

Report to

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

13 May, 2009

Report of

Cabinet Member (Children, Learning and Young People)

Title

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – University of Warwick: Advisory Board of the Institute of Education

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 The University of Warwick: Advisory Board of the Institute of Education over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

2 Recommendation

2.1 To continue to appoint the relevant cabinet member and officer to this organisation.

3 Background

3.1 The advisory board was set up to provide external strategic support, comment and advice to the Institute of Education (www.warwick.ac.uk/wie) on issues relevant to its present work and on its future direction and development.

It promotes and develops relationships between the Institute and local communities particularly in education and children's services. It makes appropriate recommendations on the resources available to the Institute for the discharge of its functions in relation to educational, development and research matters.

It also submits reports for consideration by the Strategy Committee of the University, through the Vice-Chancellor; on the Advisory board's view of the strategic development of the Institute and its activities

3.2 Currently the institute is undergoing an internal strategic review and has identified five main goals, including an improved financial position and increasing the level of commissioned research that it undertakes.

4 Membership

4.1 The institute covers the local authority areas of Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull and as such has both elected member and officer representatives.

For information the membership consists of: -

Vice-Chancellor and up to 2 other academic members of the University of Warwick
Director of the Institute of Education

3 other members of the Institute appointed by the University's Strategy Committee

Up to 25 external members appointed by the Strategy Committee (the local authorities would come within this category).

One undergraduate and one postgraduate student.

Each appointee usually serves for 3 years.

5 Benefits to the city council from the appointment

- 5.1 Opportunity for local authorities to share developments, opportunities and problems in a sub regional strategic approach with the University, which is a major contributor to the economy of the sub-region. The Institute Strategic Plan contains: - 14 – 19 Specialist Diplomas, e-learning act and the Children’s Act and Workforce Reform.
The Institute is involved in the Training and Professional Development of Teachers and other areas, particularly Early Childhood and Master’s level provision. The Institute is now the sole accrediting body for the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust section of the Department of Education and Skills.

6 Attendance record and remuneration for the appointment.

- 6.1 The City Council's representatives on the Board are Councillor Blundell and Ruth Snow. The board has met on 3 occasions between January, 2008 and December, 2008 inclusive and Councillor Blundell attended the meetings in February 2008 and April 2008 and Ruth Snow attended the meetings in April, 2008 and November, 2008.

- 6.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment

List of background papers

Proper Officer:

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Papers open to public inspection

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Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies