
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

15th March, 2006

Report of
Cabinet Member (Policy, Leadership and Governance)

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Partnership

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 Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Partnership over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the City Council continues it's membership of the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Partnership for 2006/07.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the City Council confirms that the Leader of the Council, and the Cabinet Member, Urban Renewal continue as the Council's representatives on the CSWP Board.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 Appendix 1 contains an extract from the CSWP business plan over the last year. The year has seen a substantial reorganisation of CSWP and a perceived improvement in its internal organisation and performance.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 CSWP was developed by the City Council and our partners to give expressions to sub regional work across local authority boundaries on important economic development and regeneration issues. This has included, for example, tourism, transport and industrial diversification. It acts as an important linkage to Advantage West Midlands through the Regeneration Zone and High Technology Corridor work. It provides a forum for local authorities, the universities, the private sector and other key partners to work strategically to represent and advance the position of the sub-region. CSWP continues to be an important element in the City Council's wider partnership work with neighbouring local communities.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 5.1 Councillors Arrowsmith and Taylor are the City Council's representatives on Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership Limited. Over the past twelve months there have

been 5 meetings of the Board of which both Councillor Arrowsmith and Taylor have attended 3.

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

Proper officer:

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Carl Pearson, Head of Regeneration
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Papers open to Public Inspection

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

CSWP Business Plan 2005-2006 (summary)

CSWP is the partnership for economic development in the Coventry Solihull & Warwickshire sub-region. It brings together all those public, private, voluntary and community organisations that have a stake in the economy and are able to contribute to its development.

The Partnership has always seen its role as promoting an economically successful sub-region. This means much more than wealth creation, which serves to underpin a higher aspiration: promoting all-round sustainable quality of life for all our residents. That requires an holistic approach weaving together the threads of economic, social and environmental policy:

- Sustainable economic growth – based on maintaining the competitiveness of the sub-regional economy.
- Sustainable communities – based on fostering cohesion through social and economic inclusion.
- Environmental sustainability – including both urban and rural areas in harmony with each other.
- Upskilling our workforce – ensuring we know the skills our sub-region needs in order that we can compete economically.

“CSWP does not exist separately from its partners.”

CSWP includes among its strategic priorities those aspects of community and environment that relate most directly to sustainable economic development. It will

- develop policy to support economic, social and sustainable development,
- build on areas of agreement between partners and use our partners’ knowledge, expertise and research capabilities to underpin policy work,
- provide a platform for joint cross-partner/cross-stakeholder decision-making,
- deliver a range of projects to support economic and social development,
- speak out loudly and clearly for the sub-region.

In brief

Major areas of partnership working include:

The Coventry & Nuneaton Regeneration Zone

Leading on the spread of prosperity from the south of the sub region to all areas of Coventry and Nuneaton and Bedworth.

The Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire High Technology Corridor

Promoting economic modernisation and diversification and the development of a knowledge based economy.

CW2000

A strategic initiative to help small businesses make best use of broadband technologies.

Members

CSWP is a membership organisation. It includes all of Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire’s local authorities, the Learning and Skills Council, the two universities, colleges, private businesses, community and voluntary organisations, Advantage West Midlands, the health sector and Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber and Business Link.

Representing our partners

CSWP does not exist separately from its partners so we have key objectives that reflect what our partners want us to do:

20:20 Strategy

This is a vision of where the local economy needs to be by the year 2020 and sets out areas of development on which each partner will lead in order to help us get there.

Rural Forum

This brings together the public and private sectors to develop practical activities around rural issues. Its aim is to modernise and diversify the rural economy and make it more sustainable.

Transport Forum

This focuses on transport priorities in relation to economic development and regeneration of the sub-region. It looks at issues such as congestion hotspots, access to economic assets and transport for deprived areas particularly in rural locations.

Tourism Forum

This works towards unifying existing arrangements for attracting visitors and business tourism. It works with tourist organisations to further encourage developments in this area.

Housing

The views of partners are sought to determine if there is a role for CSWP to develop a sub-regional strategy on housing that responds to economic change.

European Policy/Funding

This objective explores how we can work together to maximise opportunities for funding under the new arrangements.

Ansty

This is the opportunity to develop a strategy for the prime site, between Coventry and Rugby - next to the new university hospital - to make sure that the potential for attracting medical technologies and other high-tech industries is fully exploited.

Delivering contracts

CSWP holds the contract to deliver a number of activities that contribute to the economic well-being and potential renaissance of the Coventry and Warwickshire community.

CW2000

Provide broadband and ICT learning opportunities to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Corridors

Manage the development and delivery of the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire (CSW) High Technology Corridor.

Coventry and Nuneaton Regeneration Zone

Develop a Zone Implementation Plan (ZIP). Monitor and facilitate its delivery.

Adult Guidance

Ensure adults across the sub-region have access to high quality advice and guidance through the delivery of the nextstep and Coventry, Warwickshire Guidance (CWG) business plans.

Education Business Consortium

Manage education and business activity to better equip the emerging workforce.

Connexions

Deliver the Connexions contract on behalf of Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) and especially to lead on NEETs ("not in education, employment or training") targets in line with Coventry's Local Area Agreement (LAA) and Warwickshire's Public Service Agreement (PSA).

Projects

Manage and deliver a wide range of externally funded contracts including information, advice and guidance for adults and a raft of support for marginalized groups.

Value for money

CSWP intends to be a world-class organisation and to this end has set itself a number of targets. We will successfully deliver clearly defined strategies covering IT, Learning & Development, People Management (includes all Human Resources matters), Facilities Management, Company Performance Management, External Funding & Risk Management and Health & Safety. We will also successfully deliver our plans for Internal Audit and Equality & Diversity. We are to maximise a range of external funding opportunities to a target of £3 million per annum while introducing new evaluation and appraisal processes for all projects. We will ensure that internal and external communication processes are fully deployed throughout the organisation and that colleagues and customers receive an effective information service.

Income

In 2005-06 we anticipate income from:	£
Government Office for the West Midlands	7,547,000
Learning and Skills Council/European Social Fund	3,234,000
European Regional Development Fund	1,750,000
Advantage West Midlands	655,000
Other	494,000
Memberships	310,000
Job Centre Plus	260,000
Total	14,250,000

Spending

Our expenditure in 2005-06 will enable us to:	£
Deliver a range of funded projects, invest in young people and adults and work towards becoming a world-class organisation	13,868,500
Deliver a platform for joint working and speak out loudly and clearly	294,500
Contribute to reserves	87,000
Total	14,250,000

Staff

Deployment of staff across business units

<i>Business Units</i>	<i>Total Number of Staff</i>	<i>Full Time Equivalent</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Connexions (Including sub-regional teams)	342	287.2	69	273
Adult Operations, Job Centre Plus contracts and nextstep	25	22.3	9	16
Economic Development and Regeneration	7	6.43	5	2
Essential Skills Learning Resource Centre	3	2.8	0	3
CW2000	14	14	6	8
Learning Partnership	2	2	1	1
TOTAL	393	334.73	90	303

Ethic breakdown of workforce

<i>Ethnicity</i>	<i>Number of Employees</i>
Asian Bangladeshi	1
Asian Indian	22
Asian Pakistani	3
Asian Other	2
Black African	1
Black Caribbean	11
Black Other	2
Mixed White – Black Caribbean	1
Mixed Other	1
White British	331
White Irish	9
White Other	9
TOTAL	393

Age breakdown of workforce

Age	Number of Employees
16 – 20	3
21 – 30	59
31 – 40	113
41 – 50	121
51 - 60	87
61 – 70	8
70+	2
TOTAL	393

CSWP Board

Dr Brian Woods-Scawen	- Chairman CSWP
Cllr Dave Arrowsmith	- Coventry City Council
Professor Madeline Atkins	- Coventry University
David Burton	- Sherbourne Solutions Ltd
Mr Larry Coltman	- Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber
Cllr Bob Crowther	- Warwick District Council
Cllr Chris Saint	- Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Richard Hyde	- Advantage West Midlands
Isabella Moore	- COMTEC Translations
Ursula Russell	- Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Ken Taylor	- Coventry City Council
Paul Taylor	- City College, Coventry
Peter Deeley	- Deeley Group Ltd
Bryan Stoten	- UCHW NHS Trust
Professor David Vandenlinde	- Warwick University

Dr. Brian Woods-Scawen is a Chartered Accountant and was a partner in PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1980 until 2003. He was Executive Chairman of the Midlands Region of PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1993 and a member of the Board of Coopers & Lybrand from 1993 until that firm's merger with Price Waterhouse in 1998. He was a member of PricewaterhouseCoopers Global Board until 2001 and a member of the Supervisory Board from 1998 until 2003 and Chairman from 2001. Brian Woods-Scawen currently holds public appointments as Chairman of the West Midlands Regional Cultural Consortium and is an independent member on the Executive Board that oversees the Department of Trade and Industry. He was a Board member of Advantage West Midlands (the Regional Development Agency) from its formation in 1998 until 2003. He is Chairman of The Broadband Company, a non-executive director of West Bromwich Building Society and Chairman of Coventry Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership. Brian Woods-Scawen is a member of the Council of Warwick University and a member of the International Advisory Board of the European Research Institute at Birmingham University.