

## Capital Contacts



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# Capital Fund backs health business

THE council has made an investment in, and now owns a part in, a Cardiff company that produces a simulator to train people to use ultrasound machines.

The ScanTrainer produced by Medaphor Ltd provides the latest "real feel" techniques to train sonographers without the need to practise on real patients.

The council has put up £50,000 from its Capital Cardiff Fund alongside £140,000 from Fusion IP, a company which helps bring university research to a commercial market and £100,000 from Finance Wales which is run by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The investment, which also includes money from private investors, aims to support the sales of MedaPhor's new ScanTrainer simulator in the UK and sign up overseas distributors.

The investment will create 12 jobs at the company's base at the Cardiff Medicentre on the University of Wales Hospital site.

Councillor Neil McEvoy, deputy leader of Cardiff Council, said: "Cardiff Council is pleased to continue its proactive support for local businesses through its innovative Capital Cardiff Fund.

"This is Cardiff moving



away from a dependency grant culture and looking to get more bang for the buck."

"The ScanTrainer has considerable potential in global markets and the investment made in the product through an equity stake will assist company growth."

Councillor Mark Stephens, chair of Cardiff Medicentre, said: "It's particularly pleasing that this investment

will assist one of our fastest-growing tenants at Cardiff Medicentre, which provides superb facilities in the life sciences sector."

Medaphor's chief executive Stuart Gall said: "This investment brings together the local authority, the university, the Welsh Assembly and private investors to help develop a product that will provide fast, effective ultrasound training.

Cardiff Medicentre has appointed Dr Mark Bowman as the new director of innovation.

The appointment is a key development in shaping the future success of the centre in increasing its impact on the regional economy and the international bio-medical sector. For more on the Capital Cardiff Fund and other ways in the council can help business contact the

business and investment team, Room 404, County Hall, Cardiff, CF10 4UW, or you can e-mail the team at [businessadvice@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:businessadvice@cardiff.gov.uk) or call 2087 3158.

To find out more on Cardiff Medicentre visit [www.cardiffmedicentre.co.uk](http://www.cardiffmedicentre.co.uk)

• Stuart Gall at the ScanTrainer with Councillor Mark Stephens, Councillor Neil McEvoy and Dr Mark Bowman

## Growing improvements at allotments

THE progress being made on the council's allotments was the subject of a review by the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

Most of the recommendations made by the committee were accepted by the Executive.

There are 26 council allotment sites across the city covering approximately 190 acres and there is significant interest in allotment gardening.

Earlier this year a stakeholder forum and review group was established with representatives of the Allotment Regeneration Initiative, the Cardiff Allotment

Holders Association, the Probation Service, the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, site secretaries from a number of sites and council officers. In addition to the main group two sub-groups focusing on issues relating to tenancy agreements and local management were established.

As part of the improvements allotment tenants will have a chance to put their views to the council which will assist the preparation of the updated strategy. Audits have taken place at 17 sites - Forest Farm, Rhydyppennau, Lynton Terrace, Llandaff North, Llandaff Fields,

Highfields, Fairwater, Pontcanna Chalet Gardens, Pontcanna A, Pontcanna Permanent, South Rise, Leckwith, Lady Mary, Elgar Crescent, Colchester Avenue, Lon Y Deri and Heol Chappell. The audits of the remaining nine sites are scheduled to be completed by the end of September.

Councillor Mohammed Sural Islam chair of the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee said: "We are pleased to hear that the Executive has taken up our recommendations and will be checking that the improvements will be delivered."

## Committee dates August 2010

**Tuesday, July 27, Standards and Ethics Committee,** 4.30pm, Committee Room 1, County Hall

**Wednesday July 28, Planning (Policy) Committee,** 4pm, Ferrier Hall, City Hall

**Tuesday, August 10, Licensing Committee,** 10am, Committee Room 1, County Hall. **Public Protection Committee,** 10.30am, Committee Room 1, County Hall

**Wednesday, August 11, Planning (Development Control) Committee,** 2.30pm, Ferrier Hall, City Hall.

These dates are correct at time of going to press, however changes can occur due to unforeseen circumstances. If you wish to attend any of these meetings, details may be confirmed with Committee Services at County Hall on 2087 2000.