
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

February 2009

Report of Councillor Ken Taylor

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Birmingham International Airport

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This reports outlines the work of Birmingham International Airport (BIA) Limited over the preceding twelve months and includes details of attendance by the City Council's representative at Board meetings.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council's representative on the Board of Directors must be an elected member and therefore the Council should continue to appoint a member to the Board in line with each of the other 6 West Midlands Districts.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 Birmingham International Airport is the 6th largest passenger transport airport in the country, handling 9.3m passengers in 2007/08 and providing employment for 7,000 people. As such it makes a significant contribution to the West Midlands region, acting as a catalyst for investment and employment and acting as a gateway for business and tourism.
- 3.2 The Airport has significant development plans in the future including an extension to the existing runway. These plans were included in the Airport's Master Plan "Towards 2030" published in 2007/08.
- 3.3 The Airport Company's constitution provides for a Main Board, a Remuneration Committee and an Audit Committee. Each of the 7 West Midlands districts is a shareholder of the Airport Company and as such they each maintain member representation on the Airport's Main Board.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 The Board is responsible for the proper management of the Airport Company, meeting bi-monthly to formulate, review and approve long term strategy, policies, budgets and trading performance. Membership of the Board enables the City Council, alongside the other districts, to monitor the current performance of the Airport and influence its future direction.
- 4.2 The City Council maintains a financial stake in the airport and receives a financial return on this investment. Equally as important though, are the planning and development issues that

arise as a result of the Airport's operation and expansion, especially given it's relatively close proximity to the City's boundaries. Membership of the Board enables the City Council to maintain a close interest in these matters.

- 4.3 The future plans of Coventry Airport have clearly been of concern to Coventry and maintaining representation on the BIA Board clearly gives the City Council access to information that enables us to make representation to assist the provision of airport capacity in the area to be planned in a mutually supportive way.
- 4.4 A major change in BIA share ownership in the year has prompted wider discussion about what form the involvement of some West Midlands districts in the airport will take in the future. We at Coventry may choose to re-evaluate that relationship in the medium term, balancing the potential financial benefits of disinvestment against the strategic, planning and reputational benefits of continued share ownership and Board representation.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 5.1 Councillor Taylor is the City Council's representative on the Birmingham International Airport Holdings Limited Board of Directors. In the past twelve months, from January, 2008 to December, 2008, there have been 7 meetings of the Board of Directors, Councillor Taylor has attended 3.
- 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 CH59
Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies	