
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

21st September, 2005

Report of
Cabinet Member (City Services)

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies - Urban Commission of Local Government Association

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 At their meeting on 10th May, 2005, the Cabinet approved a process of reporting back to the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on the work of those outside bodies appointed to by the City Council. This reports sets out details of the work of the Urban Commission of the Local Government Association over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 An appointment should continue to be made to the Commission as it's work can have some impact on Urban Regeneration Policy and the Commission has a clear role in the LGA structure. The meetings can also provide a useful networking opportunity with members from similar Metropolitan areas.
- 2.2 The appointment should be an elected member due to the political nature of the body. The Chair/Vice Chairs of the body are usually Council Leaders/Cabinet Members in their own authority, however it is not a requirement for Coventry's representative to hold such a post.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 The Commission meetings consist of both a formal session with presentations followed by a question and answer session and informal workshop sessions.
- 3.2 The major part of the work is to consider research papers/ policy documents and to try to formulate an "Urban View" on proposals coming forward. This view is not just confined to the effect on the large conurbations and cities, but also the effect on Market Towns and village centres in rural areas.
- 3.2.1 The composition of the body is varied and includes a large number of county councils and rural district councils in addition to the large Urban councils and the London Boroughs. All Councils that are members of the LGA may join, they do not necessarily have to be a predominately urban council. For example Buckinghamshire County Council is a member of the Commission.

3.3 If necessary votes are taken on a weighted basis according to the population of each Council. It is normal practice for one member to have the vote/votes of their authority. However, the Commission in common with much of the LGA works on a consensus basis.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

4.1 The ability to hear leading experts in Urban Regeneration plus the views and experiences of other authorities in tackling similar problem to those Coventry faces.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 Councillor Foster is the City Council's representative and over the last twelve months has attended a total of 1 meetings from a possible 1, Councillor Mulhall is nominated as 'named substitute', as Councillor Foster has a 100% attendance record he has not been required to attend.

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper	Location
List of Appointments to Outside Bodies	CH61