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## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2022, 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](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

12 **Correspondence Following Committee Meeting**(Pages 3 - 12)

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My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH

Date: 10 March 2022

Councillor Peter Bradbury  
Cabinet Member – Culture & Leisure  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW



County Hall  
Cardiff,  
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Neuadd y Sir  
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Dear Councillor Bradbury,

### **Allotments Strategy 2022-2027**

Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee have asked me to pass on their thanks to you, Jon Maidment, Rosie James, and Alan McCoy, South Rise Allotment Site Representative, for attending Committee for pre-decision scrutiny of the above report to Cabinet. Members have asked that I pass on the following comments and observations from their discussion at the Way Forward.

Members were delighted to hear the cooperative spirit that informed the review and development of the Strategy and wish to place on record their thanks to site representatives for their input and support, which is needed and welcomed.

At the meeting, Members explored how the acknowledged repairs backlog can be addressed given there is no specific capital allocation for allotments, meaning that monies need to be found from existing council budgets or alternative sources. Members note that, in 2021/22, Welsh Government funding has been allocated to allotments but that there is no news regarding funding in 2022/23. Members also note that officers are working to identify alternative funding sources, such as their recent success re Travis Perkins Legacy funding for three sites. Members note that sites with local management agreements can bid for specific external grants.

However, there remains a shortfall and Members were pleased to hear you acknowledge that allotments could do with budget growth in future years; this Committee would support this, given the many advantages and benefits that allotments bring to residents and the city. Members are pleased that officers recognise the need for better intelligence about the maintenance and repair needs of

sites and that they will be working to improve data on this, which will help support funding bids. Members discussed the issue of water repairs and encourage that these are placed high on the list of challenges to be addressed.

Members discussed the provision of toilets on sites, highlighting the benefits of compostable toilets, in terms of reduced maintenance costs, and were pleased to hear that some sites already have these, some funded by grants. Members wish to accept your offer to provide a list of sites with compostable toilets. Members note the point made by Alan McCoy that it is essential for preliminary works to be undertaken to ascertain if the ground conditions are suitable for compostable toilets, given the experience of South Rise allotments, which is on clay soil. Members also note the points raised by officers that there needs to be a review of prices to reflect the costs of amenities provided, such as flushable toilets.

Members note that the Allotment Strategy focuses on allotments and that community growing is covered elsewhere, with officers supportive of proposals and actively seeking land for growing food, in line with the commitments given as part of the Greener, Healthier, Wilder Cardiff motion to Council.

Once again, thank you to everyone for attending our committee and we wish you every success in implementing the Strategy. I am sure that a future Committee will wish to monitor progress in this area, given its importance to tackling the nature and climate emergencies, and improving residents' health and wellbeing.

**Request:** Please provide a list of allotment sites with compostable toilet provision.

Yours sincerely,



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

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Group Leaders – Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor, Cllr K Parry  
David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee  
Neil Hanratty Jon Maidment Rosie James Alan McCoy – Site Representative  
Clair James Cabinet Support Office  
Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys



Date: 10 March 2022

Councillor Thomas  
Leader  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Thomas,

**UEFA EUROPEAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL TOURNAMENT 2028  
(UEFA EURO 2028) EXPRESSION OF INTEREST'**

On behalf of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee, please accept Members' thanks for attending, along with Cabinet colleagues and officers, for our scrutiny of the report to Cabinet for Cardiff to become a bidding host city for the UEFA European Football Championship Final Tournament 2028 ("Euro 2028"). Members have asked that I pass on the following comments and observations on information in the public domain. I have sent a Confidential Letter to capture our observations on the exempt information.

Members welcome the proposal to send an in-principle letter to Welsh Government supporting an expression of interest to be a host city for Euros 2028, in particular with respect to our financial contribution. Members are aware from previous scrutiny that major events bring benefits to Cardiff and Wales. As such, Members are pleased to hear the commitment to negotiate strongly to achieve community benefits, including community sport provision. Members agree with your comments at the meeting that Cardiff is well placed to play a role in delivering a world class Euro 2028 and we are experienced at managing the impact on local communities and residents.

Members sought assurance that the projected requirements and associated cost implications captured in the confidential Appendix (Appendix 1) as an early indication are robust. Members note these are based on previous events, including the Champions League Final and discussions with other potential host cities. Members

also note that, as the Euros are in 2028, these go beyond our Medium-Term Financial Plan and are indicative at this stage. Members also note the point made by yourself and the Chief Executive that it is important to be clear to Welsh Government what the limits are for Cardiff Council, to assist with ongoing dialogue re bid specification.

At the meeting, Members queried what the impact would be for Cardiff were another potential host city to pull out of the process. Members agree with your point that it would be better for all potential host cities to be part of the arrangements, to strengthen the narrative of a five-nation bid but note your view that, if this were to happen, it would not undermine the bid per se, and that Cardiff may be asked to host additional games.

Thank you once again for your attendance at Committee. I wish you well with this important endeavour for our city and for Wales.

Yours sincerely,



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

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Eshaan Rajesh – Youth Council representative  
Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor, Cllr K Parry  
David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee  
Cllr Bradbury  
Paul Orders  
Rhian James  
Chris Pyke

Kathryn Richards  
Cabinet Support Office  
Jeremy Rhys  
Tim Gordon



Date: 10 March 2022

Councillor Goodway  
Cabinet Member – Investment and Development  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Goodway,

**CARDIFF BAY REGENERATION UPDATE**

Thank you for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee on 9 March 2022, along with Neil Hanratty, Chris Barnett and Jon Day to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the next steps in the regeneration of Cardiff Bay. This letter captures the comments and observations from Members with regard to information in the public domain. I have sent a separate, confidential letter to capture our views on exempt issues.

This item covered a lot of interconnected projects and Members note the updates in relation to the Atlantic Wharf Regeneration, including the Indoor Arena, Red Dragon Centre and associated projects, as well as the International Sports Village, including the velodrome and other cycling facilities, and transport projects associated with both these sites.

Regarding the Indoor Arena, Members note the increased capacity to 17,000 spectators. We explored how the Council is consulting and engaging with residents and addressing concerns raised and are pleased to hear that these are being taken seriously, with work to address noise pollution, car parking and loss of green space. Members are also pleased to hear that the Indoor Arena will be one of the greenest in the UK. We note that to achieve carbon neutrality may be beyond reach as a stand-alone building and that work is progressing on an energy strategy for the wider Atlantic Wharf site to assist the Council to meet its One Planet Cardiff pledge of net

zero carbon. Members also thanked officers for ensuring daytime CGIs were available, as previously requested; similarly, Members feel it would be beneficial for CGI images to highlight the greening that will take place in public spaces to offset the hard standing required to enable the area to cope with the volume of spectators.

Members received updates at the meeting on various family attractions, including *This is Wales*, and sought to understand the viability of these given the current cost of living crisis. Members note the officer's point that the Outline Business Case for Atlantic Wharf, due to Cabinet in Summer 2022, will contain data on this. Members are delighted to see progress being made to find a good use for the Graving Docks.

Members discussed the proposed improvements for Lloyd George Avenue, which we welcome in principle, given that these will enhance connectivity, public and active transport, boost biodiversity and promote health and wellbeing. Members are pleased that there will be consultation and engagement with local communities to ensure final proposals reflect their views. Members note that early discussions are being held on the possibility of replacing Herbert Street bridge and improving that general area, to assist connectivity between the city centre and Cardiff Bay.

Regarding the International Sports Village updated masterplan, Members are delighted to see that it has been possible to ensure public access around the water's edge and note the officer's assurance that this would be 15-20 metres at its narrowest. This is crucial to ensuring that residents and visitors to Cardiff Bay benefit fully and enjoy its waterfront.

On a broader, overall point, Members wish to highlight the need to ensure that free facilities are promoted in Cardiff Bay, for walking, running, cycling, and swimming. For example, there are fantastic opportunities for wild swimming in the Bay, as demonstrated by its use by Cardiff Triathlon, and there could be similar opportunities for walking, running, and cycling to and around the Bay, if routes are enhanced and joined up as planned. Whilst we need the employment and economic benefits that flow from events and adventure tourism, we must ensure that residents and visitors are not 'priced out' of enjoying Cardiff Bay for recreational use.

During the way forward, Members highlighted the length and complexity of this report, which covered numerous projects. Members understand the reasons for this but wish to stress our desire for future reports to Cabinet to revert to previous practice of having separate reports for the Atlantic Wharf and International Sports Village sites and projects.

As a Committee, we are aware that there will be a high turnover of our membership given that four Members are not standing for re-election. We note the intention to bring reports on Cardiff Bay projects to Cabinet in spring and summer 2022. As raised during the meeting, we believe it would be beneficial to the Council for Economic Development officers to work with Scrutiny Services to organise briefings on these projects well ahead of the formal scrutiny committee, to ensure that scrutiny members are informed and focused and able to deliver their role effectively.

Thank you once again for your attendance at Committee. I wish you well in your work to improve Cardiff Bay, to make it a destination of choice for residents and visitors alike.

Yours sincerely,



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

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Eshaan Rajesh – Youth Council representative  
Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor, Cllr K Parry  
David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee  
Neil Hanratty Jon Day  
Clare James Cabinet Support Office  
Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys

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Date: 10 March 2022

Councillor Thorne  
Cabinet Member – Housing and Communities  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Thorne,

**ELY YOUTH ZONE**

Our thanks to you, Neil Hanratty and Jon Day for attending Committee on 9 March 2022 to discuss the report to Cabinet regarding the above item. This letter captures our comments and observations on the information in the public domain. I have sent a separate, confidential letter to capture our views on exempt issues.

Members were interested to hear about the work with *OnSide* and pleased that their work in England has been successful, delivering many benefits for the young people they engage and for the surrounding communities. Members were pleased to hear a range of partners will be involved in the management of the charity established to operate and oversee the Youth Zone, including community, sports, health, disability, and employability partners. Members were also impressed by the range of facilities provided in Youth Zones in England and can see how these would assist in boosting skills, employability, and opportunities for young people.

In terms of funding the Youth Zone, Members note a Levelling Up Fund bid will be submitted to meet the 50% capital contribution required of the local authority and a Shared Prosperity Fund bid submitted to meet the 33% revenue costs for years 1-3. Members note a further report will be taken to Cabinet for the Full Business Case, which will include whether these bids have been successful.

Members are pleased to see proposals for a facility to help young people living in some of the most deprived communities in Wales and are also pleased to hear that work is underway to develop a masterplan for Ely to assist in wider regeneration.

Finally, Members queried whether the name is appropriate, given concerns that it may put off young people who are not in Ely, and are pleased to hear that young people who are members of the Youth Zone will decide its final name.

Thank you once again for your attendance at Committee and I wish you well with this project that will make such a difference to young people in Cardiff.

Yours sincerely,



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

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee  
Eshaan Rajesh – Youth Council representative  
Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor, Cllr K Parry  
David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee  
Neil Hanratty Jon Day  
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Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys