

COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Background

1. At the Committee meeting on 16 September 2015 Members discussed how they wished to deal with future reports concerning committee business, such as correspondence reports and work programme reports. Members decided to combine these within an overarching Committee Business report. This would include a correspondence update schedule, detailing the areas of the Chair's letters that required response and detailing the response received.

Correspondence update

2. Following most Committee meetings the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered during that meeting. At the Committee meeting on 6 January 2016 Members received a report detailing the Committee-related correspondence sent and received by the Committee relating to Committee meetings held on 8 July 2015, 16 September 2015, 7 October 2015 and 2 December 2015.
3. The correspondence schedule attached as **Appendix A** provides an update since 6 January 2016 Committee meeting, with the following information:
 - i. Date the letters were sent;
 - ii. To whom the letter was addressed;
 - iii. The key recommendations set out in the Chair's letters;
 - iv. Date the response was received; and
 - v. The response of the Cabinet Member(s) to those recommendations.

4. The schedule attached at **Appendix A** shows:
- i. *Awaiting Response* - from Christine Salter to the Chair's Letter regarding evaluation process for proposed savings, considered at Committee on 8 July 2015.
 - ii. *Response Received* – from Councillor De'Ath to the Chair's letter containing recommendations pertaining to the Call-In of the Re-declaration of the Additional Licensing Scheme in Cathays Ward considered at Committee on 7 October 2015 – *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - iii. *Response Received* – from Councillor Elsmore to the Chair's letter regarding performance issues, considered at Committee on 2 December 2015– *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - iv. *Response Received* – from Councillor Elsmore and Councillor Lent to the Chair's letter regarding the CSSIW Report, considered at Joint Committee on 17 December 2015– *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - v. *Response Received* – from Bernard McDonald, Area Manager Cardiff CSSIW, to the Chair's letter following scrutiny of the CSSIW Report at Joint Committee on 17 December 2015– *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - vi. *Response Received* – from Councillor Elsmore and Councillor Patel to the Chair's letter regarding Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment and Site Selection Criteria, considered at Committee on 6 January 2016 – *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - vii. *Response Received* – from Councillor Elsmore to the Chair's letter regarding the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2016/17 and the Voids Deep Dive, considered at Committee on 6 January 2016 - *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - viii. *Response Received* – from Councillor Elsmore to the Chair's letter seeking clarification, following the Special Committee held on 20 January 2016 to hear from stakeholders affected by the budgetary proposals issued for consultation - *attached in full at Appendix B.*
 - ix. *Response Received* – from Councillor Bale to the Chair's letter regarding the Corporate Plan 2016-18 and budgetary proposals, following Committee on 15 February 2016 – *attached in full at Appendix B.*

How to Reduce Night Time Economy Crime and Disorder in a time of Austerity – Task Group Report

5. Attached at **Appendix C** is a draft report which details the key findings and recommendations reached by the Committee's Task Group following their Inquiry into 'How to reduce Night Time Economy Crime and Disorder in a time of Austerity'.
6. The task group heard evidence from a range of internal and external witnesses, including relevant Cabinet Members, senior officers, frontline officers, South Wales Police, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board, Violence Prevention Group, Cardiff Licensee Forum, Cardiff Business Safe, Street Pastors, Cardiff Hoteliers Association, Cardiff Business Improvement District task group and the Park Plaza hotel.
7. The task group also received evidence from desk based research looking at approaches taken elsewhere in the U.K. with regard to tackling crime and disorder in the Night Time Economy. Members also used the Welsh Government draft 'Framework for Managing the Night Time Economy in Wales' to identify areas to explore with witnesses and via desk based research.
8. The evidence was used to identify suitable findings from the Inquiry, which are shown at the front of the document under the headings 'Headline Findings' and 'Key Findings'. The recommendations are based on the evidence heard throughout the Inquiry.

Way Forward

9. During their meeting, Members may wish to:
 - i. reflect on the responses received to the Chair's letter, at **Appendix B**; and
 - ii. discuss and agree any amendments required to the Task Group report 'How to Reduce Night Time Economy Crime and Disorder in a time of Austerity', attached at **Appendix C**.

Legal Implications

10. 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

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 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:

- I. Note the content of the consultation schedule attached at **Appendix A** and consider the responses attached at **Appendix B**;
- II. Consider the 'How to Reduce Night Time Economy Crime and Disorder in a time of Austerity' task group report, attached at **Appendix C**, and endorse the report, subject to any amendments the Committee wish to make, for submission to the Cabinet.

Marie Rosenthal

Director of Governance and Legal Services

25 February 2016