

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

Dyddiad / Date: 02 January 2015

Councillor Phil Bale
Leader, City of Cardiff Council
County Hall
Atlantic Wharf
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Councillor Bale

ECONOMY AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 4 DECEMBER 2014
Quarter 2 Performance – Economic Development

At the December meeting of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee Members considered the Quarter 2 Performance of the Economic Development Directorate. The Committee had a few comments and observations following the meeting, which are set out below.

Members questioned the performance in relation to responding to Member Enquiries, with only 38% of enquiries responded to on time. We were informed that the officer responsible for Member Enquiries was on long term sick, and that the enquiries had not been picked up in time. While we feel the work of an officer on long term sick should have been picked up earlier, we take the assurances given that the directorate now has a handle on this, and hope to see improvement in Quarter 3.

Members also explored the Performance Indicator in relation to the amount of grant aid and private sector finance attracted by companies assisted by the Council, which is given an 'amber' rating. We were informed that it is unlikely the 2014/15 target will be achieved, given the limited amounts of funding available, with the target being set at a time that the Council was in a position to give more assistance. We accept the reasons given for not being on course to achieve this years target, however it has led us to question why it is not rated 'red' rather than 'amber' as there is acceptance it will not be achieved. Members are concerned that this performance information will have been through various checks and stages, and yet this had not been picked up – leading us to question whether the rating of wider performance indicators in this directorate and others across the Council is accurate.

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 stroke extending to the right.

Councillor Craig Williams
Chairperson Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee

cc Neil Hanratty – Director of Economic Development
Cabinet Office
Members of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee