
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

18th March, 2009

Report of
Councillor Ken Taylor, Leader of the Council

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – West Midlands Joint Committee

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 the West Midlands Joint Committee over the last twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the City Council should continue to make appointments to the West Midlands Joint Committee.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 The West Midlands Joint Committee was set up in 1985 following the dissolution of the West Midlands County Council by the seven metropolitan district councils of the West Midlands: Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton. Formally constituted under the powers given under the Local Government Act 1972, and updated by the Local Government Act 2000, the West Midlands Joint Committee is responsible for a range of specific strategic functions that were formerly undertaken by the West Midlands County Council.
- 3.2 The Joint Committee comprises seven voting members, one from each metropolitan district council. Key functions of the Joint Committee include: making nominations and appointments to a number of regional bodies; exercising the Districts' powers and rights as shareholders of Birmingham International Airport and the co-ordination of actions on important issues and to communicate these to central Government and other influential bodies. Specific areas of activity include transport (including consideration of the West Midlands Local Transport Plan, and its implementation) and consultation and co-operation on matters affecting the seven districts with the West Midlands Joint Authorities including the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, West Midlands Police Authority and the West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority.
- 3.3 Coventry City Council's voting representative on the West Midlands Joint Committee is Councillor Ken Taylor, Leader of the Council. Councillor John Mutton and Councillor Kevin

Foster are observer members. Councillor Foster is also the council's substitute voting member.

- 3.4 The West Midlands Joint Committee meets every three months with its annual General Meeting held in June. During 2008/09 the Joint Committee's business has included the consideration and development of the West Midlands Local Transport Plan; the development of the Birmingham Coventry and Black Country City Region; issues associated with shareholdings in Birmingham Airport; and the provision of joint authority budgets.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 The West Midlands Joint Committee is a formally constituted body that enables the West Midlands Metropolitan Districts to consider jointly key strategic issues and the allocation of funding that directly impacts on the people of Coventry. Under current Local Government arrangements it is vital that Coventry City Council is a member of the West Midlands Joint Committee.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 5.1 The City Council's representatives on the West Midlands Joint Committee are Councillors Taylor, Mutton and from May 2008 Councillor Foster. Prior to May 2008 Councillor O'Neill was a representative. During the period January to December, 2008 there have been 3 meetings held of which both Councillor Foster and Mutton attended all three. Councillor Foster attended the meeting that he was entitled to attend and Councillor O'Neill attended the two he was entitled to attend.

- 5.2 There is no remuneration associated with these appointments.

List of background papers

Proper officer: Councillor Ken Taylor

Author:	Telephone
Councillor Ken Taylor	024 7683 1000

Other contributors:	
Jenni Venn, Policy and Performance Officer	024 7683 3741

Papers open to Public Inspection

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