
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

2nd April, 2008

Report of
Councillor Foster, Cabinet Member (City Development)

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 its membership of the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Partnership for 2008/09.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the City Council continues to nominate elected members to the CSWP Board given the nature of the work undertaken by this body.
- 2.3 Scrutiny Co-Ordination Committee notes that a new Economic Development (ED) Sub-Committee has been proposed to replace the Economic and Social Renaissance Sub-Board and the Enterprise and Innovation Sub-Board.
- 2.4 That the Scrutiny Co-Ordination Cttee notes the above and recommends that it would be appropriate for elected members to be nominated to the new Economic Development Sub Committee at the City Councils AGM in May.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Appendix 2 contains information collated from the CSWP Corporate Plan 2007/08. This highlights seven key areas of work covering funding, policy and major sub-regional initiatives such as Peugeot. It also contains financial information detailing the three year income and expenditure account of CSWP.

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.

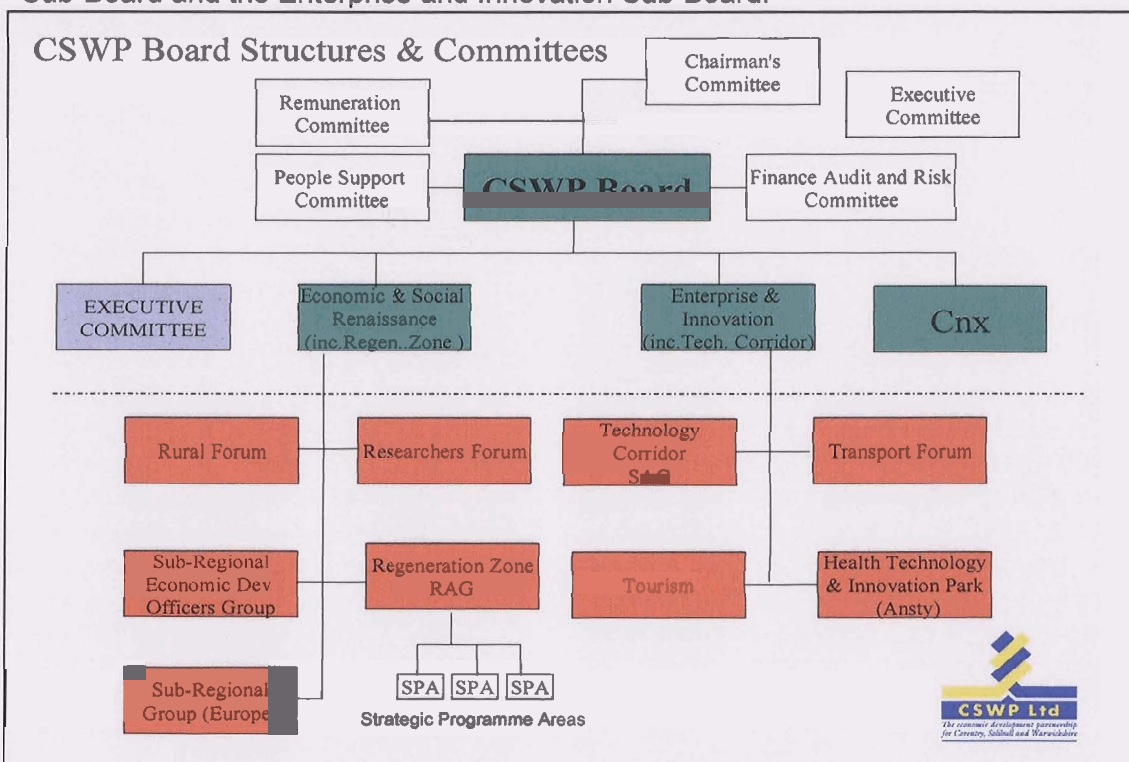
4.2 CSWP acts as an important secretariat linkage to Advantage West Midlands (AWM) through the Regeneration Zone and High Technology Corridor work. It provides a forum for local authorities, the universities, the private sector and other key partners to work strategically to represent and advance the position of the sub-region. CSWP continues to be an important element in the City Council's wider partnership work with neighbouring local communities. CSWP is also an important partner in enabling Coventry to take a sub-regional lead on growth and the implications of the sub-national review on the sub-regional economy. CSWP has co-ordinated a number of sub-regional responses to AWM on the review of the West Midlands Regional Economic Strategy.

4.3 The development of an Economic Development (ED) Sub-Committee has been proposed to replace the Economic and Social Renaissance Sub-Board and the Enterprise and Innovation Sub-Board. The new ED Sub-Committee will be responsible to the CSWP Main Board. The merger proposal is based on the close links between the two boards work and the need to ensure the two agendas work together.

4.4 The ED Sub Committee shall have responsibility for:

- The strategic oversight of the Economic Development Strategy for Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire sub-region
- Acting as a consultation body for responding to regional or national policy initiatives (e.g. the Sub-National Review of Economic Development) as they arise
- Strategies which relate to the AWM delivery vehicles – the Winning Technologies High Technology Corridor (HTC) and the Coventry & Nuneaton Regeneration Zone (CNRZ)
- The approval and monitoring of programmes and projects that emanate from these strategies. Approval is required for all projects that are 'Outline' stage and appraisal ready in relation to the current AWM process
- The ED Sub-Committee shall also have responsibility for activities relating to the 2012 Opportunities Partnership, the C&W Destination Management Partnership and other topics that relate to economic development as agreed by the Sub-Committee and as and when they arise

4.5 The following diagram illustrates the current CSWP Board Structures and Committees. The proposed ED Sub-Committee will replace the existing Economic & Social Renaissance Sub-Board and the Enterprise and Innovation Sub-Board.



5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 Councillor Kevin Foster and Councillor Hazel Noonan are the City Council's representatives on the CSWP Board. In the period December 2006 to September 2007 there were 3 meetings held of which Councillor Noonan attended 2. Councillor Foster attended both of the meetings that he was entitled to attend.

It should be noted that the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ken Taylor, is a member of the CSWP Board in his capacity as a representative of Advantage West Midlands (AWM).

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

Proper officer:

Author: Telephone

(Any enquiries should be directed to the above) 7683 3076

Other contributors:

Sarah Abel, Regeneration Services

Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper	Location CH59
Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies	

Appendix 1

CSWP Board

DIRECTORS	SECTOR	EXECUTIVES IN SUPPORT
M. Atkins	HE	M. Bell, Learning and Skills Council
N. Campbell	LA (RBC)	
L. Coltman	P	R. Dowthwaite, CSWP
I. Courts	LA (SMBC)	S. Stewart, CSWP
K. Foster	LA (CCC)	L. Hackwell, Solihull Borough Council
M. Matthews	P	J. McGuigan, Coventry City Council
S. Nightingale	CV	J. Deegan, Warwickshire County Council
U. Russell	P	
C. Saint	LA (WCC)	
N. Snook	P	S. Stewart, CSWP/Connexions
J. Tandy	LA (WCC)	
P. Taylor	FE	K. Yeomans, AWM
N. Thrift	HE	L. Bennett, C&W Chamber
B. Woods-Scawen	P(Chairman)	
D. Burton	P	
P. Deeley	P	
J. Graham	LA (WCC)	
H. Noonan	LA (CCC)	
K. Taylor	LA (CCC)	
L. Topham	LA (SDC)	
Vacancy	Health	
S. Manzie – Company Secretary	LA (CCC)	

**Summary of the work of
Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership (CSWP) 2007-2008**

Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Partnerships Ltd (CSWP) is recognised locally and regionally as being a strong sub-regional private/public sector partnership with a growing reputation in economic development activity and services for young people and adults.

Strategic objectives:

- Policy – to support economic and social development across Coventry & Warwickshire;
- Platform – for joint cross-partner policy decisions;
- Deliver – a range of funded projects;
- Speak out – loudly and clearly for Coventry and Warwickshire

The 2007/08 Corporate Plan provides a strategic overview of the actions and activities that will be undertaken in financial year 2007/08 to deliver CSWP's objectives. These include:

- New developments to maximise the economic benefits to Coventry and Warwickshire of the Local Area Agreement
- CSWP speaking out louder and to a wider audience to promote Coventry and Warwickshire
- A stronger alliance between the skills and economic development agendas
- Continue to develop contracts such as the Regeneration Zone, Corridors and Clusters, and Connexions to a very high quality
- Develop new work (building on the success of the CW2000 project) such as E Factor whose digital media centre will offer a range of innovative opportunities for all clients and partners
- Lead, co-ordinate and maximise the opportunities presented by the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games to upgrade and drive forward the sporting, tourism, business, cultural, economic and health aspirations of Coventry and Warwickshire
- Remove the disparity in wealth and opportunity between the Regeneration Zone and the rest of the sub-region
- Raise the profile of the High Technology corridor, generate economic wealth and allow the sub region to compete on an international platform
- Strive to seek out synergies and connections to add value to partners work for the benefit of the sub-region
- To drive forward new sub-regional economic developments on behalf of partners e.g. the development of a Health Technology Park at Ansty and Visitor Destination Strategy
- Facilitate the formation of an effective and proactive Destination Management Partnership for the sub-region to raise the profile of the sub-region as a premier visitor destination and to secure future funding to support local tourism development

Major areas of partnership working since the last report in March 2007 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.
- **Work on the development of a Health Technology and Innovation Park at the Ansty site**

The Coventry and Warwickshire 2012 Partnership "Our Journey to 2012...." Event

- **Review of the Regional Economic Strategy**
- **The experience of the Peugeot Partnership is being documented as an example of how to handle major economic shocks.**
- **Since April 07 – Solihull have positioned themselves alongside Coventry and Warwickshire**

Value for money

CSWP has several objectives to increase their efficiency and effectiveness. They will successfully deliver defined objectives as outlined in the following strategies and plans:

- **Finance and Risk Strategy**
- **Internal Communication Strategy**
- **Business Development Unit Strategy**
- **Finance and Risk Plan**
- **People Management Strategy**
- **Three Year Training Plan**

Finance

3 year Income and Expenditure Account

	2007-08 £000	2008-09 £000	2009-10 £000
Income			
Connexions Grant	7,892	7,892	7,892
Membership/Interests	245	245	245
Other Projects	6,050	6,468	6,698
Total income	14,187	14,605	14,835
Expenditure			
Salaries	10,396	10,525	10,700
Establishment costs	1,935	1,896	1,860
Contracted Delivery Costs	1,632	1,673	1,715
Capital Expenditure – Depreciation	182	200	200
Total costs	14,145	14,294	14,475