

ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 DECEMBER 2019

Present: Councillor Howells(Chairperson)
Councillors Henshaw, Parkhill, Robson and Sattar

1 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Hill-John.

2 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 : EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The following item is confidential and exempt from publication as it contains exempt information of the description contained in paragraph 14 and 16 of Part 4 and paragraph 21 of Part 5 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public may be excluded from a meeting by resolution of the Committee pursuant to Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during discussion of this item.

RESOLVED - That the public be excluded during consideration of this item.

4 : INDOOR ARENA

Members were advised that the Cabinet will receive a report providing an update on the procurement process to secure a developer/operator consortium to deliver a new new 15,000 capacity multi-purpose indoor arena in Cardiff Bay. The report will seek Cabinet approval to acquire the Red Dragon Centre (RDC) and consider a new financial strategy as part of the procurement process as part of the same financial envelope agreed previously.

Members were provided with an opportunity to explore the proposed approach to delivery of the new arena; the proposed acquisition of RDC; the proposed new financial strategy; any risks to the Council; the timeline and next steps; and the recommendations to Cabinet.

The report provided a summary of the background to this item.

The Chairperson welcomed Councillor Russell Goodway, Cabinet Member – Investment and Development, Neil Hanratty, Director of Economic Development, officers from the Economic Development department, Christopher Lee, Corporate Director of Resources, Kyle Godfrey – Project Accountant and Mark Calverley, Bevan Brittan LLP. The Director was invited to deliver a presentation.

Members were invited to comment, raise questions or seek clarification on the information received. The Committee debated that matter in full.

RESOLVED – That the Chairperson write to the Cabinet Member on behalf of the Committee conveying the observations of the Committee during the way forward.

5 : EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

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RESOLVED - That the public be excluded during consideration of this item.

6 : LLANRUMNEY REDEVELOPMENT

The Committee received a report on development proposals in the Llanrumney ward. Members were advised that on 19 December 2019 Cabinet will consider a report setting out the need to improve transport connectivity in Llanrumney and bringing forward a development strategy to enable this. The report will seek Cabinet approval to market Council-owned land in the area for disposal and seeks authority to enter into a Head of Terms Agreement to enable delivery of proposals.

During their consideration of this item Members of the Committee would have an opportunity to explore proposals to increase employment by improving transport connectivity and developing local employment opportunities; the development plan and indicative masterplan; a proposed new outdoor sporting complex; how the proposal fits with the wider Cardiff East Industrial Strategy; any risks to the Council; the timeline and next steps; and the recommendations to Council.

Members were advised that the administration set out a policy programme and delivery commitments entitled 'Capital Ambition', which established the Cabinet's key priorities and outlined a programme of action, including commitments to support people into work, creating jobs and removing barriers to work.

In October 2019, Cabinet approved the East Cardiff Industrial Strategy that emphasised the need to improve transport connectivity as a key to tackling unemployment and poverty in the area. The Strategy referenced the need for a new bridge linking Llanrumney to the A48.

On 19 December 2019 the Cabinet will receive a report to bring forward a development strategy aimed at delivering a new bridge and road link to the A48. Proposals will also include a new outdoors sporting complex, foot and cycle bridge, employment uses, housing and environmental improvements. The report to Cabinet seeks approval to market Council-owned land for disposal in order to generate capital receipts to meet the cost of the bridge and road link and seeks authority to enter into a Head of Terms Agreement to enable delivery of the proposals.

The Director of Economic Development was invited to deliver a presentation on the proposals. Members were invited to comment, seek clarification or raise questions on the information received. The Committee debated the proposals.

RESOLVED – That the Chairperson write to the Cabinet Member on behalf of the Committee conveying the observations of the Committee during the way forward.

7 : FORWARD WORK PLAN JAN- APRIL 2020.

The Forward Work Plan January to April 2020 was noted.

8 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

No urgent items were received.

9 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 16 January 2019.

The meeting terminated at 6.15 pm

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