

**CARDIFF CENTRAL MARKET AND HISTORIC ARCADES – UPDATE ON
IMPROVEMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Purpose of report

1. To update Members on progress and developments at Cardiff Central Market in light of the recommendations made in the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee May 2014 inquiry report 'Cardiff Central Market and Historic Arcades'.

Background

2. As a part of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2013-14, the Committee agreed to consider Cardiff Central Market and Historic Arcades as a topic for in-depth scrutiny. This subsequent Inquiry Report was presented to Cabinet in December 2014. The scope of the scrutiny was to provide an overview of Cardiff Central Market and the historic arcades in the city centre, in recognition of the important offer that the independent retailers and small businesses within the Historic Arcades and Central Market bring to the city centre shopping experience.
3. The following terms of reference were used as the basis for this short scrutiny exercise:
 - Understand the Council's role in running and supporting Cardiff Central Market and the city's historic Arcades.
 - Understand the importance of Cardiff Central Market and the Arcades to the local economy.
 - Explore options for the future of Cardiff Central Market and the Arcades.

- Review good practice from other local authorities in their support and promotion of Markets and Arcades.
 - Review public opinion and awareness of Cardiff Central Market and Arcades.
 - Understand the views of market stall holders and arcade store owners.
 - Understand the implications of a potential Business Improvement District proposed for Cardiff Council, and the impact this will have for Central Market and the Arcades.
4. Members received evidence from a range of sources, including representatives of Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff Central Market Traders Association, Ashdown Phillips, Curzon Real Estate, Cardiff Council, Rules of Play, the National Association of British Market Authorities and Wrexham Council. A public perception survey was also undertaken by the Scrutiny Research Team, with almost 2,000 members of the public providing their views, and each market stall holder and arcade shop owner given the opportunity to give their opinions.
5. The full report for this inquiry can be found at: <http://goo.gl/tFebH2>

Cabinet Response to Recommendations

6. In April 2015 the Cabinet published its response to the Committee's report and recommendations, which can be found at Appendix A¹. Overall, the Committee made 17 recommendations to the Cabinet. The Cabinet response shows that:
- Eleven of the recommendations are accepted – R1, R3, R5, R7, R8, R9, R10, R12, R13, R14, R15.
 - Five of the recommendations are partially accepted – R2, R4, R6, R11, R16.
 - One recommendation was not accepted – R17 (this was in relation to exploring parking options within the city centre).

¹ Note – the report is incorrectly marked 2 April 2014. It was taken to Cabinet on 2 April 2015

Previous Scrutiny

7. In June 2015 the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee received an item outlining the Cabinet response to the inquiry. At this item, Members were advised that work had been undertaken with the Tenants Association to resolve many historic issues, and that this should form a platform to move forward on the improvement agenda. It was recognised that Cardiff Central Market is an iconic building in an excellent location, and has potential to be a great tourist attraction for Cardiff.
8. Members indicated they were keen to see a timeline indicating the changes and improvements that would be undertaken at the Market,. Members appreciated hearing the recognition that the Market could be a great asset for Cardiff, and noted their expectancy that improvement plans would reflect this.
9. In correspondence to the Chair of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee, the Leader indicated that another update could be brought from late Autumn 2015, by which time many improvements will have been put in place. In setting the 2015/16 work programme, it was agreed that this update would be scheduled for Spring 2016.

Way Forward

10. The Council Leader Councillor Phil Bale, and Director of Economic Development Neil Hanratty have been invited to present the response to the inquiry, and present any progress made in addressing the issues raised and recommendations made.

Legal Implications

11. 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

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 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.

Recommendation

13. The Committee is recommended to give consideration to the information attached to this report and received at this meeting, and to submit any recommendations, observations or comments to the Cabinet.

David Marr

Interim Monitoring Officer

6 May 2016