

My Ref: T: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr NH



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Date: 14 May 2021

Councillor Peter Bradbury
Cabinet Member, Culture & Leisure
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Dear Councillor Bradbury,

Let's make Cardiff Greener, Healthier and Wilder

Our thanks to you, Neil Hanratty and Jon Maidment for attending Committee on 13 May 2021 for the above item. Members are pleased to see the progress made in implementing the motion agreed by Full Council at its meeting on 28 January 2021.

In particular, we note and welcome the following:

- That there will be meetings over the summer with ward councillors to discuss sites for increasing the tree canopy, including via the Urban Forest project
- That an Ash Dieback Strategy is being prepared and should be available by summer 2021
- That more trees are planted each year in Cardiff than are felled
- That a partnership approach between the Council and private suppliers will continue to ensure sufficient supplies of local trees
- That the funding secured to date to increase the tree canopy includes monies to educate local residents about the value of trees, including street trees.

With regard to protecting river and Bay edges for public access and use, Members note the points made at the meeting regarding the role of planning policy and the need for scheme viability. However, we wish to reiterate our view, as discussed at our 11 March 2021 meeting during discussions on the ISV and Velodrome proposals, that we would want to see sufficient space by the water available to be enjoyed by members of the public.

During our way forward discussions, a member queried what additional benefit the National Park City movement would bring to Cardiff, given the work already undertaken and planned. Members would welcome some elaboration on this in your response to this letter.

At the meeting, Members raised the need to shift the emphasis from recycling to reducing waste, in order to reach our One Planet Cardiff goals. Members were pleased to hear recognition of the need for this, from yourself and officers. Therefore, **Members recommend** that the report to Cabinet be amended to add in and shift the emphasis onto the need to reduce waste, rather than simply improve recycling rates. Whilst it is recognised that there needs to be improved recycling rates, particularly by tackling contaminated recycling, the need to reduce waste comes ahead of this. This recommendation has been sent to you already by email, to ensure you received it ahead of Cabinet paper despatch, and is included in this letter for completeness.

Finally, Members thank you for the offer to bring regular updates to Committee and will bear this in mind when setting our work programme for the forthcoming year. To recap, this letter requires a response, please, to the following points:

Request for additional information

An explanation of the additional value the National Park City movement would bring to Cardiff, above the work already planned to increase tree canopy and enhance biodiversity.

Recommendation

Amend the report to Cabinet by adding in and emphasising the need to reduce waste, followed by improving recycling rates.

Thanks again to you and all who attended with you.

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR NIGEL HOWELLS
CHAIR, ECONOMY & CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

cc Members of the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
Neil Hanratty Jon Maidment
Clair James Cabinet Support Office