
Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

13th May 2009

Report of
Councillor Gazey

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Special Interest Groups of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA)

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 report sets out details of the work of Special Interest Groups of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA) over the preceding twelve months, as well as details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Continued attendance is important to maintain links and co-operation with major local authorities and to enable the authorities to work together to lobby for fairer support from the government.

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 SIGOMA is a special interest group of 46 Municipal Authorities located outside London and is a recognised special interest group within the Local Government Association. Its membership comprises 34 metropolitan districts and 12 major unitary authorities with similar characteristics. The combined population of SIGOMA authorities amounts to over a quarter of the population of England; its member authorities account for over 25% of English local government expenditure.
- 3.2 Views and concerns from SIGOMA members are channelled through meetings and groups of member authorities. It maintains a presence with Ministers and direct links to Government Cabinet Members and employs an ex-local government treasurer.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 Coventry City Council is able to take part in this lobbying of government, and sharing views and support of other members.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 Councillor Gazey is the City Council's representative on the Special Interest Groups of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA). In the period from May 2008 to April 2009 inclusive, five meetings were held, of which Councillor Gazey attended three.

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
Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies	CH59