

Ref: RDB/PM/RP/15.11.16

28 November 2016

Councillor Ramesh Patel,  
Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability,  
County Hall,  
Atlantic Wharf,  
Cardiff CF10 4UW.



Dear Councillor Patel,

**Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 15 November 2016**

On behalf of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and the officers from the City Operations Directorate for attending the Committee meeting on Tuesday 15 November 2016. As you are aware the meeting considered items titled 'Neighbourhood Services – Member Update' and 'Performance Reporting – Quarter 2'. The comments and observations made by Members following this item are set out in this letter.

**Neighbourhood Services – Member Update**

- During the item on Managing Litter in Cardiff the Committee discussed the need for enforcement officers within Neighbourhood Services to be able to use body cameras for both evidence gathering and supporting personal safety – the cameras are currently only used for supporting personal safety. The Committee supports the Cabinet Member for the Environment's view that the Council should do what it can to enable the body cameras to be used to gather evidence and not just to be used as a personal safety device. As enforcement officers fall within the remit of the Environment portfolio this point only needs to be noted.
- The Committee welcomes the implementation of the balanced scorecard approach for future performance management within Neighbourhood Services. They look forward to reviewing the new balanced scorecard and the initial results for Neighbourhood Services in March 2017.

## Performance Reporting – Quarter 2

- During the meeting I asked a question about the level of staff expenditure across City Operations; in particular I asked why agency spend was so high compared to the actual agency budget for both services. I would be grateful if you could provide a detailed response to this question in your reply to this letter. The same point has been raised with the Cabinet Member for the Environment.
- As you will be aware the topic of the South Wales Metro was discussed at the meeting. Once again I would like to reiterate the Committee's view that light rail is the best way forward for this scheme as it is the more cost effective and flexible transport system available. In addition to this I would personally like to emphasise the importance of completing the circle line between Coryton and Radyr. This I feel is an essential element for Cardiff's part of the South Wales Metro which would significantly improve the transport linkage between the east and west of the city.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the requests made in this letter.

Regards,



Councillor Paul Mitchell

Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc:

Andrew Gregory – Director for City Operations

Matt Wakelam – Operational Manager, Infrastructure & Operations

Paul Keeping – Operational Manager, Scrutiny Services

Davina Fiore – Director for Governance & Legal Services

Members of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee