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CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting MONDAY, 11 JULY 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

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

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My Ref: SharePoint/E&C Library/Correspondence/July 2022

Date: 13 July 2022



County Hall
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CF10 4UW
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Neuadd y Sir
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Councillor Thomas
Leader
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Thomas,

SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (SPF)

Thank you for attending the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee on 11 July 2022, along with Paul Orders and Jon Day, for pre-decision scrutiny of the report to Cabinet titled Shared Prosperity Fund. Our scrutiny built on last month's policy development review, where we explored the type, focus, and flexibility of funding, constraints, and governance arrangements. This time, we focused on how to ensure SPF funding tackled deep inequalities, how to maximise synergies and avoid duplication, whether Cardiff would receive its nominal allocation in full, and governance structures. This letter captures our comments and observations in relation to these issues.

Tackling Inequalities

Members highlighted that the rising cost of living on top of the effects of the covid pandemic leads to a risk of entrenching deep-seated inequalities in society, including in Cardiff, and wondered how SPF will address these. Members note your response that SPF on its own is not a game-changer but, coupled with other work promoted by the Council with partners, such as making Cardiff a Living Wage City and targeting Into Work schemes, Cardiff Council is seeking to address inequalities.

Members suggested embedding appropriate targets and monitoring compliance on these, for example targets for employment. Members note officer's responses that this is possible, that they are working with the Inclusive Growth Network to understand best practice in this area, and that they will feedback to the lead authority the need to ensure this is built into monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Members

are pleased to hear this as it is essential to embed targets into what we want to do, to set out the intention and direction of where we want to go.

Maximising synergies and avoiding duplication

Members are aware that the previous Structural Fund system enabled regional and national coordination of schemes. We sought assurance that, despite the SPF framework not requiring this, partners are working regionally and nationally, to maximise synergies and avoid duplication. Members were pleased to hear the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal is liaising with other regions on skills, training and business support, and that Welsh Government is interested to ensure a national overview of schemes.

Cardiff allocation of SPF

Members note that Cardiff has a notional allocation of £41,807,334, of which £7,219,740 is ring-fenced for the adult numeracy Multiply programme. Members sought clarification on how funding is allocated across the proposed programmes under each of the three investment priorities. Members note an initial line allocation has taken place, but more work is required over the summer to test deliverability and whether schemes proposed are the best use of monies. Members note a key priority of spend will be those areas that previously utilised Structural Funds, such as Into Work services, to ensure continuity of provision.

Members **seek assurance** that Cardiff will receive its notional allocation in full and **seek assurance** that systems will be put in place to monitor spend in Cardiff.

Governance structures

Members note that the report to Cabinet is clear further work is required on governance and monitoring systems and that further guidance and clarification from UK Government is needed before these can be finalised. In particular, Members note that clarity is needed on:

- Whether funds will be received upfront or following spend
- Whether funding will be for programmes or for individual projects
- Details to enable a Service Level Agreement between the Council and Lead Authority to be drafted.

Finally, Members wish to highlight that, as well as the Wales Coastal Path mentioned in the proposed programmes, many areas of Cardiff host walking routes that could be used to promote these areas to visitors, such as the Penrhys Pilgrimage route, which starts/ends in Llandaff, walks in Penylan, Creigiau, St Fagans and Pentyrch.

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

- Yours sincerely,

P Wang

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor
David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee
Paul Orders Jon Day
Rhian Jones Cabinet Support Office
Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys

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

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM47881

Dyddiad / Date: 21 September 2022



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Via email: Aholt@cardiff.gov.uk

Annwyl/Dear Peter,

SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (SPF)

Thank you for your letter of 13th July regarding the consideration of the Shared Prosperity Fund at the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee meeting, and for inviting myself and officers to present at the meeting.

Your comments are noted and appreciated and we will ensure that they are built into the management of the scheme. We will also ensure that we keep the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee updated on the delivery and the monitoring and evaluation of the scheme. Over the summer we will establish our own internal processes to deal with these issues.

In terms of the Cardiff allocation, the receipt of this is dependent on the UK's Government's approval of the Regional Investment Plan submitted by Rhondda Cynon Taf on behalf of the ten local authorities of South East Wales. There will also be a small element of just over £600,000 (circa 1.4%) allocated to the Cardiff Capital Region from Cardiff Council's allocation to support some elements of regionally delivered activity. This activity, focussed on place promotion and sector development, has been supported by the ten local authorities.

Thank you again for inviting us to the Committee and I look forward to working with yourself and committee members in monitoring the progress of the Shared Prosperity Fund in Cardiff.

Yn gywir,
Yours sincerely,

**CYNGHORYDD / COUNCILLOR HUW THOMAS
ARWEINYDD / LEADER
CYNGOR CAERDYDD / CARDIFF COUNCIL**

GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

WORKING FOR CARDIFF, WORKING FOR YOU

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh, English or bilingually. We will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.



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Date: 13 July 2022

Cllr Russell Goodway
Cabinet Member – Investment & Development



County Hall
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Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
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By Email

Dear Cllr Goodway,

Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee 11 July 2022

Members were sorry to hear technical difficulties prevented you joining our meeting and hope these are resolved for future meetings. We thank Neil Hanratty and Chris Barnett for attending committee for pre-decision scrutiny of a report to Cabinet titled '*Atlantic Wharf Regeneration Update*'.

Members note the report informs Cabinet that land referencing will commence to provide the context should Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) be required and that the report seeks Cabinet agreement, in principle, to use CPOs, subject to a further report to Cabinet if these are required.

Also, Members note that the report to Cabinet seeks authority to acquire and appropriate land to support the development of a Multi Storey Car Park (MSCP), which the Council is required to deliver as a condition precedent for the Indoor Arena development.

At our meeting, Members sought to understand why the Council is required to deliver a MSCP, given the climate emergency and the need to move away from a car-dependent society. Members note your response that it was a requirement of the Indoor Arena developer, who agreed to build the Indoor Arena on the Council's preferred site only if certain conditions were met by the Council, including replacing existing surface car parking with a MSCP. Members also note that the current surface car parking spaces are circa 1,800, whereas the MSCP will provide 1,300

spaces, and that this is a significantly lower number than car park spaces provided at other similar-sized Indoor Arenas elsewhere in Britain.

Members asked whether carbon off-setting had been considered as part of the MSCP and were pleased to hear proposals include a solar roof to power 400 electric vehicle charging points, a hydroponic roof to grow crops, capable of providing 500 food baskets, and green walls for aesthetic and biodiversity reasons.

Picking up on points made by Cllr Jones-Pritchard when Planning Committee considered the wider Indoor Arena planning application, Members asked about cycle parking provision and note that this will be addressed further in the MSCP Full Business Case, which is due to be reported to Cabinet in Autumn 2022, and that it is anticipated this will include an Active Travel Hub with secure cycle parking.

With regard to the acquisition and appropriation of land, Members asked whether this would affect existing use of the land and note that buildings on the land are not occupied and that, whilst some of the parking is currently used, this will be re-provided by the Council, with a net loss of circa 4 spaces, with which current users are content.

Regarding the Indoor Arena, Members note the issues highlighted regarding increasing costs due to inflation and interest rates and that the Council's exposure to this is limited by the Affordability Envelope set as part of the Council's Budget Strategy, with the Indoor Arena developers bearing the increasing costs. Members note that a further report on the Indoor Arena is scheduled for October 2022; we will make space for this on our work programme. Prior to that scrutiny, Members wish to receive a confidential briefing setting out work to date, the rationale for decisions taken to date and a high-level overview of the financing of the Indoor Arena, clarifying the Council's spend to date, commitments and expected spend to deliver the Indoor Arena. I have asked scrutiny officers to liaise with you to arrange this briefing session.

Finally, in our way forward, Members discussed the issue of confidential appendices. Members believe it is essential for the Council to promote openness, transparency and accountability. Therefore, **Members recommend** that all non-confidential

information is made available for the public and interested stakeholders to read by ensuring it is contained in non-confidential reports or appendices. Confidential appendices should only include confidential information. If this is not practicable, information should be duplicated in both a non-confidential appendix and a confidential appendix, with the non-confidential appendix using redaction to block out confidential information.

Recommendation to be monitored following this scrutiny:

To summarise, the Committee makes 1 formal recommendation which is set out below. As part of the response to this letter, I would be grateful if you could state whether the recommendation is accepted, partially accepted, or not accepted and summarise the Cabinet's response. If the recommendation is accepted or partially accepted. I would also be grateful if you could identify the responsible officer and provide an action date. This will ensure that progress can be monitored as agreed by Cabinet.

Recommendation	Accepted, Partially Accepted, or Not Accepted	Cabinet Response	Responsible Officer	Action Date
Members recommend that all non-confidential information is made available for the public and interested stakeholders to read by ensuring it is contained in non-confidential reports or appendices. Confidential appendices should only include confidential information. If this is not practicable, information should be duplicated in both a non-confidential appendix and a confidential appendix, with the non-confidential appendix using redaction to block out confidential information.				

Yours sincerely,

P Wong

COUNCILLOR PETER WONG
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
 Cllr Russell Goodway Neil Hanratty Chris Barnett
 Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Taylor
 David Hugh Thomas – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee
 Davina Fiore Clair James Cabinet Support Office
 Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys

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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 PW

15 November 2021

County Councillor Peter Wong
Chair, Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee

By email: peter.wong@cardiff.gov.uk



Dear Peter

ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 11 JULY 2022
ATLANTIC WHARF REGENERATION

I refer to your letter dated 13 July 2022 and I apologise for the delay in replying to you. As you know, technical difficulties prevented my attendance at the meeting, but I was subsequently briefed by my officials regarding the issues that your committee raised.

I am grateful to you and your colleagues for considering this important project and I appreciate and understand your committee's commitment to return to the issue when further information becomes available.

With regard to the Committees specific recommendation regarding the treatment of non-confidential information contained in reported marked "confidential" I can confirm that my officials have given careful consideration to the matter and have indicated that they will continue to strive to ensure that all appropriate and relevant information is provided on a non-confidential basis, as far as it is practicable and without exposing the Council to any financial, commercial, or legal risks. You will always appreciate that the Council will comply with the requirements of the various schedules of the Local Government Act.

I can confirm that the matter was raised at a recent meeting of the Council's Constitution Committee when the Committee agreed to request the Director of Governance & Legal Services to consider if it is feasible and if so, how best to deliver the outcome that your committee seeks to achieve.

/cont...

T: 07962 251439

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

Please reply to:
Cabinet Office, County Hall, Cardiff, CF10 4UW
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If it proves to be practical and the Constitution Committee decides to make a recommendation Council, the matter will be reported to Council in the usual way

Thank you again to you and the committee for taking your time to consider this matter and I look forward to further discussions as we progress the Atlantic Wharf development.

Yours sincerely



RUSSELL GOODWAY
CABINET MEMBER, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Copy: Neil Hanratty, Director of Economic Development,
Chris Barnett, Major Projects Officer
Angela Holt, Scrutiny Services
Clair James
Melanie Jackson, Cabinet Office
Councillor Adrian Robson, Leader of the Opposition
Councillor Rhys Taylor, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group
Davina Fiore, Director of Governance & Legal Services
Mr D Hugh Thomas. Chair, Governance & Audit Committee