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## **CULTURE & LEISURE STATEMENT**

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### **Capital Investment in Leisure Centres**

I am pleased to report that the Capital Investment programme in Cardiff's leisure centres is progressing well. Our partner, GLL, has successfully completed improvements to facilities at Maindy Centre and phase one of works at both Llanishen Leisure Centre and Pentwyn Leisure Centre. Each of these facilities has new, state of the art gym equipment and the Maindy Centre has also benefited from an extended fitness suite, as well as a refreshed and welcoming reception area. The next phase of investment at Llanishen Leisure Centre involves extensive changing room refurbishment and at Pentwyn Leisure Centre the introduction of Aqua Play. The investment programme will continue throughout this year. The improvements that have been made are already enhancing the customer experience and the new facilities will contribute to improving the health and well-being of residents in Cardiff.

### **Events Programme**

Since the last Council meeting in June, the Council has been working hard to deliver and support a rich and diverse programme of events and attractions for our residents and visitors. This has included four successive nights of Ed Sheeran at the Principality Stadium, the Cardiff Triathlon, Tafwyl in Cardiff Castle and the Cardiff International Food & Drink Festival. The Cardiff Bay Beach has opened at its new location at Alexandra Head, this year's Everyman Open Air Theatre Festival is ongoing at Sophia Gardens and, despite the hot weather, an estimated 7,000 riders took up the challenge of this year's Velothon Wales cycling event.

Next month, Cardiff looks forward to welcoming the National Eisteddfod back to the Capital City of Wales from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> August. The Welsh Proms will return to St David's Hall for five concerts and Cardiff Castle will host concerts by Pete Tong and the Heritage Orchestra and Catfish and the Bottlemen. In addition, Cardiff's Bute Park will be home to dinosaurs from 11<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August as part of the 'Jurassic Kingdom: Where Dinosaurs Come To Life' experience. There will also be plenty for residents and visitors to enjoy over the August Bank Holiday weekend with the Cardiff Harbour Festival, Extreme Sailing Series and Pride Cymru Big Weekend.

I am sure that Members would want to join me in thanking all the staff and partner organisations who have worked so hard to facilitate the development and delivery of a wonderful summer programme of events and attractions here in Cardiff.

## **Rugby World Cup 2019**

Whilst all eyes may currently be on the football World Cup in Russia, the future hosts of Rugby World Cup (RWC) 2019 visited Cardiff recently to meet with Council and Welsh Government representatives. Delegates from across the 12 host cities in Japan were keen to gain practical insights from, in their words, an “iconic 2015 RWC Host City”. I would like to thank both officers from Welsh Government and Cardiff Council for taking the time to share their experiences with our international colleagues and to wish Japan every success in hosting the tournament in September next year.

**Councillor Peter Bradbury**  
**Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure**  
**13<sup>th</sup> July 2018**