

CYNGOR CAERDYDD

CARDIFF COUNCIL

ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 MAY 2021

COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Background

1. This report sets out a summary of the Committee's business and sets out the following:
 - A correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings;
 - Forward Work Plan June and July 2021; and
 - '*Capturing and Reporting the Impact of Scrutiny*' Briefing.

Correspondence update

2. Following most Committee meetings, the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered.
3. At the Committee meeting on 11 March 2021, Members received a report detailing the correspondence sent and received up to that meeting. Correspondence was sent following that meeting and the current position is set out below:
 - i. *Confidential Response Received* – from Councillor Goodway to the Chair's Confidential Letter regarding Land at James Street and Callaghan Square, considered at Committee on 12 March 2020;
 - ii. *Response Received* – from Councillor Goodway to the Chair's confidential letter regarding the Indoor Arena pre-decision scrutiny, considered at Committee on 16 November 2020;

- iii. *Confidential Response Received* – from Councillor Bradbury to the Chair's Confidential Letter regarding variations to the contract with GLL, considered at Committee on 11 March 2021;
 - iv. *Response Received* – from Councillor Goodway to the Chair's letter regarding the ISV and Velodrome report, considered at Committee on 11 March 2021.
4. There are no responses outstanding. Copies of the public Chair's letters and responses received can be found on the Council's website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled '*correspondence following the committee meeting*'. Copies of confidential letters have been shared with Committee Members, on a confidential basis.

E&C Forward Work Plan – June/July 2021

5. As part of the Council's response to the Wales Audit Office report '*Overview and Scrutiny - Fit for the Future?*' (July 2018), the Head of Democratic Services has introduced publication of the Committee's "Forward Work Plan" (FWP) on the Council's internet site.
6. The next published Forward Work Plan covers the next two months, as details of potential Cabinet Agenda Items for September 2021 have yet to be agreed, and is set out in **Appendix A**. Members will have the opportunity at the meeting to raise any issues or concerns at this meeting, and to sign off for publishing on the Council's website.

Capturing and Reporting the Impact of Scrutiny

7. Attached at **Appendix B** is a briefing note on '*Capturing and Reporting the Impact of Scrutiny*'. The briefing note sets out that a model has been developed for capturing the impact of the work of the five scrutiny committees. Data and evidence of scrutiny activity throughout the year is collected, supporting the Council in complying with the self-assessment requirements of the new Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

8. The briefing also sets out plans for a single Scrutiny Annual Report for 2020/21, which will be considered by this Scrutiny Committee in June 2021.

Way Forward

9. During the meeting, Members will have the opportunity to reflect on the correspondence update and the briefing on '*Capturing and Reporting the Impact of Scrutiny*'. Members also have the opportunity to discuss the proposed Forward Work Plan and agree any amendments required to this, prior to approving publication on the Council's website.

Legal Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

12. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with

recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- i. reflect on the update on correspondence update;
- ii. reflect on the '*Capturing and Reporting the Impact of Scrutiny*' Briefing;
and
- iii. consider the proposed Forward Work Plan, agree any amendments required and approve for publication on the Council's website.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance and Legal Services

7 May 2021