

COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Background

1. This report provides Members with:
 - i. a correspondence update:
 - ii. the '*Council Workshops & Innovation Premises*' Inquiry draft report, attached at **Appendix A**, for discussion, amendment and approval; and
 - iii. an opportunity for Members to discuss the forthcoming scrutiny of the Corporate Plan and budgetary proposals.

Correspondence update

2. Following most Committee meetings the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered.
3. At the Committee meeting on 11 October 2018 Members received a report detailing the correspondence sent and received up to that meeting. Since then, correspondence has been sent following the Committee meeting on 11 October 2018
4. The list below details the position with regard to responses to correspondence:
 - i. *Response Awaited* – from Councillor Russell Goodway, to the Chair's letter following scrutiny of plans to regenerate the Dumballs Road area, considered at Committee on 11 October 2018.

- ii. *Response Awaited* – from Councillor Peter Bradbury to the Chair’s letter regarding the Cabinet Response to the Funding of Parks Inquiry report recommendations, considered at Committee on 11 October 2018.
5. Copies of the Chair’s letters and any responses received can be found on the Council’s website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled ‘*correspondence following the committee meeting*’.

Council Workshops and Innovation Premises Inquiry

6. During discussions to inform the Committee’s work programme for the municipal year 2018-19, Members received a request to undertake an inquiry into the way forward re Council-owned workshops and innovation premises. Members were requested to undertake the inquiry over the summer months and to report as soon as possible in the autumn, to help inform policy development in these areas.
7. The Committee agreed the following membership for this task group: Councillor Howells; Councillor Hill-John; and Councillor Robson. Attached at **Appendix A** is the draft report of the task group, which details key findings and recommendations.
8. The task group heard evidence from a number of internal and external witnesses, including relevant Cabinet Members, senior officers, tenants in Council Workshops, Cardiff University, the University of South Wales, and Gareth Jones, co-founder of Welsh Innovation Centre for Enterprise and The Town Square.
9. The evidence was used to identify suitable findings from the Inquiry, which are shown at the front of the document under the heading ‘Key Findings’. The recommendations are based on the evidence heard throughout the Inquiry.

Scrutiny of the Corporate Plan and 2019/20 Budgetary Proposals

10. On the 19 February 2019, the Committee meeting will be dedicated to the consideration of the Corporate Plan and Budgetary Proposals 2019/20. All Members of the Council will be offered a briefing on these issues.
11. At this meeting, Members are requested to consider whether they feel they require any further, targeted training on scrutinising the Corporate Plan and Budgetary Proposals. The Head of Democratic Services is coordinating requests for further training.

Way Forward

12. During their meeting, Members may wish to discuss and agree any amendments required to the Task Group report 'Council Workshops and Innovation Premises', attached at **Appendix A**.

Legal Implications

13. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- I. Note the update on committee consultation; and
- II. Consider the '*Council Workshops and Innovation Premises*' task group report, attached at **Appendix A**, and endorse the report, subject to any amendments the Committee wish to make, for submission to the Cabinet.

Davina Fiore

Director - Governance and Legal Services

2 November 2018