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CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 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

12 **Correspondence Following Committee Meeting** (Pages 3 - 10)

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My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 18 June 2018

Cllr Peter Bradbury & Cllr Russell Goodway
Cabinet Members
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
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County Hall
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Dear Councillor Bradbury & Councillor Goodway,

Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee: 14 June 2018

Members have asked I pass on their thanks to you and Neil Hanratty for attending our meeting to discuss Economic Development's Quarter 4 performance and Directorate Delivery Plan.

Concerning Quarter 4 performance, Members note the overall good performance against targets. In terms of the Delivery Plan, Members note this and will use it to inform their work programming.

Our discussions largely focused on five main areas: performance with regard to unemployment levels; how to attract and retain High Street footfall; incubation, start-up and innovation space; resource levels; and indicators and targets.

Members note the comments made about Welfare Reform resulting in a wider pool of people counted as available for employment, rather than economically inactive, and that this is the reason that unemployment levels are higher than expected despite an increase in the number of jobs created in Cardiff.

Members also note your comments that significant efforts are made by the Council to attract footfall into Cardiff, for example via events, but that these may be more to the benefit of the night-time economy, and that we may need more events that support the day-time economy. Members believe it would be useful to see how Cardiff compares to other similar cities, in terms of footfall, and to look at approaches taken elsewhere that have assisted in boosting day-time economy footfall on high streets, in order to see if there are lessons that could be replicated in Cardiff.

Members note your comment that it may be time to re-visit the pedestrianisation of St Mary's Street. We are interested to know your thoughts on this matter and would be grateful if you would elaborate further on what you mean by this, for example are you

thinking that it would be useful to open up St Mary's Street to all traffic or just to buses? A response on this would be appreciated.

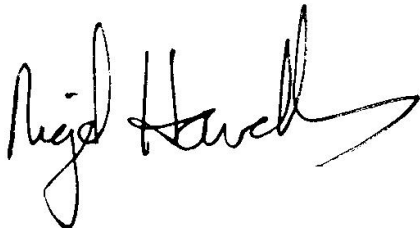
Members note a review of the Council's support for innovation infrastructure is underway; this Committee has undertaken Inquiries in 2014/15 regarding innovation and higher education, and we will be interested to review proposals when available in the autumn.

With regard to resources, Members recognise that Council resources are stretched, with significant savings required over the next three years and that there is therefore an even greater reliance placed on working productively with public and private sector partners.

Finally, Members discussed the performance indicators and targets for 2017/18 and set out in the Delivery Plan for 2018/19. Members recognise the challenge in finding indicators that capture the impact of the Economic Development directorate directly, given the interconnectedness of this work. We were pleased to hear Neil Hanratty say that he is open to reviewing indicators to find the most appropriate measures. As discussed at the meeting, we shall look at indicators used elsewhere and will let you know if we find any that we believe would assist in effective performance monitoring and management.

Once again, thank you for your time. This letter requires a response, please, as it contains a request for information.

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Neil Hanratty Clair James Cabinet Support Office

County Councillor Russell Goodway
Cabinet Member, Investment & Development



My ref : RVG/Scrutiny

Your ref : T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

22 March 2018

County Councillor Nigel Howells
Chair, Joint Economy & Culture and
Environmental Scrutiny Committee

By email: nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk

Dear Nigel

I refer to your letter dated 18 June 2018 addressed to Peter Bradbury and me following the meeting of the Economic Development Scrutiny Committee, which considered the directorate's Quarter 4 performance, and the Directorate Delivery Plan. I apologise for the delay in replying to you.

With regard to the Committee's request for footfall data, the City Centre Management team have provided comparative data, which is set out in the table below. This shows that Cardiff performs relatively well against other similar sized UK cities, and on a per head basis we are amongst the top 3 performers. However, we are conscious of the continued pressure on the high street and will continue to support initiatives to increase both footfall and spend in the city centre.

City Centre Footfall 2017

Location	Footfall (m)	Footfall per resident
Nottingham	43	1,306
Newcastle	36	1,217
Cardiff	43	1,185
Glasgow	56	902
Liverpool	43	875
Bristol	28	610
Leeds	44	561
Sheffield	25	433
Birmingham	49	431

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It is important to note that the Administration's aim is not to deliver increases in footfall directly through major events, but through a mixture of interventions. For example, increasing the number of people working in the city centre will support increased footfall. We will also work with FOR Cardiff, the city's Business Improvement District, to support their marketing and promotion of the city centre as a destination.

With regard to St. Mary's Street, there are no current proposals in place to open this to through traffic. However, the Administration is developing plans to make the pedestrian areas more attractive and commercially useable for businesses in the city centre in order to support more footfall in the area.

I trust that this deals with those aspects of the committee's observations which fall within my portfolio responsibilities. If you have any further queries please let me know.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Russell

RUSSELL GOODWAY
CABINET MEMBER, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Copies: Councillor Peter Bradbury, Cabinet Member, Culture & Leisure
Neil Hanratty, Director of Economic Development.

My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 18 June 2018

Councillor Sarah Merry & Councillor Lynda Thorne
Cabinet Member, Housing and Communities
Cardiff Council,
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Dear Councillor Merry and Councillor Thorne,

Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee: 14 June 2018

Thank you for attending Committee for scrutiny of the Quarter 4 performance for the aspects of Communities and Housing that fall within our terms of reference.

Members have asked that I pass on their contentment with the performance achieved, across libraries, hubs, into work services and adult community learning.

With regard to the recently issued Welsh Government consultation on the future funding of Adult Community Learning, Members note that all the options proposed illustrate a cut in funding to Cardiff of circa 50%, which will be difficult to mitigate fully despite the best efforts of all concerned to better integrate and streamline services.

Members recognise the successes of our Adult Community Learning programme and the benefits this brings to some of our most disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens and communities. We are obviously concerned about these proposals and wish to offer our assistance in whatever way we can to support you in your negotiations with Welsh Government. We will make space on our work programme to hear your proposals on a way forward but, if there is anything else we can do, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Sarah McGill Elizabeth Patterson Cabinet Support Office

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Councillor Huw Thomas
Leader
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Thomas,

Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee: 14 June 2018

Members have asked that I pass on their thanks to you for attending for the item on establishing a CCR City Deal Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC). This letter captures our views on the proposals and I would be grateful if this letter is included in the report to Council, to inform the debate.

Overall, Members support the establishment of a JOSC, with a non-executive representative from each of the 10 local authorities within the CCR City Deal area. As discussed at our meeting, and set out in the draft terms of reference, this does not preclude local authority scrutiny committees deciding to carry out individual scrutiny of City Deal. However, it will make sense to avoid duplication.

With regard to the draft terms of reference, Members do not support the proposal for the Chair and Vice Chair of the JOSC to '*rotate annually between the appointing authorities in alphabetical order*'. Rather, we believe the JOSC should decide who the Chair and Vice Chair will be, rather than relying on alphabetical order. This would be in line with the guidance issued by the Welsh Government regarding the establishment of JOSC.

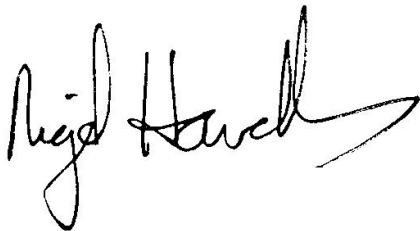
In terms of the nominations for the representative and deputy, Members recognise that this is a matter for Council. Having considered the appropriate skill set for these roles, Members feel that they should be experienced scrutineers, who have knowledge of the City Deal and professional skills that will be of value and assistance

to their role on the JOSC. In terms of length of appointment, Members feel that an annual appointment is best, in line with our existing arrangements.

The last area that we considered was the question of whether the Council should decide to pay our representative, if they were selected as Chair of the JOSC. It is our view that payment is not needed, particularly if the representative already receives a special responsibility allowance.

I hope the above comments are of use to the whole Council when discussing the proposals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Howells', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Davina Fiore
Cabinet Support Office