

Ref: RDB/RP/MM/17.04.2018

19 March 2018

Councillor Michael Michael,
Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment,
County Hall,
Atlantic Wharf,
Cardiff CF10 4UW.



Dear Councillor Michael,

Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 17 April 2018

On behalf of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and the officers for attending the Committee meeting on Tuesday 17 April 2018. As you are aware the meeting received items titled 'Update to the Recycling & Waste Management Strategy' and 'Cardiff District Heat Network'. The comments and observations made by Members following these items are set out in this letter.

Update to the Recycling & Waste Management Strategy

- The Committee thank you and the officers for delivering the presentation titled 'Recycling & Waste Management Strategy – 2018 to 2021, it provided much needed detail around the proposals currently being considered for the revised Recycling & Waste Management Strategy. Members look forward to receiving draft Cabinet papers on the Recycling & Waste Management Strategy at the Environmental Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 15 May so that they can undertake pre decision scrutiny.
- During the meeting it was explained that the glass pilot would be delivered on a cost neutral basis. A Member challenged this statement and asked for details of the extra man hour costs required for delivering the pilot. Officers were unable to confirm this figure at the meeting, therefore, I would be grateful if you could arrange for details of the extra man hour costs to be provided to the Committee.

- A Member emphasised the point that there were large differences between the recycling challenges experienced across Cardiff's 29 wards. With this in mind the Committee believe that a flexible approach should be applied to the development of the revised Recycling & Waste Management Strategy, and that if a recycling proposal isn't successful in one ward it doesn't necessarily mean that it won't work well in another.
- Members were concerned by your comment that the Commercial Waste Service was only achieving recycling rates of approximately 25% and that this was having a direct impact on Cardiff's overall recycling rate. The Committee feels that this is something that needs to improve to ensure that recycling rates increase. They plan to explore this issue further at the meeting on the 15 May and will consider it alongside a number of other competing waste strategy priorities for future scrutiny during the consultation window.
- Members agree that it is important to run a very thorough consultation exercise for a strategy of this importance and welcome the three month consultation window that you are proposing. They also stress the importance of detailed consultation with local ward Members who hold significant amounts local information about the wards that they represent. The Committee believe that this information will be essential in delivering a flexible bespoke Recycling & Waste Management Strategy for Cardiff.

Cardiff District Heat Network

- Broadly speaking the Committee were content with the proposals contained within the Outline Business Case for Cardiff's District Heat Network. Members noted that the commercial case for Phase 1 of the scheme was financially tight based on the assumption of only supplying heat to public sector providers, with public sector grants being essential to make the scheme viable.
- Members note the 'Key Milestones' slide in the presentation that contains a long list of actions that will need to be achieved to deliver the Final

Business Case and award of the DBOM contract. I would appreciate it if you could keep the Committee informed on the progress of the project so that future scrutiny can be built into our work programme.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the content of this letter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ramesh Patel', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Ramesh Patel
Chairperson Environmental Scrutiny Committee

Cc:

- Andrew Gregory - Director of City Operations
- Gareth Harcombe – Commercial Manager, Energy & Sustainability
- Tara King – Assistant Director, Commercial Services
- Jane Cherrington – Operational Manager, Strategy & Enforcement
- Davina Fiore - Director of Governance & Legal Services
- Members of Cardiff's Environmental Scrutiny Committee