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## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021, 4.00 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact [scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

10 **Correspondence Following Committee Meeting**(Pages 3 - 20)

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My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 14 July 2021



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Councillor Russell Goodway  
Cabinet Members  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

## Public Letter

Dear Councillor Goodway,

### **Velodrome: International Sports Village (ISV)**

Thank you for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee on 13 July 2021, along with Neil Hanratty, Chris Barnett, Steve Morris and Jo-Anne Phillips to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the next stages in the Velodrome: ISV project. This letter captures the comments and observations from Members with regard to information in the public domain. I will send a separate, confidential letter to capture our views on exempt issues.

Members highlighted that concerns have been raised that not all current users of the Maindy velodrome will be able to use the new velodrome track at the ISV, due to its design. Members sought to understand whether this is the case. Members are reassured by the answers provided by officers that the track designer has been clearly instructed to ensure that the new track at the ISV velodrome is designed to be suitable for all current users of the Maindy velodrome, whether they are young, old, beginners or experienced cyclists and whether they use road or track bikes. Members note that cycling organisations are recommending 330 metre tracks as the optimal distance, which is why the new track is not as long as the track at the Maindy velodrome.

Members note the report to Cabinet states the need to test the market for a third party operator of the velodrome, given the possible VAT implications for the Council meaning it is unlikely to be financially viable for the Council to operate the velodrome. Members note the response from officers that this market testing would be part of the

broader work to inform the Full Business Case for the overall ISV site and that they are optimistic that they will find an operator. Members note that this is a key risk to the Council; this is an area we intend to explore further when we scrutinise the report to Cabinet on the ISV in September.

During our way forward discussion, Members reflected on the critical role active travel routes – walking and cycling – play in terms of ensuring good access to the ISV site. Members own recent experiences of walking and cycling to the Bayside Vaccination Centre and nearby locations demonstrates the poor condition of existing routes, in terms of surface quality, road crossings and connectivity. These need addressing, they need to be improved and made fit for purpose, to provide good access to the ISV site and the velodrome. In the response to this letter, **Members request** that you provide details of the plans to achieve improvements to active travel routes to the ISV site, including access from Cogan Station, the Ely trail, routes around the Cardiff Bay Retail Park and routes within the ISV site and Cardiff Bay. We are seeking reassurance that active travel is being planned into the overall improvement of the ISV site.

This letter requires a response please, to the following point:

**Request**

That you provide details of the plans to achieve improvements to active travel routes to the ISV site, including access from Cogan Station, the Ely trail, routes around the Cardiff Bay Retail Park and routes within the ISV site and Cardiff Bay.

Yours sincerely,



**COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS**  
**CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

cc      Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
         Neil Hanratty                      Chris Barnett                      Steve Morris                      Jo-Anne Phillips  
         Clair James                      Cabinet Support Office                      Tim Gordon

**County Councillor Russell Goodway OBE OStJ**  
**Cabinet Member, Investment & Development**

My ref : RVG/cmdid/Scrutiny/CM46129 (Public)

Your ref : T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

19 July 2021

County Councillor Nigel Howells  
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

By email: [nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk)



*Dear Nigel*

**VELODROME: INTERNATIONAL SPORTS VILLAGE – PUBLIC LETTER**

I refer to your letter dated 14 July 2021 in the above connection.

Your Committee will be aware that July Cabinet report specifically deals with authority to undertake a Full Business Case on the Velodrome proposal. This process will involve the submission of a planning application and the issue of active travel connectivity to the facility will be addressed as part of that process.

During the meeting, it was explained that a further report will be tables at Cabinet in September providing an update on the wider International Sports Village project. I will ensure that this report provides an update on active travel connectivity to the site. In due course, detailed proposals will be identified and brought forward through negotiation with the Local Planning Authority as part of the planning application process on the wider site.

Yours sincerely

*Russell*

**RUSSELL GOODWAY**  
**CABINET MEMBER, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT**

Copy: Neil Hanratty, Director of Economic Development  
Angela Holt  
Clair James  
Alison Taylor, Cabinet Office

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Date: 14 July 2021

Councillor Russell Goodway  
Cabinet Members  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
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Public Letter

Dear Councillor Goodway,

**Atlantic Wharf Regeneration Scheme: Next Steps**

Thank you for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee on 13 July 2021, along with Neil Hanratty, Chris Barnett and Ruth Cayford to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the next steps in the Atlantic Wharf Regeneration Scheme. This letter captures the comments and observations from Members with regard to information in the public domain. I will send a separate, confidential letter to capture our views on exempt issues.

Members were interested to understand the proposed changes to the original masterplan. We note the proposed office now fronts both Lloyd George Avenue and the public square, providing an architectural opportunity to design a key building. Member re-iterate their view, expressed following our scrutiny in December 2020, that designs should reflect the heritage of the area, of the Port of Cardiff, Butetown and Cardiff Docklands, bringing the sea and coast to bear.

With regard to the proposal to explore the potential role of Private Rented Sector accommodation, Members note officers' reassurance that these will not be student accommodation nor do they seek to gentrify the area. Members asked whether social housing would form part of this site and note that it is planned to provide social housing elsewhere on the Atlantic Wharf regeneration scheme. **Members request** consideration be given to providing social and affordable housing throughout the site, given the high levels of housing need in Cardiff and that these are predicted to increase post-pandemic.

Members recognise that good quality, affordable and accessible transport is key to the success of the Atlantic Wharf scheme and that the transport hub has a critical role to play in this. Members need to be able to see clearly progress on the transport hub, so that we can understand the functioning of the scheme in the round, with adjoining and nearby areas. Therefore, **Members request** that an update on the transport hub be provided alongside the next report that is brought to this committee on the Atlantic Wharf scheme.

Members were interested to hear more about the proposed footbridge and the critical role this plays in managing events and enabling visitors to access the proposed transport hub and station at Pierhead Street. At the meeting, Members raised the need for the footbridge to be designed to meet all needs, including mobility needs, and are pleased that officers acknowledged and are aware of this. **Members recommend** that officers work with the Access Forum to gain a full understanding of access needs, so that these can be considered and addressed from the start of the footbridge design process. Additionally, **Members request** a response to the following queries: What will happen if there are delays to the transport schemes? How will the consequent impact on the Indoor Arena and the overall Atlantic Wharf site be managed?

Members welcome the proposed Cultural Production Partnership and note the Memorandum of Understanding at Confidential Appendix 8. These proposals are very important to the economic and social well-being of Cardiff and, as such, warrant transparency regarding delivery arrangements. Therefore, **Members recommend** that a further report to Cabinet be brought on the proposed delivery arrangements for the Cultural Production Partnership, to provide transparency and clarity.

Members sought assurance that the public consultation underway is accessible and inclusive, particularly to local communities. Members note officers' responses that the consultation includes an on-line questionnaire, webinars, a video shared via social media, and questionnaires posted to all residents within a 1km radius of the site. Members note that it is hoped to undertake roadshows, in line with covid restrictions. Members are keen that as much effort as possible is made to engage all local communities. Therefore, **Members request** a copy of the questionnaire posted to local residents and details of the languages this has been provided in, given the high

proportion of local residents from Black and Minority Ethnic communities whose first language is not English or Welsh.

Finally, Members note the update provided on the Indoor Arena and that it is intended to take a further report on this to Cabinet in September.

This letter requires a response please, to the following:

**Request**

1. Consideration be given to providing social and affordable housing throughout the site, given the high levels of housing need in Cardiff and that these are predicted to increase post-pandemic.
2. Provide an update on the transport hub alongside the next report that is brought to this committee on the Atlantic Wharf scheme.
3. A response to the following queries: What will happen if there are delays to the transport schemes? How will the consequent impact on the Indoor Arena and the overall Atlantic Wharf site be managed?
4. A copy of the questionnaire posted to local residents and details of the languages this has been provided in, given the high proportion of local residents from Black and Minority Ethnic communities.

**Recommendation**

1. Officers work with the Access Forum to gain a full understanding of access needs, so that these can be considered and addressed from the start of the footbridge design process.
2. A further report to Cabinet be brought on the proposed delivery arrangements for the Cultural Production Partnership, to provide transparency and clarity.

We will make space in our work programme to accommodate pre-decision scrutiny of the various aspects of the Atlantic Wharf regeneration and look forward to receiving some of these in the Autumn.

Yours sincerely,



**COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS**  
**CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Neil Hanratty Chris Barnett Ruth Cayford  
Clair James Cabinet Support Office Tim Gordon

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**County Councillor Russell Goodway OBE OStJ**  
**Cabinet Member, Investment & Development**



My ref : RVG/cmdid/Scrutiny

Your ref : T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

13 September 2021

County Councillor Nigel Howells  
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

By email: [nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk)

Public Letter

*Dear Nigel*

#### **ATLANTIC WHARF REGENERATION SCHEME: NEXT STEPS**

I refer to your letter dated 14 July 2021 in the above connection and I apologise for the delay in replying to you. I am, as always, grateful to you and your colleagues for setting aside the time to enable me and my officials to explain the progress the Council is making in respect of the Atlantic Wharf Regeneration project.

I note your Committee's desire to ensure that the designs of any key office building included in the development should reflect the heritage of the area. The Council has already asked the developers of the arena to seek to do just that in the design of that building and we will do the same in relation to the office development.

I note, also, your Committee's concerns regarding the provision of social housing within the overall development. You will be aware that any residential development we will be required to consider social and affordable housing and this development will be no exception.

I would like to reiterate that the success of the scheme will be based not just on indicators such as visitor numbers, but also by how we can support our local communities and the transport systems serving the development will be a key factor in achieving those outcomes. The transport hub is part of that, and will provide facilities for residents as well as workers, and we will of course update you on progress regarding the hub when more detail is available.

/cont...

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I am advised that Council and Welsh Government officials do not foresee any significant issues that should delay the establishment of improved transport infrastructure, but it is worth reiterating that the Council sees this development as being reliant on multi-modal access to ensure that it is not solely reliant on one form of transport.

With regard to your request to have sight of the information posted to residents, I am advised that my officials have forwarded copies to your officers in the Scrutiny team. Information is provided on the Atlantic Wharf website for the current period of consultation in a range of languages, at <https://atlanticwharfcardsiff.co.uk/consultation/arabic-bengali-somali-urdu/> and this information is provided on the posted material.

With regard to the Committee recommendations, the Council will commit to working with the Access Forum to get a full understanding of the access needs, and we will also work with community groups in the surrounding areas with regard to local access issues. We will also outline in more detail at a later date the working arrangements for the Cultural Production Partnership.

Yours sincerely



**RUSSELL GOODWAY**  
**CABINET MEMBER, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT**

Copy: Neil Hanratty, Director of Economic Development  
Angela Holt  
Clair James  
Alison Taylor, Cabinet Office