

Ref: RDB/RC/BD/09.06.15

17th June 2015

Councillor Bob Derbyshire,
Cabinet Member for the Environment,
County Hall,
Atlantic Wharf,
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW.



Dear Councillor Derbyshire,

Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 9th June 2015

On behalf of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank the officers for attending the Committee meeting on Tuesday 9th June 2015. As you are aware the meeting considered items titled 'Draft City Operations Directorate Delivery Plan' and 'Household Waste Recycling Centres – Proposed Changes'. The comments and observations made by Members following these items are set out in this letter.

Draft City Operations Directorate Delivery Plan

- Members noted that the presentation delivered by the Assistant Director for the Environment cited a spend of £73 million per annum for the services to be included within the new Alternative Delivery Model. The figure quoted during the recent task & finish exercise was £55 million, i.e. a difference of £18 million. I'd be grateful if you could provide an explanation for this variation; a breakdown of all the services to be included in the new Alternative Delivery Model; the budget for each of these and the number of FTE staff working in each of these services. The information should be based on the outturn figures for 2014/15.

Household Waste Recycling Centres – Proposed Changes

- The Committee noted the proposals put forward during your presentation on the 'Household Waste Recycling Centres – Proposed Changes'. Opinions were mixed on the two main options, i.e. to build a new site at Lamby Way or instead focus on the development of the Wedal Road site.

It was acknowledged that the Lamby Way site was based in an industrial area and, therefore, presented less of an immediate impact on local residents. At the same time the Wedal Road site appears to be a more convenient site for many parts of the north of the city.

- The presentation provided a list of distances from various parts of the north of the city to the Lamby Way and Wedal Road sites. Members were not convinced by the distances stated and in particular the travelling times quoted. For the benefit of any future consultation I would be grateful if you could ask officers to review this information and provide the Committee with a set of revised figures, if it proves to be the case that those quoted are inaccurate or unrealistic.

Draft Infrastructure Business Model & Alternative Delivery Options Task & Finish Report

- At the meeting the Committee reviewed the 'Draft Infrastructure Business Model & Alternative Delivery Options Task & Finish Report'. After reviewing the content of the document Members accepted the draft report without the need to make any alterations. The Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee will have the opportunity to consider the draft report on the 7th July. It is hoped that after this meeting (and subject to any required changes) the report will be finalised and provided to Cabinet for consideration at their next available meeting.

As a final comment and for future reference I would ask that all future Environmental Scrutiny Committee presentations are kept to a maximum of ten minutes. This in my view will ensure that adequate time is always allocated for Member questions.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the requests made in this letter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Cook', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Ralph Cook
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc to:

Jane Forshaw, Director for the Environment
Andrew Gregory, Director for Strategic Planning, Highways, Traffic &
Transport
Tara King, Assistant Director for the Environment
Jane Cherrington, Operational Manager – Strategy & Enforcement
Pat McGrath, Operational Manager, Infrastructure & Projects
Paul Keeping, Operational Manager, Scrutiny Services
Joanne Watkins, Cabinet Office Manager
Members of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee