

**COUNCIL: 22 MARCH 2018**

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**FINANCE, MODERNISATION AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENT**

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**Staff Engagement**

As part of our programme of staff engagement, the Leader and Chief Executive visited staff based at Lamby Way on 30 January 2018. This event provided an important opportunity to begin a conversation between the Cabinet and council employees about our priorities, the challenges facing the city and, crucially, how we as a Council need to respond. The event also celebrated the success and achievements of 35 members of staff based at Lamby Way who have completed the Cardiff & Vale College Essential Skills Agored Cymru Training. The Council is committed to investing in staff to develop their skills and support their future development and I want to congratulate those officers on their achievements and wish them every success in their future careers with the Council.

**International Women's Day**

The Council's Women's Network celebrated International Women's Day at County Hall on 8 March 2018 with inspirational speakers, choir music and exhibitors offering a range of products and services. I would like to thank the co-chairs of the Women's Network, Sarah Hyde and Alice Owens, for welcoming everyone and setting out their plans for the Network over the coming year. I also want to thank Sarah McGill, Corporate Director (People & Communities) who, as the newly appointed Women's Network Champion, spoke at the event about the importance of the work-life balance and having confidence in yourself in the workplace.

**Living Wage Accreditation Scheme**

In 2017, the Council put in place a Living Wage Accreditation Scheme to encourage Cardiff-based Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) to become accredited Living Wage employers. The scheme covers a SME's first three years of accreditation fees and has been a key factor in the increase in the number of accredited Living Wage employers in Cardiff from 29 at the end of 2016 to its current level of 58. I am pleased to inform Council that the Accreditation Scheme will continue in 2018/19. Further details and application forms are available through the Council's Procurement Team.

**Councillor Chris Weaver  
Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation & Performance  
21 March 2018**