Ref: RDB/NH/TU/09.07.15

14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Mr Jim Pates, UNITE, c/o Room 107, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff, CF10 4UW.



Dear Jim,

## Joint Policy Review & Performance and Environmental Scrutiny Committee – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015

On behalf of the Policy Review & Performance and Environmental Scrutiny Committee I would like to thank you and the other trade union representatives for attending the Committee meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015. As you are aware in a section of the meeting titled 'Trade union views on potential alternative delivery models for Infrastructure Services & Alternative Delivery Model proposals' you and the other three trade unions were invited to comment and respond on the proposals due to be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> July. This letter provides you with the Member feedback following the meeting.

- Members would like to thank you and the other trade union representatives for your attendance at the meeting. They believe that the trade unions have a crucial part to play in identifying the best way forward for Infrastructure Services in Cardiff and welcome the comments which you made at the meeting.
- During the meeting it was explained that the trade unions were only
  properly briefed on the proposals a few hours before the start of the joint
  scrutiny meeting. This made it very difficult for all four of the trade unions
  to provide any meaningful feedback on the Cabinet proposals, although it
  was noted that the preferred model for all of the trade unions was the

Modified In House option. Members were concerned at the lateness in consultation – particularly as the proposals involve a wide range of services, over 1,000 staff and £73 million of the annual Council budget. So that we can accurately gather the facts I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with a detailed summary of the meetings attended by the trade unions on the 'Infrastructure Services – Alternative Delivery Model' proposals. This summary should include what was discussed and any outcomes from the meetings.

When discussing the Modified In House option the success of Oxford Direct Services was mentioned. A Member asked if it would be possible to achieve the success of Oxford Direct Services in Cardiff and the GMB representative responded by saying that this wouldn't be possible due to the short timescale available to deliver the changes. Extreme budget pressures mean that change has to happen. I would, therefore, be really grateful if you could provide the Committee with details of what UNITE would propose doing in Cardiff to preserve levels of service while achieving the required efficiencies. As a Committee we would be willing to share any of your suggestions for change with the Cabinet.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above comments and provide a response to the requests made in this letter as soon as possible.

Regards,

Councillor Nigel Howells

Chairperson Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee

Cc to:

Councillor Phil Bale, Leader of the City & County of Cardiff Council

Councillor Bob Derbyshire, Cabinet Member for the Environment

Councillor Ramesh Patel, Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning &

Sustainability

Councillor Graham Hinchey, Cabinet Member for Corporate Service &

Performance

Paul Orders, Chief Executive

Andrew Gregory, Director of City Operations

Tara King, Assistant Director for the Environment

David Lowe, Waste Operations Manager

Christine Salter, Corporate Director Resources

Jane Forshaw, Director for the Environment

Marc Falconer, Operational Manager, Projects & Accountancy

Paul Keeping, Operational Manager, Scrutiny Services

Marie Rosenthal, Director for Governance & Legal Services

Neil Hanratty, Director for Economic Development

Ken Daniels, GMB

Angie Shiels, GMB

Robert Collins, UCATT

Martin Roberts, UCATT

Jayne Jackson, UNISON

Ian Titherington, UNISON

Thomas Watkins, UNITE