

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

4th March, 2009

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Members

Present: -

Councillor Arrowsmith
Councillor Charley
Councillor Crookes (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Duggins
Councillor Mutton
Councillor Ridge (Chair)

Employees Present: -

P. Barnett (Chief Executive's Directorate)
J. McLellan (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
J. Parry (Chief Executive's Directorate)
C. Steele (Chief Executive's Directorate)
J. Venn (Chief Executive's Directorate)
A. West (Chief Executive's Directorate)

Apologies: -

Councillor Clifford
Councillor Maton

171. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

172. **Consideration of Call Ins – Stage 1**

The Committee noted that the deadline for call-ins for Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions made during the week commencing 23rd February, 2009, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday, 6th March. Any call-ins received after this meeting and before that deadline would be considered for validity by the Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee in consultation with the Director of Customer and Workforce Services (Paragraph 4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

173. **Refresh of the Coventry Local Area Agreement**

The Committee considered and noted a report by the Assistant Chief Executive, which was also to be considered by Cabinet and the City Council, and detailed proposed amendments to the Coventry Local Area Agreement for submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

A revised Appendix to the report was tabled at the meeting and this detailed the position on the Coventry Local Area Agreement Priorities, Indicators and Targets as at 27th February, 2009.

174. **Multi Area Agreement on Employment and Skills**

The Committee considered a joint report, and included as an Appendix, a draft Multi Area Agreement (MAA) on Employment and Skills document for submission by the

City Region of Birmingham, Coventry and the Black Country and its partners to central Government. The report was also to be considered by the Cabinet and the City Council.

It was proposed that the current successful City Strategy pathfinder programme was developed into a formal four year sub-regional Multi-Area Agreement with central Government. The MAA would cover the eight city strategy local authorities: Coventry, Birmingham, Solihull, Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Telford. Importantly, Warwickshire County Council was collaborating with the development of the MAA.

The aim of the MAA would be to deliver increasing numbers of people in sustainable employment within the city region and this would be achieved by removing a number of barriers; inflexibilities and inconsistencies in the way that services were currently being delivered and to delegate decision making currently made at a national level to the local partners.

The Committee noted that there was an exit strategy.

RESOLVED that the report be endorsed.

175. Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Belgrade Theatre Trust

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Blundell that detailed the work of the Belgrade Theatre Trust over the preceding twelve months and included details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to nominate to the Belgrade Theatre Trust.

176. Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Coventry Refugee Centre

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Mrs. Johnson that detailed the work of the Coventry Refugee Centre over the previous twelve months and included details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to nominate to the Coventry Refugee Centre.

177. Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Groundwork Coventry and Warwickshire

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Skinner that detailed the work of the West Midlands Superannuation Committee over the previous twelve months and included details of attendance by the City Council's representatives at the meetings of the Board.

The Committee noted:-

- (1) The work and achievements of Groundwork Coventry and Warwickshire during the last year.
- (2) The introduction of a West Midlands regional Groundwork structure and

the dissolution of the Groundwork Coventry and Warwickshire Trust.

- (3) The Partnership Agreement between Groundwork and the Council would not be renewed when it ends on the 31st March, 2009.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council agree that the current City Council representatives serving on the Groundwork Coventry and Warwickshire Board extend their period of tenure until the Trust is wound up and becomes assimilated into Groundwork West Midlands.

178. **Outstanding Issues**

There were currently no outstanding issues.

179. **Work Programme 2008/09**

The Committee considered and noted their Work Programme for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.

180. **Meeting Evaluation**

The Committee briefly discussed the meeting to evaluate its effectiveness. Members commented that the meeting was fine.