
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

1st March, 2006

Report of
Councillor Chater

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Coventry Association for International Friendship

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 Coventry Association for International Friendship over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council should continue to nominate an elected member to the Executive Committee of the Coventry Association for International Friendship (CAIF).

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 Coventry Association for International Friendship (CAIF) is a unique citizens' organisation established in 1961 and still going strong. CAIF works in support of the City Council's international policies. Its core activity is organisation of international exchanges between groups of citizens from Coventry and its twin towns and cities. It believes that the development of understanding and friendship through these exchanges is one of the pathways towards a more peaceful world.
- 3.2 CAIF holds 5 public meetings a year with keynote speakers (including the retiring Lord Mayor), to lead discussions at each of these meetings that are open to the public.
- 3.3 The past year as seen CAIF organizing exchanges with Kiel, Vannes (A partner town in Brittany), Coventry Rhode Island and Graz.
- 3.4 CAIF is also a contributor to Coventry Peace Month and a member of the steering committee for this event.
- 3.5 CAIF were successful in accessing European Commission funding of 4,500 euros to assist in financing the Vannes exchange visit. They are currently seeking further European Grant Funding to enable a major twin town event to take place during Coventry Peace Month 2006.

Funding

3.6 CAIF is funded by:-

- City Council grant of £835. (This has been the same level of grant for several years, although CAIF have recently been informed that this will rise to £1,000 to recognise the work of the organisation on behalf of the Council).
- Membership subscription fees
- Fund raising events.

4 **Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment**

4.1 The elected member appointee is involved in setting the direction of CAIF and enhances the link with the City Council. The City Council's current elected member nomination to CAIF is also the elected Chair of the organization.

4.2 The Lord Mayor is President of CAIF

5 **Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment**

5.1 Councillor Dave Chater attended 4 out of 6 Executive Committees, and Chaired 3 out of 4 Public Meetings.

5.2 Members of CAIF receive no remuneration

List of background papers

Proper officer:

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Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper	Location
Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies	CH61