

**SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD
OFFICE OF THE LEADER**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM30416

Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

Dyddiad / Date: 28th April 2015

Councillor Craig Williams
County Hall
Atlantic Wharf
Butetown
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



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

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

Annwyl / Dear Craig

**Economy & Culture Scrutiny, 5 March 2015 - Economic Development Qtr 3
Performance**

Thank you for your letter dated 17th March 2015, and for inviting me to the meeting of the 5th March. I have sought to answer your questions below, but please contact me if there is any further information you would require.

The Council's budget for 2015/16 included a reduction of £160,000 to the previous £500,000 budget contribution made to the Cardiff Business Council and therefore any review should be considered within this context. Further details on the plans to review the Cardiff Business Council model are outlined in the 'City Deal Implications and Next Steps' report presented to Cabinet on 2nd April 2015.

With regards a briefing note on the Coal Exchange I attached a summary of recent progress. It is important to note that whilst the Council can seek to have a positive influence on the process, it does not own the building and is to some extent restricted in its role in the process of securing the building's future. It would be inappropriate therefore for the Council to believe it is in a position to set the timescales for the building to be brought back into active use. Nonetheless we will keep the Scrutiny Committee updated on progress when more information is made available.

In terms of benchmarking performance against other Core Cities, we will seek to compare Cardiff's performance on a range of National Statistics, such as employment, unemployment, earnings and GVA per capita. These comparisons will feed into the current performance management process.

I am also pleased to be able to inform you that consultants have been appointed and have begun the process of establishing a Business Improvement District in Cardiff. This process is likely to take around 12 months until competition (that is the establishment of a Business Improvement District).

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO:

Swyddfa'r Arweinydd, Ystafell 525, Neuadd y Sir, Glanfa'r Iwerydd, Caerdydd CF10 4UW
Ffôn (029) 2087 2500 Ffacs (029) 2087 2599

Office of the Leader, Room 525, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4UW
Tel (029) 2087 2500 Fax (029) 2087 2599



Thank you again for inviting us to the meeting, the work of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee is, as ever, greatly appreciated.

Yn gywir,
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Bale', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**CYNGHORYDD / COUNCILLOR PHIL BALE
ARWEINYDD, CYNGOR DINAS CAERDYDD
LEADER OF THE CITY OF CARDIFF COUNCIL**