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**Report to**  
Council

13<sup>th</sup> September, 2005

**Report of**  
Director of Legal and Democratic Services

**Title**  
Outside Bodies – Amendments to Appointments

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### **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To amend the appointments to CovWise Limited, Local Government Information Unit Management Committee and the Coventry General Charities Trustees made at the City Council's AGM in May, 2005.

### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The City Council are recommended to replace Bev Messinger with Stephen Pickering as the City Council Officer representative on CovWise.
- 2.2 The City Council are recommended to replace Councillor Taylor with Councillor Asif as the City Council's representative and Lead Member responsible for reporting back on the Local Government Information Unit Management Committee.
- 2.3 The City Council are recommended to consider the replacement of Mrs Rosher as one of the representatives on the Coventry General Charities Trustees.

### **3 Information/Background**

#### CovWise

- 3.1 At its Annual Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2005, the City Council appointed elected members and, where appropriate, employees to represent the City Council on a series of outside bodies. The representatives appointed to the CovWise Board were Councillor Kelsey and Bev Messinger. Councillor Kelsey is the Lead Member responsible for reporting back to the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on the work of CovWise.
- 3.2 CovWise is an Intermediate Labour Market Company established by a group of local organisations & individuals working together in partnership. Its aim is to improve the employability of the local unemployed labour market by providing an opportunity to train & work towards achievement of a sustainable working career whilst successfully undertaking & completing contracts of work with the general aim of improving the environment of Coventry & surrounding areas.
- 3.3 The Head of Human Resources, Bev Messinger, has been the Council's employee representative on the Board of CovWise since 2003. During this time she has been able to

contribute to the HR issues affecting the company and retain links and facilitate meetings for CovWise in appropriate areas of the Council in order to raise awareness of their work. In order to improve access to contract work, which is an essential requirement for CovWise to survive, it is proposed to change representation to the Director of City Services, Stephen Pickering, who will be able to more easily facilitate opportunities for contract work in operational areas.

Local Government Information Unit - Management Committee

- 3.4 At the City Council's Annual Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2005, Councillor Taylor was nominated as the City Council's representative on the Local Government Information Unit Management Committee and, as the only representative to that organisation, the Lead Member responsible for reporting back on the work of the body. The Conservative Group have requested the City Council amend the appointment to the Local Government Information Unit Management Committee replacing Councillor Taylor with Councillor Asif as representative and Lead Member.

Coventry General Charities Trustees

- 3.5 The Charity have approached the City Council to request that they consider the replacement of Mrs Rosher as one of the City Council's representatives on the Coventry General Charities Trustees.

**4 Proposal and Other Option(s) to be Considered**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the City Council replace Bev Messinger with Stephen Pickering as the City Council's employee representative on the CovWise Board
- 4.2 It is proposed to replace Councillor Taylor with Councillor Asif as the City Councils representative on the Local Government Information Unit Management Committee.
- 4.3 It is proposed to consider replacing Mrs Rosher as one of the City Council's representatives on the Coventry General Charities Trustees.

**5 Other specific implications**

5.1

	<b>Implications (See below)</b>	<b>No Implications</b>
Area Co-ordination		✓
Best Value		✓
Children and Young People		✓
Comparable Benchmark Data		✓
Corporate Parenting		✓
Coventry Community Plan		✓
Crime and Disorder		✓
Equal Opportunities		✓
Finance		✓
Health and Safety		✓
Human Resources		✓

	<b>Implications (See below)</b>	<b>No Implications</b>
Human Rights Act		✓
Impact on Partner Organisations		✓
Information and Communications Technology		✓
Legal Implications		✓
Property Implications		✓
Race Equality Scheme		✓
Risk Management	✓	
Sustainable Development		✓
Trade Union Consultation		✓
Voluntary Sector – The Coventry Compact		✓

## 5.2 Risk Management

The way in which the Council's involvement in external organisations is managed can influence the risks the Council incurs. Members' representation on outside organisations carries with it personal risks/liabilities particularly where the organisation is a limited company. Guidance has been issued to all members on working with Outside Organisation "Avoiding the Pitfalls" and members have also received a copy of "The Company Director – A Guide to Directors' Duties and Responsibilities".

## 6 Monitoring

6.1 A process for representatives nominated to outside bodies to report back to the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on the work of that body has recently been implemented, this will facilitate a robust annual review of the continuing value of each appointment to ensure that Council representation on outside bodies delivers mutual benefit and value.

### List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

**Description of paper**

**Location**

None

