

**‘SHAPING CARDIFF’S POST PANDEMICE ECONOMIC RECOVERY’
INQUIRY - REPORT**

Reason for Report

1. To provide Members with the ‘*Shaping Cardiff’s Post Pandemic Economic Recovery*’ Inquiry draft report, attached at **Appendix A**, for discussion, amendment, and approval, prior to presentation to the Cabinet for consideration.

Shaping Cardiff’s Post Pandemic Economic Recovery Inquiry

2. During discussions to inform the Committee’s work programme for the municipal year 2022-23, several Committee Members suggested exploring the Council’s role in assisting various aspects of Cardiff’s economic recovery post pandemic. Following initial scoping meetings, Members agreed the following terms of reference:
 - *To explore with key stakeholders what the Council’s role should be in assisting Cardiff’s economy to recover post-pandemic, in the context of limited funding, looking in particular at:*
 - *Remote and co-working needs and requirements*
 - *Support for small businesses and independent artists*
 - *Role of Local and District Centres*
 - *Role of City Centre*
 - *15-minute city model*
 - *Broadband provision*
 - *To reference good practice from other cities that have adopted the 15-minute city model, identifying key lessons that are applicable to Cardiff*

- *To utilise the findings from the above to make informed recommendations to all relevant parties on the most appropriate approaches to take in Cardiff.*
3. The Committee agreed the following membership for this task group:
 - Councillor Wong
 - Councillor Berman
 - Councillor Henshaw
 - Councillor Jenkins
 - Councillor Lloyd Jones.
 4. The task group heard evidence from several internal and external witnesses, including relevant Cabinet Members, senior officers, Creative Economy Unit/ Creative Cardiff, Cwrt Co-Working, FSB Cymru, For Cardiff, Local and District Centre traders, Royal Town Planning Institute Cymru, Town Square, Stiwdio – University of South Wales, and Welsh Government.
 5. Scrutiny Services paid for questions relevant to this Inquiry to be included in the Council's Ask Cardiff survey, available to all residents to complete. Scrutiny Research also undertook a bespoke survey targeting remote workers, small businesses, and city centre, local and district centre traders.
 6. Desk based research was undertaken to inform briefing reports provided ahead of Inquiry meetings.
 7. The task group used the evidence gathered by the Inquiry to identify suitable key findings and recommendations.
 8. Attached at **Appendix A** is the draft report of the task group, which details the key findings and recommendations and summarises the evidence received at task group meetings. The Scrutiny Research report is provided at Appendix 6. The responses received to the questions in Ask Cardiff are provided in Appendix 7.

Way Forward

11. During their meeting, Members may wish to discuss and agree any amendments required to the Task Group report '*Shaping Cardiff's Post Pandemic Economic Recovery*', attached at **Appendix A**.

Legal 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 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

13. 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to consider the '*Shaping Cardiff's Post Pandemic Economic Recovery*' task group report, attached at **Appendix A**, and endorse the report, subject to any amendments the Committee wish to make, for submission to the Cabinet.

Davina Fiore

Director - Governance and Legal Services

12 January 2023