**Duration: 4’ 48**

**End words: “…to be seen”**

**Presenter Link:**

Traders in Cardiff’s vintage Victorian Arcades have expressed disappointment towards the City Council regarding the re-branding and pedestrianisation of the ‘Castle Quarter’ Arcade district. The new initiative has seen a total of 34 million pounds invested in an overhaul of St Mary’s street and the nearby surrounding areas. Ashley Wilton visited the Arcades and spoke to those who have been affected.

**Reporter Link One (Audio):**

Walking through these Arcades, it is clear to see why they have such everlasting appeal with both local residents and tourists. Speaking to one affected shopkeeper, who asked to remain anonymous, we were told of how the pedestrianisation scheme has promise, yet the main problem the Arcades face, still remains.

**Interview Clip One (0’41):**

“…to be outside.”

**Reporter Link Two:**

These are views that store owner of over ten years, Steve Price, agrees with.

**Interview Clip Two (0’08):**

“…even getting wet.”

**Reporter Link Three:**

Mr. Price continued by telling of how he believes the regeneration project has not been approached in the correct manner.

**Interview Clip Three (0’25)**

“…of the arcades.”

**Reporter Link Four:**

Both shop owners share the same feelings on these unique Arcades, and what they offer the city, and give their thoughts on why they believe people are attracted to them.

**Interview Clip Four (0’31)**

“…bit more random.”

**Reporter Link Five:**

Despite this positive outlook, some shop owners are seeking compensation, after being frustrated by the effects of the council’s decisions regarding the pedestrianisation project.

**Interview Clip Five (0’19)**

“…know we existed.”

**Reporter Link Six:**

Cardiff Council have since released a statement which cools claims that they are treating shop owners unfairly, suggesting that they are creating a better place for residents, businesses and visitors alike.

The shopkeeper who maintained the desire to remain anonymous, continued by telling of his optimism towards to rebranding of the Arcade Castle Quarter, but believes that St David’s 2 is still the biggest threat.

**Interview Clip Six (0’43)**

“…next door to us.”

**Reporter Link Seven:**

Local resident Tony Williams agrees with the niche appeal of the Arcades, stating of how they offer something different to what is provided by commercialized shopping centers such as St David’s 2.

**Payoff:**

As a direct result of the re-branding and pedestrianisation project, the council has offered each shop a 300 pound reduction in rates for the foreseeable future. As things stand, the council remains firm that their judgment in altering St Mary’s street and the surrounding area was justified, whilst the lasting effect on whether or not it will impact the already hard hit Arcades remains to be seen.