SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD OFFICE OF THE LEADER

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: Dyddiad / Date:

CM30543 4th June 2015



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

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

Jane Hutt AM Minister for Finance and Government Business Welsh Government **Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA**

Annwyl / Dear

As you are aware the City of Cardiff Council has been working in partnership with other Local Authorities to develop a proposal for a City Deal for the Cardiff Capital Region. As part of these discussions the Local Authorities in the region are looking to bring together a fund to support this process. The fund will provide additional resources to aid the development of a robust business case to present to the UK Government later this year. Local Authority Leaders also agreed on 1 May 2015 to establish monthly meetings as part of a new Cardiff City Deal Project Board, into which a Regional Chief Executives Group would report.

Council Leaders in the Cardiff Capital Region are also in agreement that Welsh Government has a critical role in this process, with any City Deal being shaped by the specific devolution settlement in Wales. In this context, it was felt that it was important to extend an invitation to a Welsh Government representative to attend our Project Board meetings as an observer to aid the City Deal negotiation process.

In addition, local authorities are currently in the process of establishing a new fund of up to £500,000, on a pro-rata basis, to contribute financially towards the bid development process. Leaders also wished to establish whether Welsh Government would be in a position to also contribute to this fund, which it was felt would send a strong statement of intent to other public and private sector partners.

I would therefore be grateful if you could confirm if you are happy for a Welsh Government representative to attend these meetings, and also whether the Government would consider a financial contribution towards the new bid development fund.

Meanwhile, please let me know if you require any further information.

Yn gywir,

Yours sincerely,

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

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO:

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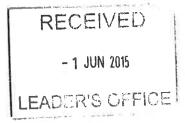
Jane Hutt AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth
Minister for Finance and Government Business



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JH/00289/15

Cllr Phil Bale
Cardiff County Council
Room 525
County Hall
Atlantic Wharf
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



24 June 2015

Dear Phil,

Thank you for your letter of 4 June. I welcome the collaborative approach that the Leaders are taking to develop the proposal further. The participation of Local Authorities from across the broader Cardiff Capital Region is likely to be an important success factor for a City Deal.

As you know, I am committed to building on our early positive engagement and welcome the opportunity for a Welsh Government representative to attend your project board in an observer capacity. This will build on the working relationships already being established by our officials.

It is my intention that the Welsh Government will take an important and active role in shaping a City Deal proposal. As part of this I have agreed that my officials will be working closely with your project teams, as well as internally across the Welsh Government to support the development process. The Welsh Government will also, alongside the UK Government, have a more formal role in agreeing the proposal when it is completed. Given this, whilst I do not feel it would be appropriate to make a financial contribution to the development fund I remain committed to working collaboratively to deliver a strong proposal for Wales.

Jane Hutt AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth Minister for Finance and Government Business