



City and County of Swansea

## Minutes of the **Scrutiny Performance Panel – Development & Regeneration**

Committee Room 3A - Guildhall, Swansea

Monday, 11 December 2017 at 11.00 am

**Present:** Councillor J W Jones (Chair) Presided

**Councillor(s)**  
E W Fitzgerald  
M H Jones

**Councillor(s)**  
C A Holley  
T M White

**Councillor(s)**  
O G James

**Officer(s)**  
Bethan Hopkins  
Martin Nicholls  
Ben Smith

Scrutiny Officer  
Director of Place  
Head of Financial Services & Service Centre and Section  
151 Officer

### **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor(s): C Anderson, S J Gallagher, T J Hennegan and A H Stevens

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#### **1 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

None

#### **2 Notes**

Approved

#### **3 Conveners Questions with Responses**

The Panel discussed the responses to the questions submitted

#### **4 Development and Regeneration Overview**

- The Panel had an overview from Martin Nicholls and Ben Smith
- The Panel expressed that although some data is understandably commercially sensitive as it part of a tender process, Scrutiny should be able to comment on even sensitive data in a closed session if required
- The Panel enquired about the business cases and what stage of development they are at
- The business cases which Swansea are leading on should be available by the end of December 2018

- The Skills and innovation case is further ahead because it is linked to the Regional Learning Forum
- There still seems to be some confusion around what City Deal actually involves because there is so much development talking place
- The governance around City Deal is still being developed
- An update on the joint working agreement for City Deal will (hopefully) come to Cabinet in January and should clarify any questions around this area
- The joint committee can only consist of the 4 Local Authorities involved – Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire
- There is still discussion around how Scrutiny will work
- There is an understanding of the lack of visibility around progress. There are a number of small projects within the development of Swansea City Centre and there needs to be visible list of all projects so they can be considered together
- Martin Nicolls suggests that this should be available for Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February so the Panel should have a better understanding by then
- There is still discussion to take place around the terms and conditions of grants and Ben Smith will update the Panel at a later meeting
- There was development and regeneration taking place in the City Centre before the City Deal and merging the existing development and the newer City deal has led to some confusion around projects
- Each specific local authority has its own risks relative to them
- Trying to bind together all of the Local Authorities in agreements which suit each one can be very difficult
- The Panel discussed the funding around City Deal and how the money will be released over a 15 year period
- Martin Nicolls discussed some of the points on the Homes as Power Stations plans

### **Actions**

1. Ask for the business cases to be scheduled for Scrutiny when they are ready
2. Ben Smith and/or Martin Nicholls to confirm timescales for financial breakdown reports so they can come to Panel

## **5 Work Plan 2017-2018**

- There is a review of the Council budget by the Panel on the 5<sup>th</sup> February ready to feed into the Service Improvement and Finance Panel on the 7<sup>th</sup> February
- The next meeting due on the 8th February may be moved to accommodate a Cabinet report on development and regeneration progress and funding. The Panel will be updated

## **6 For Information**

The Panel made reference to the 'for information' items throughout the meeting

Minutes of the Scrutiny Performance Panel – Development & Regeneration (11.12.2017)  
Cont'd

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm

**Chair**