

WRITTEN STATEMENT

Title: UEFA Champions League Final and UEFA Champions Festival

Date: 25 May 2017

By: Elin Jones AM, Llywydd, as Chair of the Assembly Commission

The UEFA Champions League Final is the largest sporting event in the world in 2017 and we are delighted that our capital city will host the women's Final on Thursday 1 June and the men's on Saturday 3 June.

One of the many associated activities taking place around the final is the UEFA Champions Festival which is being held in Cardiff Bay during the Assembly's half term recess from Thursday 1 to Sunday 4 June. The Festival, held every year around the Final, enables UEFA and its sponsors to engage with football fans in a family-friendly atmosphere.

The National Assembly for Wales is delighted to be part of these celebrations. The Pierhead will be hosting the Virtual Champions Arena and we hope to see many visitors taking advantage of the opportunity to tour the Senedd during their visit.

There will be a music stage in the basin and a floating football pitch will be anchored in front the Seafarers' Memorial where the Ultimate Champions Match will take place on Friday 2 June at 4.00pm along with organised community 5-a-side matches.

It is expected that there will be over 200,000 people visiting Cardiff Bay over the four days of the Festival, which opens each day at 11.00am, and consists of eight sponsorship zones located around the Pierhead and Roald Dahl Plas.

This is an exciting event for the Assembly, Cardiff and Wales and while there will inevitably be a certain amount of disruption to usual travel arrangements, we look forward to welcoming UEFA and international fans to the Festival and all its associated activities.

