
Report to

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

21st November, 2007

Report of

Councillor Ken Taylor

Title

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Sub Group

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 At their meeting on 10th May 2007, 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 NRF sub-group 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 will continue to advise the NRF sub-group by providing support through five Councillors.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 The NRF programme receives £5.3m a year of Government funding to support projects. The programme has run since 2001 and will continue through to March 2008. The aim of NRF is improve the quality of life in priority neighbourhoods and communities in Coventry through improvements to health, education, environment, community safety, employment, equalities and communities and transport.
- 3.2 The NRF sub-group, chaired by Cllr O'Neill, of the Coventry Partnership is responsible for the strategic co-ordination of the programme in delivering the overall objectives of the scheme. The NRF sub-group oversees performance management of the NRF Programme. During 2007-2008 the sub-group is also overseeing the Succession Framework. The framework will ensure good practice is picked up and appropriate support is provided by the NRF team to all stakeholders to ensure the aims of NRF are realised from the 2006-2008 £10.6 million programme. Other partners on the board are representatives from the Teaching Primary Care Trust, West Midlands Police, CVSC and Community Empowerment Network.
- 3.3 Coventry City Council is the Accountable Body for the NRF sub-group of the Coventry Partnership. As the Accountable Body, the City Council enters into a funding agreement, on behalf of the Coventry Partnership, with Government Office for the West Midlands.

As the accountable body the City Council agrees to take the risk for the money the Partnership allocates and spends in implementing its objectives.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

4.1 The continued appointments to the NRF sub-group would:

- Provide a direct link between the NRF sub-group and City Council Accountable Body manager to ensure that the risk of breaching Government Office guidelines in the delivery of the scheme is minimised,
- Ensure that the City Council as a partner can influence the decisions taken by the Board,
- Ensure that the City Council can add value to the NRF programme through establishing strategic linkages between the Partnership and Council where necessary,
- Provide a direct link between Cabinet and the NRF sub-group in terms of progress and performance updates.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 The City Council's representatives attend the NRF sub-group.

Between November 2006 and April 2007, there were 2 meetings of the NRF Sub Group held and the City Council's representatives were Councillors Blundell, H Noonan, O'Neill, Ridley and Taylor. Councillors Blundell and Noonan and O'Neill each attended two meetings, Councillor Taylor one meeting and Councillor Ridley did not attend any meetings.

From May 2007 to October, 2007, there have been 2 meetings and the Council's representatives are Councillors Ahmed, Blundell, O'Neill, Sawdon and Taylor. Councillors Blundell and O'Neill each attended two of the meetings, Councillor Taylor one meeting and Councillors Ahmed and Sawdon did not attend any of the meetings.

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

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Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies

