

ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21 JULY 2016

Present: County Councillor McKerlich(Chairperson)
County Councillors Dilwar Ali, Howells and Stubbs

9 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Hyde, Javed and Simmons. Councillor Howells had indicated that he would be late arriving.

10 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

11 : CARDIFF BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Chairperson welcomed The Leader, Councillor Phil Bale, Neil Hanratty Director – Economic Development and Jon Day Economic Policy Manager to the meeting.

The Chairperson invited the Leader to make a statement in which he said that it had been a long standing aspiration to support the BID and the committee had had involved over a long time; he was pleased with the ballot result of 84% of those balloted backing the BID; he was now working with partners to determine how the money would be spent; there was energy and commitment from the individuals involved and this was a good news story for Cardiff.

Members were provided with a presentation by Jon Day on the Business Improvement District – Update which included information on BID Ballot Results, Purpose of Report, City Centre Management, Cash Advance, Board Nominations and Next Steps.

The Chairperson thanked officers for their presentation and invited questions and comments from Members.

- Members asked if there were any ideas for potential projects for the BID. Officers advised that the run up to Christmas and marketing would be a priority, Apprenticeships and Digital Infrastructure Support for smaller businesses were some of the projects. The Leader added that he had spoken with the Chair of the BID and there was a desire to promote certain dates such as the Champions League.

Members asked if the main thrust was promotion rather than enhancement of the BID; officers stated that there would be a broad range of promotions but there would also be environmental enhancements such as additional street cleansing, improvements to street scape and commitment to the Night Time Economy.

- With reference to Board Nominations, Members asked if there would be a cross party of elected Members on the Board. Officers explained that the Leader would be the elected member representative; the Board should be

business led rather than Council heavy. Officers added that they were committed to engagement with all local Members and that the Director of Economic Development would be the conduit for this through to the Board. The remaining Board members would be levy paying members and the Police, with the Chair of the Board being the Store Manager of Marks and Spencer's; the Board would provide a vehicle for engagement, representation and would assist in lobbying.

The Chairperson thanked Officers and the Leader for attending the meeting.

AGREED – That the Chairperson writes on the Committee's behalf to the Leader to convey their comments and observations.

12 : LEISURE CENTRE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODEL

The Chairperson clarified for all present that any presentation, discussion or questions related to the yellow pages (Appendix B and associated appendices) within the Committee papers would be taken in closed session and at that point in the meeting both the public and press would be asked to leave the room.

An initial open session would be held where officers outline the wider procurement project and recommendation to the Cabinet. The meeting would then move to a closed session where the information deemed commercially sensitive could be discussed.

The Chairperson welcomed Cllr Bradbury – Cabinet Member – Community Development, Co-operatives & Social Enterprise; Cllr Hinchey – Cabinet Member – Corporate Services and Finance; Paul Orders – Chief Executive; Christine Salter – Corporate Director, Resources; Andrew Gregory – Director, City Operations; Malcolm Stammers – Operational Manager, Leisure and Play; Liz Weale – Legal Services, Operational Manager, Partnerships and Procurement; Chris McLellan – Operational Manager – Commissioning and Procurement; Sue David – Accountant, Organisational Development and Tracey Thomas – Operational Manager, HR

The Chairperson invited Councillor Bradbury to make a statement in which he said that this issue had been ongoing since 2014, there had been an Economy and Culture task and finish group to look at the issue which was now coming to a conclusion.

The Chairperson invited Officers to provide an overview of the procurement project and proposals to Cabinet. Members were provided with a presentation which included information on Aims, Procurement Update, Financial benefits, Council retaining buildings and land, Service Levels Safeguarded, Employee Benefits, Timetable to Decision, Employee Engagement and Draft Cabinet Recommendations.

The Chairperson advised the meeting that in order to refer to exempt information, not for publication by virtue of paragraph 14 of Part 4, and paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, it was necessary at this point to request that members of the public and the press leave the Committee room.

The meeting then went into closed session.

13 : WORK PROGRAMME 2016 -17

The Chairperson asked Members to consider the list of items for the work programme and indicate their top six priorities to the Principal Scrutiny Officer.

14 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee is Thursday 8 September 2016 at 4.30 in Committee Room 4, County Hall, Cardiff.