

Executive Commentary

Council- Owned Assets

A Report of the Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee

I would like to thank the current Chair and Members of the Economy and Skills Overview & Scrutiny Committee for carrying out this extremely important inquiry. I would also like to thank previous Chairs and Members who have also contributed.

Thanks also to the many members of the public, community organisations and businesses for contributing evidence and thoughts to this important review.

Birmingham City Council owns numerous assets and it is important to distinguish between the investment portfolio and the community portfolio. This report has rightly focussed on the community assets portfolio. I welcome the recommendations to develop more transparent, open and consultative ways in which communities and Ward Councillors can be better involved in decisions around assets in the community portfolio.

Community organisations played an important role in Birmingham's collective response to the Covid-19 crisis and I will ensure that going forward they continue to have a significant role in shaping our neighbourhoods of the future.

Ian Ward

Leader Birmingham City Council