



CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

Councillor Mary Jones
Chair
Scrutiny Programme Committee

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Our Ref / Ein Cyf: RFD/JW
Your Ref / Eich
Cyf:
Date / Dyddiad: 3 April 2017

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I dderbyn yr wybodaeth hon mewn fformat arall, cysylltwch â'r person uchod.**

Dear Councillor Jones

**PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF CABINET REPORT:
CASTLE SQUARE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC REALM OPPORTUNITIES**

Thank you for your letter of the 15th March with regard to the report on Castle Square Regeneration considered by Cabinet on the 16th March 2017.

Your comments regarding the report are welcomed, and I note that you raised a number of concerns. Your points of concern have been reviewed, and a full response to these matters is set out below:

- **Future Public Access and public licensing issues-** It is noted that it is essential to secure public access, protect the delivery of future events, celebrations and protests in the Square. It is therefore agreed that the Council will remain the holder of the public licence for the Square, and that any brief or terms of lease will make this clear.

**COUNCILLOR/Y CYNGHORYDD
ROBERT FRANCIS-DAVIES
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION /
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- **Location for quiet and rest-** The Square is a popular destination for informal sitting, and this important function will be maintained as part of any enhancement and potential development opportunity within Castle Square. There is also an aspiration to make the space more usable for families with younger children, and to make the space work as a year round destination.
- **Consultation with St Mary's Church-** As work progresses on a draft development and marketing brief for the Square further consultation will be undertaken with key Stakeholders including the Church.
- **Implications for the existing cycle lane** -page 8 of Appendix A is an indicative plan prepared by external consultants to show the potential for integrating Castle Square and St Mary's Square. A new alternative cycleway has already been provided in this location.

At the meeting of Cabinet on 16th March 2017, it was agreed that the an options appraisal and brief for Castle Square be prepared in alignment with the wider City Centre development and that there would be a further report back to Cabinet prior to any site marketing. A number of the matters raised in your letter will be covered in more detail in the Options Appraisal and Brief which is currently in the early stages of preparation. In the interim I trust that the response set out above deals with any immediate concerns, and look forward to further discussions with Scrutiny about the future regeneration of the Square.

Yours sincerely

COUNCILLOR ROBERT FRANCIS-DAVIES
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENTERPRISE, DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

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