

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: NRS/CW/PBr/04.12.14

Dyddiad / Date: 02 January 2015



Councillor Peter Bradbury
Cabinet Member: Community Development, Co-operatives & Social Enterprise
City of Cardiff Council
County Hall
Atlantic Wharf
Cardiff
CF10 4UW.

Dear Councillor Bradbury

ECONOMY AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 4 DECEMBER 2014
Quarter 2 Performance – Sport, Leisure & Culture

On behalf of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and officers for attending the Committee meeting on 4 December 2014. The Committee had a number of comments following the meeting, as set out below.

Members welcomed the overview of Quarter 2 performance given by the Director, which framed the budget position and performance in the directorate. We were pleased to hear about the high profile events that have been supported by the directorate in the past few months, such as the NATO dinner and the UEFA Super Cup, and with the opening of Air Trail at Cardiff International White Water Centre. We were also pleased to note that there have been improvements in the number of Member Inquiries responded to on time and a 19% reduction in complaints to the directorate.

We did however have a few concerns we wish to highlight. Firstly, in relation to sickness absence, we are concerned that this is rising and that the level of sickness absence in this directorate is one of the highest in the Council. We welcome the honesty of the Director in acknowledging the situation may worsen, as significant proposals for change in Leisure and Cultural venues, Flatholm Island and Community Halls could impact on the morale of staff; however we feel that this issue is something the directorate must get a hold of, and will be interested to explore this further at quarter 3 monitoring.

Members wish to reiterate the point made at the meeting that Councillors should be kept informed when in-year mitigating actions are taken to respond to financial or service delivery pressures. For example, when there are changes to opening hours,

or when a centre is closed early, the Ward Councillors should be informed so that they can pass on information when residents contact them.

Members are concerned that issues with Facilities Management (FM) response times are impacting on the performance of this directorate, and we will be writing to the Policy Review and Performance Committee to look into this, as FM falls under the terms of reference of this Committee. We hope this will help facilitate a resolution to the problems being experienced.

This letter does not require a response, however I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and observations.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Councillor Craig Williams
Chairperson Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee

cc Chris Hesper – Director of Sport, Leisure & Culture
Cllr Bob Derbyshire – Cabinet Member for the Environment
Cheryl Cornelius and Jo Watkins, Cabinet Office
Members of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee.