

My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH



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Date: 6 October 2017

Councillor Russell Goodway  
Cabinet Member, Investment and Development  
Cardiff Council,  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Goodway,

**Economy & Culture and Environmental Scrutiny Committee: 5 October 2017**

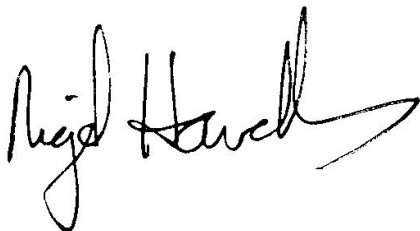
On behalf of Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee, please accept our thanks for attending our meeting to discuss progress on delivering a multi-purpose indoor arena in Cardiff. Members found your presentation very helpful in illustrating the potential scale and function of the arena and in considering the various possible locations for the arena. Members have asked that I pass on the following comments and observations from their discussion at the Way Forward.

- Members are supportive of the proposal for a multi-purpose indoor arena, recognising the benefits that will accrue to the city region from increased footfall and enhanced infrastructure.
- Given the need to identify and secure c. £110 million, Members believe it would be sensible for officers to explore the range of funding options in case funding from the City Deal is not forthcoming.
- Members believe it is important that the business case for the multi-purpose indoor arena clearly detail the likely impact the arena will have on other venues in the city region. At our meeting, Members heard that the proposed capacity and specification for the arena means that it will complement the planned venues in Newport and Swansea. Members also heard that it may impact negatively on the Motorpoint Arena in Cardiff.

- Members are keen to be involved in further scrutiny of progress in delivering the arena, at appropriate stages. In particular, Members wish to scrutinise the following:
  - the preferred location, including receiving details of the assessment of each potential site (*covering cost, deliverability, regeneration potential, transport and infrastructure linkages etc.*)
  - the overall business case, including the economic assessment.
- Members were interested in your reference to Professor Philip Cooke's report, which put forward a vision for how Cardiff could use the competitiveness approach to develop. I understand South Glamorgan County Council commissioned this report in the 1990's. Members would welcome having sight of a copy of the report, if possible.

Overall, Members are supportive of proposals for a multi-purpose indoor arena and wish you well with your endeavours to deliver this. We look forward to scrutinising refined proposals at an appropriate point and ask that officers liaise with scrutiny officers to arrange this.

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