

ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 JANUARY 2017

Present: County Councillor (Chairperson)
County Councillors Dilwar Ali, Howells, Hyde, Keith Jones,
Simmons and Stubbs

36 : MEMBERSHIP

The Committee was advised that in the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Rod McKerlich a nomination for Chairperson for this meeting should be received.

Councillor Keith Hyde nominated Councillor Nigel Howells.
Councillor Elaine Simmons seconded the nomination.

The Committee Agreed that Councillor Nigel Howells be Chairperson for this meeting.

37 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Rod McKerlich

38 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded that they had a responsibility under Article 16 of the Members' Code of Conduct to declare any interests – even if they had already completed the Annual Interest Form.

COUNCILLOR	ITEM	REASON
Howells	Item 5	Local Member for Adamsdown

39 : MINUTES

The Committee was advised that approval of the December 2016 minutes would be deferred to the meeting in February 2017.

40 : ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

The Committee welcomed the following:

- Councillor Daniel De'Ath, Cabinet Member: Skills, Safety, Engagement & Democracy
- Isabelle Bignall, Assistant Director, Communities and Customer Services
- John Agnew – Corporate Customer Services Manager

The Chairperson invited Councillor De'Ath to make a statement.

Councillor De'Ath welcomed the outstanding results with a 94% pass rate. This was an incredible achievement and supported people throughout the city.

The Committee received a presentation which outlined the following:

- Adult Community Learning (ACL) continues to make a positive difference to people's lives in Wales
- Learning for Work – 907 courses and achieved 4687 enrolments
- Success Rates – 2015/16 94%
- Enrolments from Communities First Areas – 2015/16 76% (above target of 65%)
- Enrolments Comparisons within Partnerships
- DICE (Disability Inclusion in Community Education)
- Learning for Life

The Chairperson thanked Officers for the informative presentation and invited the Committee to ask questions.

Members of the Committee were impressed with the presentation and noted the organisations involved in the partnership work.

Some Members were keen to hear about the types of course being run and the venues being used to support the service. The mapping of the Learning for Life courses would be welcomed, including an outline of areas of the city which had the greatest uptake and an age profile breakdown.

Officers provided the Committee with the next steps. An update on the grant position would be received followed by an evaluation programme. Further work was required to progress the Learning For Life programme.

It was essential to promote this success story and the Council's Communication Team was on board to publicise the service on Facebook.

RESOLVED: – That the Chairperson on behalf of the Committee writes to relevant Cabinet Members and officers thanking them for attending the meeting on 12 January 2017 and to convey the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

41 : PROVISION OF LIBRARY SERVICES AT CARDIFF ROYAL INFIRMARY

The Chairperson welcomed:

- Councillor Peter Bradbury, Cabinet Member, Community Development, Co-Operatives and Social Enterprise.
- Sarah McGill, Director, Communities, Housing and Customer Services
- Nick Blake, Business Support Manager

The Committee received a presentation from Councillor Peter Bradbury.

Councillor Bradbury explained that the previous provision based in Roath Library was currently unoccupied. A CAT process was applied with a motion put to Council in order to investigate a possible solution based at accommodation in Adamsdown. Part of Cardiff Royal Infirmary was identified as suitable accommodation for the library provision supporting similar facilities as Roath Library. The same numbers of PC's were available, including the range of bookshelf space. This was a multi - purpose facility providing services to enhance community benefit. The Council would also continue to look at possible community operators in relation to Roath Library.

The Committee was advised that this facility based in Cardiff Royal Infirmary was a long term solution for the provision of library services to this area of the city and recognised that the significant investment being made by the UHB demonstrated a commitment to creating a permanent Health & wellbeing Centre at this location.

The Committee were invited to ask questions.

Members of the Committee wished to congratulate the Cabinet Member for identifying a solution for the replacement of library services similar to that available at Roath Library building.

The Committee drew attention to Hub provision in the area, investigating whether the CRI was a potential option for additional services.

The Committee noted that this facility was intended to be the long term solution for the provision of library services to this area of the city and examined its potential for additional services.

The Committee was provided with floor plans of the facility. However, members were of the view that they were unable to fully appreciate the space available for library services and café.

The Committee was advised that even though stock levels had been reduced the stock was being replenished more quickly with a wider selection and variety.

The Committee discussed the dynamics of the library. It was recognised that some of the features such as the pillars could not be moved. The gross area of the CRI was slightly smaller than Roath Library however; the space was being used as affectively as possible to accommodate the footfall.

Members noted this was Phase 1 of the development and additional facilities would follow.

RESOLVED – That the Chairperson on behalf of the Committee writes to relevant Cabinet Members and officers thanking them for attending the meeting on 12 January 2017 and to convey the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

42 : CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL

The Chairperson welcomed:

- Councillor Phil Bale, Leader of the Council

- Paul Orders, Chief Executive
- Neil Hanratty, Director, Economic Development
- Jonathan Day, Economic Policy Manager
- Hrijinder Singh, Major Projects Accountant
- Davina Fiore, Director, Governance and Legal Services

The Committee received a report which updated Members on the current position of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal.

The Leader explained to the Committee that the nine local authorities had signed the Heads of Terms and would go to Council for agreement. This was a 20 year agreement between parties and would support major projects being developed in the city.

The Committee received a presentation which outlined the current position.

RESOLVED: The Committee AGREED to move into closed session in order to refer to confidentially sensitive information in accordance with Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

43 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14 February 2017