



County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2000

Neuadd y Sir  
Caerdydd  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** TUESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2023, 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](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

12 **Correspondence following committee meeting**(Pages 3 - 24)

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Cardiff,  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2087

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

Date: 20 September 2023

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

Dear Councillor Thomas,

**CABINET RESPONSE – SHAPING CARDIFF’S POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY**

Please accept my thanks on behalf of the Committee for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee to provide us with details of the Cabinet response to recommendations made in the task and finish report Shaping Cardiff’s Post Pandemic Recovery. Please also pass on our thanks to Ken Poole and Rebecca Hooper.

The comments, observations and recommendations below were captured during the Committee’s discussion at the Way Forward.

The Committee welcomed that acceptance of the recommendations and the explanation given for the three recommendations that were partially accepted.

In relation to R14: Within 3 months, the Cabinet considers the suggestions for improving the experience of those using the city centre and local and district centres, as set out in Key Finding 32a-c, clarify whether resources allow for any of these to be implemented, and report back to the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee on the proposed way forward on these suggestions.

The narrative accepting the recommendation notes that work with is ongoing with partners in relation to the approach to busking and the lack of adherence to the

voluntary guidelines, and the committee would welcome further information/timescales on improving the visitor experience.

This letter requires a response, please, to the following point:

- Members would welcome further information/timescales on improving the visitor experience, particularly in relation to busking

Yours sincerely,

*P Wong*

**COUNCILLOR PETER WONG  
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Group Leaders - Cllr Lancaster, Cllr Berman, Cllr Gibson  
Jon Day  
Ken Pool  
Rebecca Hooper  
Debbie Said  
Claire Deguara  
Chris Pyke  
Tim Gordan

**SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD  
OFFICE OF THE LEADER**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CE: 0042923

Dyddiad / Date: 8 November 2023



**Neuadd y Sir**  
Caerdydd,  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088  
[www.caerdydd.gov.uk](http://www.caerdydd.gov.uk)  
**County Hall**  
Cardiff,  
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Councillor Peter Wong  
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff

Via email: [Peter.Wong@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Wong@cardiff.gov.uk)

Annwyl/Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 regarding the consideration of the Cabinet's response to the *Shaping Cardiff's Post Pandemic Recovery Task and Finish Report* at the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee, and for the comments you have provided.

With regards to the issue raised on *improving the visitor experience, particularly in relation to busking*, officers are currently exploring ways in which we can undertake more active enforcement of noise complaints within the city centre using our City Centre Warden team in partnership with the Police. This will be done in a way that supports the city's Music Strategy, whilst also at the same time providing the means to deal with persistent noise nuisance. We are aiming to trial the approach in the first instance and would be happy to brief the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee on the proposed approach in the New Year.

Thank you again for inviting myself and officers to the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee, and for your time in considering our response to the *Shaping Cardiff's Post Pandemic Recovery Task and Finish Report*.

Yn gywir,  
Yours sincerely,

**CYNGHORYDD / COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS  
ARWEINYDD / LEADER  
CYNGOR CAERDYDD / CARDIFF COUNCIL**

**GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI**

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**WORKING FOR CARDIFF, WORKING FOR YOU**

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh, English or bilingually. We will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.



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Date: 20 September 2023

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

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Thomas,

**CARDIFF MARKET RESTORATION PROJECT**

Please accept my thanks on behalf of the Committee for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee to provide us with details of the Cabinet report on the on the Cardiff Market Restoration Project. Please also pass on our thanks to Jon Day, Eirian Jones and Louise Thomas.

This letter deals with Members comments and observations on the open/public information contained in the Cabinet report and appendices. I have sent a separate letter capturing our comments and observations on the confidential information.

Members commend the report to Cabinet for consideration. Members agreed with the view that Cardiff Market is a much-loved heritage building and welcome the £6m project being progressed with tenants very much part of the process. Further comments and observations are as follows:

**Current proposals**

Members sought clarification around smaller areas such as the learning suite and what this would be used for. We noted that this would be used for school trips, literary festivals and any other events that would draw people into the space.

We suggested a proposal around additional outreach work with schools outside of Cardiff and requested that you explore the opportunities for doing this. We noted that this would be part of the role of the new activity coordinator; but would **request** an update on this issue.

During the way forward, Members agreed that the graphics presented to committee did not contain any green distinction and were disappointed that this wasn't included. Therefore, we would **request** an update on this issue.

During discussions, Members sought clarity on the displacement of 5 tenants as a result of the increased area for eating. We would therefore seek further assurances that displaced tenants would have equity for new placements and would not be adversely affected. Therefore, we would **request** an update on this issue.

Members also highlighted the issue of new seating and asked for more information and clarification around this. Members heard that not all stalls currently have an option of seating and there is an expectation that the public have to sit and eat to have a seat. Members welcomed the response that under the proposal, all stalls will have equal access to seating and proposals will address the accessibility issue which is a deficiency at the moment. With this in mind, we would **request** an update on this issue.

### **Changing Places/Toilets**

During our discussions with you and officers, we suggested an area for improvement in ensuring that child changing tables in public conveniences be included in any future plans. In addition, we feel that accessible facilities for adults also be included. Whilst we welcomed the response that architects would be considering this, Members feel that "Changing Places" are critical and should be factored in at this time, rather than face the challenge of a retro fit at a later date. Whilst we acknowledge that it is not a legal requirement for this type of facility to be fitted, we note that this is now compulsory for new public buildings in England and would strongly suggest that this be included. With this in mind, we would **request** an update on this issue.



## **Footfall**

Members asked a number of questions relating to footfall, particularly the split between the floor and the balcony. Members welcomed the news that balcony footfall was increasing consistently to around 12,000 per week.

## **Food/Retail Ratios**

During the meeting, Members explored issues relating to the ratio between food and retail and asked how confident you are that the retail side will be preserved. We noted your response that the whole project aims to keep the current balance and that the Strategy is definitely keeping the market as it is with the split between food and retail.

Members asked whether long-term impact of food and retail had been measured. Members welcomed the response that a lot of analysis of surrounding areas had been undertaken and acknowledge the need to retain the retail aspect given that local businesses are increasing their food offer.

## **Consultation**

Members agreed that consultation needs to be right, and inclusive of all current stallholders. Members noted 80% had been reached and that the other 20% had been approached via email. We would welcome some further information on responses from the remaining 20%, and therefore **request** an update on this issue.

## **Facilities for Stallholders**

During the closed session, Members asked about secure bicycle storage for market traders. We were informed that the Placemaking Team would be looking at ways of providing this. We would **request** that an update on this issue.

This letter requires a response, please, to the following:

- Members **request** agreement that a further update be provided to a future scrutiny meeting and an indicative timescale for this. The update should include information on the following:

- Progress in relation to additional outreach work with schools outside of Cardiff.
- Further details of any green distinction in the plans/graphics as they were not clear.
- Assurances that displaced tenants would have equity for new placements and would not be adversely affected.
- Further details in relation to seating
- Details on plans for changing places for both children and adults with accessibility issues
- An update on consultation responses from the remaining 20% of stallholders
- An update on secure bike storage for market traders.

There are no formal recommendations arising from this letter.

Yours sincerely,

*P Wong*

**COUNCILLOR PETER WONG  
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Group Leaders - Cllr Lancaster, Cllr Berman, Cllr Gibson  
Jon Day – Operational Manager Tourism and Investment  
Eirian Jones – Operational Manager – Strategic Estates, and  
Louise Thomas – Market Manager, Asset Management Officer.  
Gavin McArthur – Chair of the Governance & Audit Committee  
Tamar Wilson – Performance Lead  
Debi Said  
Claire Deguara

**SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD  
OFFICE OF THE LEADER**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CE: 0042924

Dyddiad / Date: 8 November 2023



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Caerdydd,  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088  
[www.caerdydd.gov.uk](http://www.caerdydd.gov.uk)  
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Councillor Peter Wong  
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff

Via email: [Peter.Wong@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Wong@cardiff.gov.uk)

Annwyl/Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 regarding the consideration of the *Cardiff Market Restoration Project* at the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee, and for the comments you have provided.

The support of the Scrutiny Committee is very much appreciated in delivering this important project. We would be more than happy to update the Committee on progress relating to the issues raised, as well as ensure that they are considered as the project progresses. We will do this ahead of the approval of final designs, which we anticipate will take place next Spring. In advance however, we can provide written responses to the issues raised in your letter as many will have been addressed and considered in advance.

Thank you again for inviting myself and officers to the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee, and for your time in considering the *Cardiff Market Restoration Project*.

Yn gywir,  
Yours sincerely,

**CYNGHORYDD / COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS  
ARWEINYDD / LEADER  
CYNGOR CAERDYDD / CARDIFF COUNCIL**

**GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI**

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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Date: 20 September 2023

Councillor Thomas  
Leader,  
Cardiff Council  
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Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Thomas,

**CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CCRD JOSOC): PROPOSALS IN RELATION TO SCRUTINY OF THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE**

The Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee considered the proposal in relation to the scrutiny of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) and the draft Terms of Reference for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Cllr Owen Jones, Chair of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee and the Council's deputy on the CCRCJ JOSOC was in attendance for this item, to share his experience of the current position.

The comments, observations and recommendations below were captured during the Committee's discussion at the Way Forward.

The Committee received information from colleagues in RCT that they are making the following recommendation to their Council this week and others indicating they will do the same:

**It is proposed that the CJC JOSOC review the terms of reference at its first proper meeting, and that any proposed amendments be reported to the constituent local authorities.**

This recommendation was supported by the committee as robust Terms of Reference are needed to ensure transparent and accountable scrutiny is undertaken and concerns were noted about the following:

- Confidential papers are not currently shared with members, therefore robust scrutiny of issues is not possible.
- There is not a clear communication/accountability pathway with the constituent authorities.
- Frequency of meetings, currently only 4 meetings a year, and given the size/scale/cost of some of the projects is this sufficient?
- Attendance at meetings has been poor, despite them being 'hybrid' and a recent meeting was cancelled as it was not quorate. Is non-attendance reported back to constituent authorities? Are there sanctions? Is this linked to terms of office?
- The outputs from the meeting do not appear to be easily accessible or visible and the question was asked should agendas and minutes from the meeting be routinely shared with all councillors, to improve awareness and communication of issues.

A question was asked about the diversity of the councillors that sit on the scrutiny committee and whether this was reflective of the area covered, and proposed a question should 'quotas' be introduced?

The committee asked what level of risk are they putting the Council at, both financially and reputationally, by not being able to vigorously scrutinise projects that have a far reaching impact?

Members also asked how the Terms of Reference compare to those for other core city/cross authority joint scrutiny arrangements and make a **recommendation** that this be explored in order to inform the review at the first meeting of the CJC JOSC.

Therefore, the three recommendations to Council are:





**It is proposed that the CJC JOSC review the terms of reference at its first proper meeting, and that any proposed amendments be reported to the constituent local authorities.**

**Terms of Reference for core city/cross authority Joint Scrutiny are compared with the draft to inform the review at the first proper meeting.**

**Access to confidential papers for members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee should form part of the Terms of Reference.**

Yours sincerely,

<b>COUNCILLOR PETER WONG CHAIR, ECONOMY &amp; CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>  	<b>COUNCILLOR OWEN JONES CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>  
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cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Group Leaders - Cllr Lancaster, Cllr Berman, Cllr Gibson  
Debbie Said  
Claire Deguara  
Chris Pyke

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Date: 20 September 2023

Councillor Thomas  
Leader,  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
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CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Thomas,

### **SHARED PROSPERITY FUND**

Please accept my thanks on behalf of the Committee for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee to provide us with details of the Cabinet report on the Shared Prosperity Fund. Please also pass on our thanks to Louise Bassett; Jon Day; Natalie Southgate and James Wilcox.

The comments, observations and recommendations below were captured during the Committee's discussion at the Way Forward.

The Committee approves the recommendations set out in the Cabinet report and commends it to Cabinet for agreement. Members felt that the report and progress to date shed a refreshing focus on local projects, with realistic expectations, and a good opportunity for all communities.

Members asked a number of questions during the Q&A session, and these are summarised as follows:

#### **Progress of the Programme to date**

Members heard that the Council spent £5.2m in the last year within communities; and that there was 18 months left of the programme. Members noted the need to up the pace of spending. They heard that, of all applications received, the new approved schemes would go live in October 2023.

### **Evaluation of applications received.**

Members asked how you ensure that the needs of the community had been covered and not just those who had active and “organised” community members. The committee welcomed your response that a full GAP analysis is undertaken, and the focus of the Strategy is outcome led.

### **Branding of the programme**

Members asked about how long does the Council have to keep the levelling up branding in place? They heard that the UK Government had not put any timeframe in place on this, and you would go forward and ask. Members would therefore **request** an update on this issue in your response to us.

### **Longevity of the Programme and Projects**

Members asked about the longevity of projects and whether potential gaps in funding provision had been identified, particularly in terms of the third sector. Members also queried whether this prevents good projects being submitted due to the 3-year window. Members acknowledged your stance in relation to this, particularly around the potential impact of a general election and the end of the funding round. Members noted that the outcome of this would potentially be that grants to the third sector would be affected.

Linked to this, Members highlighted pockets of need in North Cardiff; and welcomed the confirmation that there is still the opportunity to bid in Year 2 and Year 3.

### **Bureaucracy of the programme**

Members asked whether you were able to quantify the proportion of costs to the council in accessing the funding programme. They noted the response that there is a possibility of claiming 4% of the fund to support the programme administrative costs.

This letter requires a response, please, to the following point:

- Members would welcome an **update from discussions with UK Government** relating to timeframes in the levelling up branding.

Yours sincerely,

*P Wong*

**COUNCILLOR PETER WONG  
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Group Leaders - Cllr Lancaster, Cllr Berman, Cllr Gibson  
Louise Bassett – Operational Manager Partnerships and Commissioning – Housing  
and Communities  
Jon Day – Operational Manager Tourism and Investment  
Natalie Southgate – Partnership Delivery Manager – Housing and Communities, and  
James Wilcox – Accountant – Finance.  
Gavin McArthur, Chair of Governance and Audit Committee  
Tamar Wilson, Performance Lead  
Tim Gordon, Jeremy Rhys – Media and Comms

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