
Report to

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

16th April, 2008

Report of

Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Housing and Sustainability

Title

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Regional Housing 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 Regional Housing Partnership over the preceding twelve months and details my attendance, as the Council's representative.

2 Recommendations

I recommend that the Committee notes the report and work of the Regional Housing Partnership and that the City Council continues its representation on the body.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 Regional housing work in the West Midlands is undertaken by a number of bodies.

The Regional Housing Executive is the body that makes recommendations to Ministers about matters relating to housing.

The Regional Housing Partnership advises it. It has 100 members and is made up of Councillors, representatives of West Midlands Business, and Other Stakeholders.

The Regional Housing Advisory Forum is the officer group advising the Executive

The Sub Regional Housing Market Area Partnerships brings together officers representing the different sub-regions. Coventry is in a housing sub-region comprising Coventry, Rugby, North Warwickshire and Nuneaton.

- 3.2 One of the key pieces of work of the Regional Housing Executive is to oversee the production of the Regional Investment Strategy with recommendations for financial investment across the region. This determines financial allocations to Local Authorities and to the Housing Corporation in the forthcoming years. The Regional Housing Partnership is the only formal route open to the Council to input to its decisions.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 The appointment thus provides an opportunity for a representative of the City Council to take part in shaping future regional housing policy.
- 4.2 Two particularly important on-going issues that affect Coventry are the deliberations about the investment strategy for the region following the production last Summer of the Green Paper 'Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable' and also the housing growth agenda, responding to the call by the Government for housing growth in the region.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 5.1 Coventry City Council's representatives are Councillors Ridley and Foster (named alternate). In the period from February 2007 to January 2008 inclusive there were 3 meetings held of the Partnership Board. Councillor Noonan attended the one meeting in this period that she was entitled to attend, Councillor Ridley attended one meeting of the 2 meetings that he was entitled to attend. Councillor Mrs Bigham attended two of the three meetings of this Board. In this same time period there were 6 meetings held of the Regional Housing Executive and Councillor Mrs Bigham attended all 6.
- 5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper

Location CH 59

Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies