
Report to

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

15th June 2011

Report of

Councillor Bains

Title

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Special Interest Groups of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA) 2010-2011

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 At their meeting on May, 2010, 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 nine 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 Local Area MP and Government Cabinet Members and employs an ex-local government treasurer to maintain contact with Government Departments. Meet with MP's of those authority.

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. SIGOMA Association staff advises and consult all the members authorities finance chief and collect all the concerns of each individual authorities.

5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

5.1 Councillor Bains is the City Council's representative on the Special Interest Groups of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA). Councillor Bains attends 70% all relevant meetings.

5.2 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

5.3 Note: This year the SIGOMA committee suspended 2011/2012 subscriptions from all the members authorities as this years ICT expenditure is delayed

List of background papers

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Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies