

## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting

THURSDAY, 12 APRIL 2018, 4.30 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk

9 Correspondence Following Committee Meeting (Pages 3 - 8)



My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 13 April 2018

Cardiff Council, County Hall Cardiff **CF10 4UW** 

Councillor Bradbury **Cabinet Member** 



County Hall Cardiff. **CF10 4UW** Tel: (029) 2087 2087 Neuadd y Sir Caerdydd, **CF10 4UW** Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

Dear Councillor Bradbury,

## **Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee: 12 April 2018**

Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee have asked me to pass on their thanks to you, Steve Morris and Laura Williams from Cardiff Metropolitan University for attending our meeting to discuss the Local Sports Plan 2018/19. Members have the following comments and observations for your consideration.

Members are impressed with the breadth and depth of the Local Sports Plan 2018/19 and can see how it focuses on addressing the priority objectives and key considerations set out in our Joint Venture agreement with Cardiff Metropolitan University regarding the delivery of sports services in Cardiff. The Plan demonstrates how small amounts of funding, coupled with dedicated staff and volunteer provision, can make a huge difference in the delivery of sports across Cardiff. Members note that Sports Cardiff will provide quarterly reports, to Cardiff Council, illustrating the delivery of the Local Sports Plan, using both quantitative and qualitative measures to demonstrate its impact.

Members note and agree with your comments regarding the need to boost grassroots participation, in order to engender a lifelong love of sports and achieve health and wellbeing benefits. As discussed at the meeting, Members welcome the work ongoing re 21st Century Schools programme and ensuring sports provision forms part of this; it is important to ensure that sports facilities based within schools remain accessible and affordable to their local communities.

Members welcome the contributions outlined in the Local Sports Plan re supporting Major Events in Cardiff and note Steve Morris' comments that Cardiff can still demonstrate the legacy of 2012 in its army of volunteers who continue to bring much needed resource to support the successful hosting of events, such as the forthcoming Volvo Ocean Race Cardiff Stopover.

Members are pleased to note that Cardiff Council has recently received confirmation that we will receive the funding that was bid for, as set out in the Local Sports Plan 2018/19. Members note the comments made by witnesses regarding the year on year decrease in funding and that, if this continues, there will come a time when activities will reduce, as all efficiency savings/ contributions in kind will have been maximised.

We discussed the need for sports governing bodies and Sport Wales to reach out to communities, particularly those with a low participation rate, and to shift their focus from elite sports towards grassroots participation. Members recognise the comments made about the reduction in resources at bodies such as Sport Wales, which means they are more reliant on being able to tap into existing community-based projects.

Finally, Members are pleased that the Joint Venture with Cardiff Metropolitan is paying dividends in terms of enabling sports provision in Cardiff, signposting participants to local clubs and assisting those clubs to develop long term, sustainable futures.

Yours sincerely.

COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

Neil Hanratty Jon Maidment
Steve Morris Laura Williams
Emma Hill Kathryn Thomas

Clair James

Cabinet Support Office

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Cardiff,
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Tel: (029) 2087 2087

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

Councillor Lynda Thorne & Councillor Russell Goodway Cabinet Members Cardiff Council, County Hall Cardiff CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Thorne and Councillor Goodway,

## **Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee: 12 April 2018**

On behalf of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee, thank you for attending our meeting to discuss the new Welsh Government Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) Programme and the work underway in Cardiff to determine appropriate bids to this. Members would also like to pass on their appreciation to Sarah McGill, Neil Hanratty, Jon Day and Don Davidson and to thank Don for his presentation, which provided an excellent summary of the key issues.

Members have asked that I pass on the following comments and observations for your consideration.

As discussed at the meeting, the Welsh Government guidance emphasises the need for a regional regeneration plan and regional endorsement of any proposals put forward under this programme. Members are pleased to hear work is progressing on the regional regeneration plan and that officers are discussing appropriate governance mechanisms to enable regional endorsement. Members recognise that the direction from Welsh Government is to foster more regional working across a wider spectrum of local authority work. With this is mind, Members believe it would be prudent to explore the feasibility of establishing governance arrangements that reflect this; this would be preferable to more one-off governance mechanisms. In the meantime, Members note that reports for decision will be brought to all ten local authorities; in the response to this letter, I would like clarification as to whether these reports will go to Cabinet or Council.

Another key theme emphasised in the Welsh Government guidance is the need to have meaningful engagement with the communities concerned when developing proposals. Whilst Members recognise the good intentions underpinning this, from experience we are very aware of the need to manage expectations, to avoid disillusionment in communities if bids are not successful. Members are pleased to hear that officers recognise this and that there will be on-going dialogue with Welsh Government, regionally and with affected communities (including residents, business and the third sector) to ensure good communication and to manage expectations. Members are also pleased to hear officers acknowledgment of the need to involve ward councillors at the outset, so that their input is included in the ideas generation phase; we look forward to this taking place for South Riverside initially and then for the other areas as these come forward.

As discussed at the meeting, whilst the amounts of funding available are relatively small, they can make a significant difference, especially when proposals are integrated effectively with other interventions and strategic investments. Members note the issues raised by Councillor Goodway regarding the need for inclusive growth, avoiding the mistakes of previous regeneration projects, by proactively working to ensure local communities benefit from regeneration and that they are not ultimately driven out by gentrification.

Members are supportive of the two business corridors proposals set out in the Cabinet report and note that feasibility studies, alongside community engagement, will be used to determine specific project proposals for the South Riverside area and, later on, in Roath/ Adamsdown. Members are particularly pleased to note the emphasis on addressing the need for 'centrally located, cost competitive business starter units offering a mix of uses and providing flexible easy-in easy-out lease terms.' Members were also pleased to hear Councillor Thorne's answer that she is supportive of exploring the possibility of a complementary scheme for converting the empty properties above shops into affordable housing. Finally, as discussed at the meeting, Members recommend that the boundaries of the South Riverside project be clarified.

Members are pleased that Cardiff's proposals include projects to improve the economic outcomes of young people and provide into work advice and training,

increasing employability. Members recognise it is also important to address the health and wellbeing barriers to economic activity. As such, Members support the community hubs' proposals set out in the Cabinet report.

Members note that the above projects rely on successful proposals being awarded funding and that this is a competitive process. We wish you well with progressing these proposals, which would be of real benefit to Cardiff and some of our most deprived communities.

This letter requires a response, as it contains the following:

- a request for clarification as to whether decision reports will go to Cabinet or
   Council, in the absence of a regional endorsement mechanism; and
- a recommendation to clarify the boundaries of the proposed South Riverside project.

Thank you once again for your attendance at Committee.

Yours sincerely,

COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

Sarah McGill Neil Hanratty
Don Davidson Jon Day
Elizabeth Patterson Clair James

Cabinet Support Office

