
Report to

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

2nd April, 2008

Report of

Councillor Kevin Foster

Title

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Local Enterprise Growth Initiative Partnership Board

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This reports sets out details of the work of Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) Partnership Board 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 LEGI partnership board by providing support through three Councillors.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 Coventry was successful in winning over £12.6 million of LEGI funding to work with local people and businesses to help transform Coventry into a city of enterprise, over a three year period, 2006-2009. A further two years funding has been confirmed within the Area Based Grant until 2011.
- 3.2 Coventry was one of 20 areas across the country to have won LEGI funding, and the only one in the West Midlands.
- 3.3 At the heart of the LEGI programme is its work to engage and inspire local people to access a range of co-ordinated, high quality services that will enable them to:
- Start their own business
 - Grow existing businesses
 - Move into employment
- 3.4 LEGI works with other enterprise activities in order to provide the broadest possible service to individuals and businesses.
- 3.5 Coventry City Council is the Accountable Body for the LEGI programme. As the Accountable Body, the city council enters into a funding agreement, on behalf of the LEGI

Partnership Board, 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.

3.6 The LEGI Partnership has already:

- **Engaged with over 900 people** from the most disadvantaged areas of the City;
- Seen over **138 individuals set up their own business**;
- Supported over **230 existing businesses** in the LEGI area to grow; and
- Worked with over **350 people to help them move into employment**.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

4.1 The continued appointments to the LEGI Partnership Board would:

- Provide a direct link between the LEGI Partnership Board and the 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 as a partner can add value to the LEGI Programme through establishing strategic links between the Partnership and Council where necessary.
- Provide a direct link between Cabinet and the LEGI Partnership Board in terms of progress and performance updates.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 Councillors Foster, Lucas and Ridge are the City Council's representatives on the LEGI Partnership Board. Over the past twelve months there have been 3 meetings of the Board since March 2007 of which Councillor Foster attended 3, Councillor Lucas 3 and Councillor Ridge 0.

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

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Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies