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**Report to**

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

15<sup>th</sup> June 2011

**Report of**

Councillor Chater

**Title**

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Coventry Refugee Centre 2010-2011

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**1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the work of the Coventry refugee Centre over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That appointment should continue to be made to this organisation.

**3 Information on Work of Outside Body**

- 3.1 The Coventry Refugee Centre (CRC) is a charitable company whose objectives are to "relieve need, hardship and distress of refugees and asylum seekers in the general area of the City of Coventry". We also aim to advance the education of the public about the issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers.
- 3.2 Exciting developments in the past year include the Development of the Coventry Hope Fund seeking to alleviate the distress of destitution. A growing problem within Coventry. Also 2010 saw the development of a new letting scheme with private sector landlords and our own tenancy management scheme in partnership with social housing providers.
- 3.3 Challenges for the coming year include the further development of successful social enterprises; relocation to other premises and the on going challenge to achieving successful funding bids.

**4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment**

- 4.1 Contributes to achieving the City Councils policies around combating poverty and contributing to achieving community cohesion.

**5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment**

- 5.1 Coventry City Council's representatives on the Coventry Refugee Centre are Councillors Chater, Skipper and Councillor Mrs Lepoidevin (from November, 2010). In the period from March 2010 to February 2011 inclusive Councillor Chater attended all seven of the meetings held, Councillor Mrs Lepoidevin attended all three of the meetings she was entitled to attend and Councillor Skipper did not attend any of the seven meetings held.
- 5.2 There is no remuneration associated with this appointment.

List of background papers

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None

Papers open to Public Inspection

**Description of paper**

Schedule of City Council Appointments to outside Bodies

**Location** Council House, Room 59