



County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2000

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting MONDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2021, 4.30 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

11 **Correspondence Following Committee Meeting**(Pages 3 - 14)

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My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 21 September 2021

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



County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Goodway,

Indoor Arena – Full Business Case

Our thanks to you, Neil Hanratty and Chris Barnett for attending Committee on 20 September 2021 to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the above item. Much of our discussion centred on the confidential information contained in Appendices 2-7 of the report to Cabinet; I have written to you separately to capture our comments and observations regarding this.

Our comments in relation to information in the public domain are:

Artists Impressions – Members felt that the released CGIs could be perceived as too dark and foreboding and were pleased to hear that daytime CGIs are also available. Whilst this is a minor point in the scale of the proposed scheme and financial complexities, it is also an important point as these images help to shape the public's perceptions. Members therefore feel it would be beneficial to use daytime CGIs as well in future press releases.

Environmentally Friendly construction and venues – Members sought reassurance that work was in hand to ensure the construction process for the Indoor Arena and the final building itself would be carbon neutral and sustainable. Members were pleased to hear that the design discussions to date have reduced energy usage by 40%, that discussions are ongoing regarding the Arena joining the Cardiff Heat

Network and that an Energy Strategy is being developed that focuses on ensuring net carbon zero.

Covid Passes – the Welsh Government recently decided to require covid passes for events of the size of those that will be held at the Indoor Arena. Members are interested to understand the potential impact of this on the Arena. Members request your views on whether the Arena will lose events to nearby arenas in England, such as in Bristol, where covid passes are not required and, if so, what impact this will have on the viability of the Arena.

This letter requires a response, please, to the request summarised below.

Requests following this scrutiny

For ease of reference the request contained in the letter is as follows.

- your views on whether the Arena will lose events to nearby arenas in England, such as in Bristol, where covid passes are not required and, if so, what impact this will have on the viability of the Arena

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 16, 21 of Part(s) 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

My ref : RVG/cmid/Scrutiny

Your ref : T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

23 September 2021

County Councillor Nigel Howells
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

By email: nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk

Public Letter



Dear Nigel

INDOOR ARENA

Thank you for your letter dated 21 September 2021 regarding the Full Business Case for the proposed Indoor Arena in Cardiff Bay. Your Committee's support for the project is appreciated.

I will ask my officials to source a wider range of visuals showing what the Arena will look like and how it will benefit Cardiff and the surrounding communities. I will ensure that we re-emphasise the carbon neutral aspect of the Atlantic Wharf development.

Your committee has raised a specific question relating to the impact on events should an asymmetric approach to the use of Covid-19 passports between Wales and England persists. I am advised that the working assumption is that when the arena opens in some three years' time, it is expected that current restrictions will have been removed. If such restrictions do remain in place for a sustained period, the impact of the policy then in place would be modelled to understand what response, if any, would be required to mitigate for its impact.

Yours sincerely

Russell

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

T: 07962 251439

Email: r.v.goodway@cardiff.gov.uk

Please reply to:
Cabinet Office, County Hall, Cardiff, CF10 4UW
T: 029 2087 2631

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

My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 22 September 2021

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



County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087

Neuadd y Sir
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Public Letter

Dear Councillor Goodway,

International Sports Village Update & Development Strategy

Members have asked that I pass on our thanks to you, Neil Hanratty, Chris Barnett, and Jo Anne Phillips for attending Committee on 20 September 2021 to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the above item. Much of our discussion centred on the confidential information contained in Appendices 1 and 5-11 of the report to Cabinet; I have written to you separately to capture our comments and observations regarding this.

Our comments in relation to information in the public domain fall into two areas, the Bay edge walkway, and the Velodrome.

Members took the opportunity to raise again our wish for the Bay edge walkway to be both continuous and wide enough to facilitate enjoyable and safe access for the public to the water's edge. We have set out in previous correspondence our expectations and the reasons for these. Members thank officers for reiterating that it is their aspiration to provide a continuous walkway of sufficient width but that the width will depend on market conditions and site viabilities.

Regarding the Velodrome, Members acknowledge that this is not within the remit of this report. However, Committee Members have received an email from the Save Maindy velodrome campaign setting out various concerns with existing proposals. I have requested that Scrutiny Services forward this email to you and to the officers

copied into this letter. Members request that, in your reply to this letter, you provide responses to the issues raised in the email.

Finally, Members note that reports on Outline Business Cases for the Closed Loop Circuit and the relocation of Motocross will be taken to Cabinet in future months.

This letter requires a response, please, to the request summarised below.

Requests following this scrutiny

For ease of reference the request contained in the letter is as follows.

- That in the reply to this letter you provide a response to the issues raised in the email from the Save Maindy velodrome campaign group, which has been forwarded to you by Scrutiny Services.

Yours sincerely,



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

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

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 16, 21 of Part(s) 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

My ref : RVG/cmld/Scrutiny

Your ref : T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

23 September 2021

County Councillor Nigel Howells
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

By email: nhowells@cardiff.gov.uk

Public Letter



Dear Nigel

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS VILLAGE

I refer to your letter dated 22 September 2021 in connection with the report regarding proposals for the site of the International Sports Village, which will be considered by Cabinet later today.

I note that your committee made particular comments on two elements of the proposals set out in the report, namely the Bay Edge Walkway and the Velodrome.

You acknowledge in your letter that I share your committee's aspirations relating to the Bay Edge Walkway and we will endeavour to achieve those aspirations during the design and planning stages.

I note that your committee has asked me to respond to issues relating to the proposed Velodrome and specifically those raised in a letter from a local resident. This is despite, as you acknowledge in your letter, that these matters fall outside of the scope of this Cabinet report.

Issues relating to the Full Business Case for the Velodrome project will be reported to Cabinet at its December meeting. That report will address the issues of financial liability, the operating model and will address the issues raised in the local resident's letter. It will also include an appraisal of the ongoing community engagement process, including details of the discussions taking place with the Maindy Flyers, Cardiff Ajax and a number of other representative organisations.

/cont...

T: 07962 251439

Email: r.v.goodway@cardiff.gov.uk

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T: 029 2087 2631

In December, we can also address the environmental impact of the proposals, but suffice to say, my understanding is that the relocation of the facility will allow for an increase in the current level of public open space at the Maindy site. The environmental impact will also take account of the accessibility of the new site.

I appreciate realise that some people in the local community are eager to receive early answers to their questions. However, I firmly believe that the right time to address their concerns is in December when Cabinet considers the Full Business Case for project.

Yours sincerely

Russell

RUSSELL GOODWAY
CABINET MEMBER, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT

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