

Date: 25 July 2017



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

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

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

Dear Councillor Thomas,

Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee: 18 July 2017

Thank you for attending the Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee last week, to share Cardiff Public Services Board (CPSB) progress, and the Board's draft Well-being objectives. Your input will assist the Committee to factor its statutory scrutiny responsibilities under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFG) into work programming for 2017/18. Following the scrutiny Members agreed that I pass on the following observations captured during the Way Forward.

The Committee wishes to commend Cardiff's longstanding record of non-statutory partnership working. This has clearly proved an excellent basis for taking forward the statutory requirements of the WFG Act. We acknowledge that core city leaders across the UK consider such statutory requirements on partner organisations to be of huge benefit to a local authority. The Committee therefore welcomes your discretionary offer for myself, as Chair, to attend the CPSB from time to time to ensure the committee's observations are fed into proceedings. We feel this will maintain strong lines of open accountability, and benefit both parties.

Given the benefit of our statutory remit, the Committee considers its role must be greater than simply a statutory process, and, to be more meaningful, we should aim to measure progress. Importantly, the Committee considers that to enable such an approach it will be looking for measurable targets and outcomes in the final Well-being Plan. We were therefore pleased to hear that you too consider the Well-being Plan will require targets in order to ground the work of the Board.

We note that there is likely to be a small number of strategic partnership working groups supporting the work of the CPSB. Members observed that, whilst the Act itself and the seven outcomes for Wales are vague, there is potentially an opportunity for greater input from health.

The new Committee is keen to reassure itself of the soundness of the consultation undertaken at needs assessment stage, on which the draft objectives have been based. I acknowledge that following the Committee's previous scrutiny you kindly provided us with the full list of such consultation activities, to reassure the committee that all hard to reach groups had been encouraged to contribute.

The focus of our meeting was to set a firm context and understanding of work programming opportunities, and we have identified two occasions on which we will plan to consider Cardiff's Well-being Plan. Firstly during the 12 week consultation period (Autumn 2017). Secondly, we would request a pre-decision scrutiny opportunity prior to final approval by the Board. (Spring 2018). We are therefore proposing, subject to final discussion and approval at our meeting on 20 September 2017, that our draft work programme includes two partnership scrutiny items.

To recap, the Committee:

- Welcomes your offer for myself, as Chair, to attend the CPSB from time to time to establish strong lines of open accountability, and benefit both parties.
- Will be looking for measurable targets and outcomes in the final Well-being Plan that enables it to monitor progress over time.
- Proposes that its draft work programme, to be agreed on 20 September 2017 includes scrutiny of Cardiff's Well-being Plan, during the 12-week consultation period (Autumn 2017) and prior to final approval by the Board. (Spring 2018).

Once again, on behalf of the Committee, please pass my sincere thanks to all who attended PRAP Scrutiny Committee for consideration of the draft Well-being Objectives. On this occasion, a response is not required. Should a matter come to your attention that would benefit from the Committee's involvement we will aim to co-operate and we look forward to maintaining an ongoing constructive exchange between the Board and Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Walker', with a stylized, cursive script.

COUNCILLOR DAVID WALKER
CHAIR, POLICY REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee
Paul Orders, Chief Executive
Gareth Newell, Partnership & Community Engagement Manager
Joanne Watkins, Cabinet Office Manager
Debbie Said, PA to Leader.