



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 TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2023, 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 - 10)

This page is intentionally left blank

My Ref: SharePoint/E&C Library/Correspondence/23-04-25

Date: 2 May 2023

Councillor Burke
Cabinet Member – Culture, Parks and Events



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

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

By Email

Public Letter

Dear Councillor Burke,

ECONOMY AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2023

Members have asked that I pass on their thanks to you, Laura Williams – Cardiff Metropolitan University, Lauren Idowu – Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Jason Curtis – GLL, Joanne Smith – GLL, and the following officers for attending our committee meeting earlier this month:

- Chris Hadfield
- Jon Maidment
- Steve Morris
- Sarah Stork.

Overall, Members were pleased to note good progress and partnership working across all the areas we scrutinised, which is heartening given their importance to improving the health and wellbeing of Cardiff's citizens. Our specific comments and observations are noted below, under the relevant item heading.

Physical Activity and Sport Strategy – Year 1 update

Members wish to thank Laura and Lauren for a great presentation and for encouraging us to move more, including in committee meetings. We note that there has been significant progress in implementing Year 1 of the strategy, with only 3 out of 24 actions unlikely to be completed this year. In terms of specific progress, Members note:

- There has been success in establishing good governance, leadership and partnership working, with active involvement at leadership group level that will help drive system change
- Effective partnership working in the place-based pilots will result in stronger coproduction of actions that successfully address blockers to activity in these areas and within specific population groups
- Work is underway to recruit Physical Activity and Sport Activators for the place-based pilot areas, whose role will complement staff already working in communities
- The intention is to recruit further Physical Activity and Sport Activators for other areas, depending on funding being secured.

Members were interested to hear that work is underway with community partners to hold focus groups and record video stories, in May 2023, to understand blockers to activity for specific population groups, including BAME communities, in the pilot place-based areas. Members **request feedback on the findings** resulting from this work, as we are interested in understanding whether there is work the Council could do to support work to remove these blockers and so help tackle physical inactivity.

Members recognise the need for trained staff to support people in their journey towards more physical activity and are pleased to hear that community work and volunteering placements are at the heart of relevant Cardiff Metropolitan University degree courses, benefitting communities with activities and coaches on the ground and benefiting students who gain experience working with a variety of population groups.

In terms of creating active people and active environments, Members note:

- that individual and non-competitive physical activities – such as Yoga, Pilates, Zumba, Tai Chi and Dance – are recognised as useful and that it will be up to local communities whether these will be included in place-based pilots
- that work is underway to audit places and spaces to identify opportunities for people to be active, including using the ‘creating healthier spaces’ toolkit.

Members reflected that the Council has a key role to play in helping to create spaces and places that support physical activity, for example via good design of play areas – such as Maltings Park, Splott – and via ensuring there is sufficient seating in parks, to enable those who are less mobile to benefit from visiting parks in the knowledge that there are sufficient places where they are able to rest.

Acknowledging the importance of tackling inactivity, Members were keen to understand how the impact of the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy will be measured. Members were interested to hear that Cardiff is using learning from Manchester, which has been very successful at reducing inactivity and note:

- high-level indicators are needed and will be used, with the caveat that they only provide a partial picture and lack granular detail as they are not available at community level
- ‘ripple-effect mapping’ and a ‘progress and learning template’ will be used to supplement the high-level indicators – these will provide qualitative data and feedback to identify blockers and system levers and to capture the impact work is having on individuals and communities.

At the meeting, Members highlighted that it is key to be able to track pilot-based improvements and whether they are delivering over time for all communities and population groups in terms of reducing inactivity. Members note that, as well as high level indicators, there will be local indicators based on issues identified by local communities so that measures focus on progress in addressing relevant blockers and system levers.

Members note that Years 2-5 of the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy will be shaped by the data available and will focus on tackling the growing inequalities between population groups and areas. Members note an Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and is treated as a 'live' document, updated as work is implemented. Members appreciate this approach and **request** a copy of the latest version, noting that this will change as work progresses.

Finally, Members wish every success to all those involved in implementing the Strategy. In recognition of the Council's role in assisting system change, we will bear this in mind in our future scrutinies, looking to see how strategies, policies and service delivery support this important work.

GLL Contract Monitoring

Members thank Jason and Joanne for their informative presentation; Members were interested to learn about GLL's new values as well as to receive up-to-date information on memberships, usage, participation, customer satisfaction, and financial modelling.

Members note the direction of travel, with positive movements in memberships and usage, albeit that these have yet to return to pre-covid levels overall. Members were interested to understand the work underway to boost footfall and note:

- Partnership working is key – for example, NHS and GP exercise referral schemes
- GLL are reviewing individual leisure centre's product mix and marketing – to ensure they target relevant groups e.g., Maindy Leisure Centre – targeting those not using budget gyms, such as families and older people rather than students.

Members note that income has improved for main and junior categories, with Health and Fitness showing a slower rate of recovery but still with a positive trajectory. Members were interested to hear about the measures taken to save energy and reduce utility costs and note the proposal to install solar panels 2023-2024, subject to funding being sourced.

Related to this, **Members suggest** the wording on the Annual Customer Survey pool temperature question should be altered from '*how would you rate the water on a scale of 1-5*' to a scale-based question allowing responses on whether the temperature is '*too warm/ too cold/ just right*'. Members were also pleased to hear that there are systems in place in case heatwaves lead to unusual peaks in demand for pool spaces.

In terms of the medium-term financial forecast, Members note GLL are exploring how to increase future income by introducing new products. Members note those

referenced in the presentation are illustrative only and that there are no definite centres or areas proposed; Members were pleased to hear GLL confirm that future products will not displace key user groups but will focus on enhancing under-utilised areas.

Members sought clarification on whether GLL are considering any partial or full closures in order to secure financial savings and are pleased to note their assurances that there are no plans to close partially or fully and that GLL is looking to raise income and tweak programmes slightly to save expenditure rather than close facilities. Members were also pleased to hear Council officers affirm that there is no intention from the Council as client to close any pools or reduce services that drastically.

Regarding Pentwyn Leisure Centre, Members note GLL are working with local community groups and activities to boost usage of available rooms and spaces. Members note a report to Cabinet on the proposed way forward for Pentwyn Leisure Centre is scheduled for June 2023; Members welcome Jon Maidment's comments at the meeting that these proposals will include a pool. We have made time on our work programme for pre-decision scrutiny of these proposals.

Members note there has been progress against improvement actions resulting from Internal Audit and Audit Wales reviews, that the Governance and Audit Committee are satisfied with the progress made against audit actions and that the Council is waiting to hear whether Audit Wales are proposing a further follow-up review. Members were interested to hear that, in response to Audit Wales's Recommendation 5 - Follow-Up Review October 2022, the Council has appointed external consultants to produce an options appraisal report to set out contingency service delivery options in the event of contract failure.

Finally, Members wish GLL every success in their post-covid recovery and are pleased that our partnership has enabled these important facilities to remain open for our communities.

Community Sport Recommendations

Members were pleased to note progress has been achieved across all the recommendations made by the previous Committee via their '*Community Sport in Cardiff*' Inquiry (January 2022). As such, Members are content to deem these recommendations as completed.

Regarding the proposed Regional Sports Partnership, Members note officer's assertion that they are bringing a strong voice to the table to ensure Cardiff is not disadvantaged by this and that discussions are imminent regarding the roadmap and timeline for implementation.

Members recognise that a report to Cabinet will be forthcoming when matters reach decision stage; we will be recommending to the future committee that they carry out scrutiny of this.

Thanks again to all attendees for your time and contributions at committee. This letter contains two requests, as follows, as so requires a response, please:

Request 1

Members request feedback on the findings of the focus groups and video stories being undertaken May 2023 in the place-based pilot areas, in particular to understand the blockers to activity for specific population groups, including BAME communities.

Request 2

Members request a copy of the latest version of the Equalities Impact Assessment completed for the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy, noting that this will change as work progresses.

Yours sincerely,

P Wong

COUNCILLOR PETER WONG
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Group Leaders - Cllr Robson, Cllr Berman, Cllr Gibson
Neil Hanratty Chris Hadfield Jon Maidment Steve Morris Sarah Stork
Laura Williams – Cardiff Sport, Cardiff Metropolitan University
Lauren Idowu – Health Promotion, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Jason Curtis - GLL
Joanne Smith – GLL
Clair James Cabinet Support Office
Chris Pyke Tim Gordon Jeremy Rhys

This page is intentionally left blank

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET
CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM49617

Dyddiad / Date: 18 May 2023

Councillor Peter Wong
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Alantic Wharf
Butetown
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088
www.caerdydd.gov.uk
County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087
www.cardiff.gov.uk

Annwyl/Dear Peter

E&C 25 April 2023

Thank you for your written feedback on behalf the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee and your positive comments regarding the presentations made by our key stakeholder partners from Cardiff Met, Public Health and GLL. I will ensure these are passed onto them; they will be well received.

When the consultation with focus groups and video diaries are complete, we will feedback any issues that we feel we may need assistance in unblocking access to Physical Activity particularly for BAME and under represented groups

I note your suggestions around reviewing the terminology of the pool temperature question in the customer surveys carried out by GLL and have asked them to amend this to reflect your proposal.

In terms of the Wales Audit work, I can clarify that this is progressing well, and we wait to hear from them following the presentation to the Governance and Audit committee in terms of any further follow up actions and will include these in our Directorate Delivery Plan and also on the Councils risk register for further oversight.

The Equality Impact Assessment carried out during the work on the strategy will be forwarded to the Scrutiny Office for sharing with your committee members.

Your information is processed under the Data Protection Act 2018 to fulfil Cardiff Council's legal and regulatory tasks as a local authority. For further information on what personal data we hold and how long we keep it for, please view our Privacy Policy; www.cardiff.gov.uk/privacynotice If you have concerns about how your data has been handled, contact the Council's Data Protection Officer via dataprotection@cardiff.gov.uk . Your information has been shared with Xerox in order to contact you today. For further information on how Xerox manage personal data, please view Privacy Policy; www.xerox.co.uk/en-gb/about/privacy-policy

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.



**STRONGER
FAIRER
GREENER**

Page 9



Thank you again for including this item for consideration by your committee and I look forward to coming back in the future with further updates for discussion and scrutiny.

Yn gywir
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'jen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cynghorydd / Councillor Jennifer Burke
Aelod Cabinet dros Ddiwylliant, Parciau, Digwyddiadau a Lleoliadau
Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks, Events and Venues