

Events in Cardiff Inquiry - Report

Reason for Report

1. To provide Members with the '*Events in Cardiff*' Inquiry draft report, attached at **Appendix A**, for discussion, amendment and approval, prior to presentation to the Cabinet for consideration.

Events in Cardiff Inquiry

2. During discussions to inform the Committee's work programme for the municipal year 2018-19, Members received a request from Councillor Bradbury to undertake an inquiry into events in Cardiff. Following initial scoping meetings, Members agreed the following terms of reference:
 - To explore with key stakeholders what the programme of events in Cardiff should look like, taking into account the following factors:
 - Role of events re economy of city and region
 - Impact of events on citizens, the council and the city.
 - To explore with key stakeholders what the Council's role should be re events, looking in particular at:
 - Role of Council and Partner organisations re attracting, promoting, delivering, managing and retaining events
 - How much Council resource should be focused on events?
 - How other Councils manage similar programmes of events.
 - To make evidence-based recommendations on a future events strategy for Cardiff and the role of the Council re events in Cardiff.
3. The Committee agreed the following membership for this task group:
Councillor Gordon; Councillor Henshaw; and Councillor Parkhill. Attached at

Appendix A is the draft report of the task group, which details key findings and recommendations.

4. The task group heard evidence from a number of internal and external witnesses, including relevant Cabinet Members, senior officers, Welsh Government officers, external statutory partners, event organisers, For Cardiff, Cardiff Hoteliers Association, Professor Terry Stevens and John Rostron, Sound Diplomacy.
5. The task group also received written contributions from Artes Mundi, South Wales Fire & Rescue Services, Public Health Wales and from a group of Pontcanna and Riverside Residents. As part of the Inquiry, Members visited the Principality Stadium to hear their views on events in Cardiff, the role of the Council and the future programme of events in Cardiff.
6. Desk based research was undertaken into approaches used by other similar local authorities, including: Belfast, Leeds, Liverpool, Monmouthshire and Bristol. A high-level review of recent developments regarding Events Levy and Tourism Tax was also undertaken, covering Bath, Edinburgh and Liverpool. In addition, a summary literature review of the impact of events was undertaken and is attached at Appendix 1 of the report.
7. Cardiff Research Centre was asked to provide details of recent Cardiff Council consultations that included results pertinent to this Inquiry; their response is attached at Appendix 2 of the report.
8. 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.

Way Forward

11. During their meeting, Members may wish to discuss and agree any amendments required to the Task Group report '*Events in Cardiff*', attached at **Appendix A**.

Legal Implications

12. 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

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 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 consider the '*Events in Cardiff*' 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

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13 February 2019