories changed in 2010 (see below), this detail is no longer relevant and so is not now included.

### ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS

A review of the Swansea Sustainability Trail took place in 2011 resulting in 4 of the existing 24 Trail projects being removed (two no longer existing and two being considered no longer appropriate). The Trail was relaunched in May 2012 with 8 new additional projects, each receiving an interpretative panel for their site which highlights features relating to sustainability. New web pages on the Sustainable Swansea web site and a new Trail leaflet were published to mark the relaunch.

The fourth biennial Sustainable Swansea Awards took place in 2010 with 41 applicants to 7 different award categories – Community Project Award, Low Carbon Community Award, Low Carbon Organisation Award, Waste Wise Business Award, Biodiversity Award, Sustainable Schools Award and Champion Award – which reflected the priorities of SEF and the award sponsors. The scheme was launched in May at the Community Farm and the award ceremony took place at the Dylan Thomas Centre in October. (See also EA2 and EA3 for other Sustainable Swansea initiatives, such as green mapping and exhibitions.)

The Gower AONB Sustainable Development Fund continues to support innovative, sustainable projects, which involve local communities in the AONB. The total grant distributed in 2011-12 was £91.2k.

Swansea's second Rural Business Plan, for the delivery of Axis 3 and 4 of the Rural Development Plan for Wales, was launched in 2011 for the period to 31 December 2013. The Business Plan has five key themes: 1) Encouragement of tourism activities, 2) Improvement of basic services, 3) Village and small town renewal and development, 4) Conservation and upgrading of rural heritage, and 5) Capacity building using the Leader approach (Rural Swansea Action)

The Low Carbon Swansea project, set-up and managed by SEF, has primarily involved encouraging public sector organisations to improve their energy management and share good practice (see also BE2). A comprehensive carbon management study of over 20 major public sector bodies in Swansea was commissioned by the Carbon Trust to help set a baseline against which improvements could be measured.

The local authority completed a Sustainable Risk Assessment (SRA) pilot with a view to embedding the use of SRA across the Council.

An initial meeting of an energy and environment delivery group took place in November 2011 with representatives of SEF and the SERP (Swansea Economic Regeneration Partnership) but there has been no further develop of proposals for a Green Jobs Initiative in Swansea.

## APPENDIX1: Detailed Assessment Matrix

The table below shows the RAG assessment for each strategic priority broken down into the five individual components described on page 5.

Strategic Priority	Indicator Data	Additional Data	Action Plan (2010-12)	Additional Actions	Compared to Wales	Overall Status
NE1	-	-			-	↑
NE2		-			-	↑
NE3					-	↔
NE4					-	↑
BE1				-		↔
BE2		-			-	↔
BE3				-		↔
BE4		-				↑
WM1				-	-	↓
WM2		-			-	↔
WM3						↑
WM4		-		-	-	↓
WM5						↔
WM6	-	-		-	-	↔
ST1				-	-	↔
ST2				-	-	↔
ST3				-	-	↔
ST4	-			-		↔
EA1						↔
EA2				-	-	↔
EA3		-		-	-	↔
EA4					-	↔

## APPENDIX 2: Sources of Indicator Data

The following table provides the sources of data used in this report.

Priority	Indicator / Additional Data	Sources
<b>NE2</b>	Total area of LNRs, AONB and SINCs Percentage of SAC, SPA and SSSI features in or recovering towards favourable condition	CCS(nature conservation) CCW
<b>NE3</b>	Number of Green Flags and Green Pennants Area of land managed under agri-environment agreements Rating of parks and open/green spaces Ease of access to parks and open spaces	Civic Trust Welsh Government CCS(Swansea Voices) CCS(Swansea Voices)
<b>NE4</b>	Length of easy-to-use footpaths and other rights of way Visitors to a selection of sites  Biodiversity events in annual environmental events booklet	CCS(countryside access) CCS(countryside access), National Trust, CCW CCS(nature conservation)
<b>BE1</b>	Percentage of public satisfaction with their local area Percentage cleanliness at high standard Cleanliness Index	CCS(Swansea Voices) CCS(streetscene) CCS(streetscene)
<b>BE2</b>	SAP rating for housing in Swansea Number of developments meeting Ecohomes or BREEAM standards CO2 emissions in CCS corporate buildings	CCS(housing) BRE  CCS(corporate building and property services)
<b>BE3</b>	Proportion of social housing meeting WHQS Proportion of new housing that is affordable Number of affordable homes built Number of homelessness preventions Proportion of private housing left vacant Number of homes brought back into use and problem buildings demolished or renovated (total since 2004)	CCS(housing), RSLs CCS(housing) CCS(housing) CCS(housing) CCS(public health) CCS(public health)
<b>BE4</b>	Percentage of buildings at each level on the 'Buildings at Risk' register Number of venues and visitors in 'Open House' events	CCS(design and conservation), Cadw Trilein
<b>WM1</b>	Percentage of watercourses achieving good status (Percentage of water bodies at good ecological status) Percentage of RQO compliance	EAW  EAW
<b>WM2</b>	Percentage of bathing waters at guideline standard Number of Blue Flags and Green Coast Awards	EAW Keep Wales Tidy
<b>WM3</b>	Number of properties at high risk of flooding Percentage of properties at risk from flooding Percentage of at risk properties on flood warning system	EAW EAW EAW
<b>WM4</b>	Area of contaminated land remaining in Swansea	CCS(pollution control)
<b>WM5</b>	Average household / municipal waste arisings Percentage of municipal waste recycled, reused or composted Percentage commercial waste recycled or composted Percentage of waste at civic amenity sites recycled Percentage of LAS allowance used Amount of material reused Number of fly tipping incidents	CCS(waste management) CCS(waste management)  CCS(waste management) CCS(waste management) CCS(waste management) CCS(waste management) EAW

<b>ST1</b>	<p>Modal split – City Centre / SWWITCH surveys</p> <p>Number of cyclists using National Cycle Network Cycle route counter data Main form of transport for shopping, leisure, work Number using park and ride facilities</p>	<p>CCS(Research and Information Unit), SWWITCH Sustrans Sustrans, CCS(transport) CCS(Swansea Voices) CCS(transport)</p>
<b>ST2</b>	<p>Number of organisations with local travel plan awards Number of schools with local travel plan awards City Centre User Survey – ease of access</p> <p>Ease of getting to facilities and services Frequency of public transport services direct from Swansea to key regional settlements</p>	<p>SWWITCH SWWITCH CCS(Research and Information Unit) CCS(Swansea Voices) SWWITCH</p>
<b>ST3</b>	<p>Number of days when air pollution is moderate or higher Number of roadside NO2 monitoring sites exceeding / close to exceeding annual mean limit Number of PM2.5 monitoring sites exceeding annual mean limit Number of PM10 monitoring sites exceeding annual mean limit Number of PM10 exceedences of 24-hour mean limit</p>	<p>CCS(pollution control) CCS(pollution control)</p> <p>CCS(pollution control)</p> <p>CCS(pollution control)</p> <p>CCS(pollution control)</p>
<b>ST4</b>	<p>Number of NO2 monitoring locations Number of hits on Swansea Air Quality website</p>	<p>CCS(pollution control) CCS(pollution control)</p>
<b>EA1</b>	<p>Percentage of schools with Eco-School Green Flag Percentage of schools at other Eco-School levels Percentage of schools in local award schemes Number of supported schools visits to key sites and facilities</p> <p>Number of ESDGC training sessions for school staff Number of school staff attending ESDGC training sessions Number of times Green Boxes loaned out</p>	<p>Keep Wales Tidy Keep Wales Tidy SEEF Swansea Community Farm, Forest School NPT, WWT, Environment Centre, Bishop's Wood SEEF SEEF SEEF</p>
<b>EA2</b>	<p>Number of hits on Sustainable Swansea and EC websites Number of events listed in annual environmental events leaflet</p>	<p>Sustainable Swansea, Environment Centre CCS(nature conservation)</p>
<b>EA3</b>	<p>Number of volunteers / volunteer hours in environmental projects</p>	<p>National Trust, BTCV, Swansea Community Farm</p>
<b>EA4</b>	<p>Number of Green Dragon Awards (level 2+) Sustainable Swansea Awards applicants</p>	<p>Groundwork Trust Sustainable Swansea</p>

*Key to abbreviations used in table*

*CCS: City and County of Swansea*

*CCW: Countryside Council for Wales*

*EAW: Environment Agency Wales*

*SWWITCH: South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium*

*SEEF: Swansea Environmental Education Forum*