

**SWYDDFA'R ARWEINYDD
OFFICE OF THE LEADER**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM32671

Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

Dyddiad / Date: 6th January 2016

Cllr R Mckerlich
Cardiff City Council
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Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
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Annwyl / Dear Rod

Economy & Culture Scrutiny, 15 October - Arts Council Of Wales

Thank you for your letter regarding the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee's discussions on the potential for the Arts in Cardiff to promote city regeneration and the well-being of citizens.

I of course share your committee's view regarding the benefits of a vibrant arts community for the city most especially in respect of delivering on our Europe's most liveable capital city vision. However, clearly our aspirations need to be set against the very real austerity measures faced by all local authorities. This is one of the reasons that I launched the Cultural Conversation. A forum which draws together 28 of the major cultural organisations in the city to discuss how we can work together to provide a sustainable future for arts in the city. The conversations to date have mirrored the views in your letter and evidenced the breadth of involvement and influence the arts community has in our city. I will be reconvening a meeting of this group early in the new year to discuss next steps and I will also contact the Arts Council directly to identify if they would appreciate a separate meeting on their particular role and involvement in the wider city vision.

Yn gywir,
Yours sincerely,

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

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