

Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

15th June 2011

Report of
Councillor K. Maton

Title
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Governing Body of City College 2010-2011

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report sets out details of the work of City College Coventry over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representative.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the City Council should continue to support and encourage the Governing Body of City College to appoint a member(s) of the City Council to its Corporation.

3. Information on Work of Outside Body

3.1 City College Coventry is a further education college. The college was formed as part of the merger of Coventry Technical College and Tile Hill College.

3.2 The members of the Corporation play a positive and active role in guiding the strategic direction of the College. As well as the formal meetings held, strategic planning workshops are held throughout the year along with numerous informal contacts with College managers, staff and stakeholder organisations.

3.3 A key recent development has been the construction of new college buildings at Swanswell and these represent a £60m project and is the largest capital investment in further education in Coventry's history.

3.4 City College Coventry now has a £21m turnover and in terms of student numbers there are 2154 full time learners aged between 16-18 some 500 apprentices, and 7000 adult learners.

3.5 The Governors are keen to promote the College's local, regional and national profile. Despite the complexities and frequent changes in Government agency funding levels and priorities, the College continues to offer a wide and diverse range of provision for all ages and backgrounds. City College Coventry has one of the most successful apprenticeship programmes in the region with apprentices employed in a variety of industries including construction crafts, engineering, business administration, accountancy, hairdressing, early year and motor vehicle engineering.

- 3.6 City College Coventry has a long and proud history of working with employers, every year engaging with hundreds of businesses from across Coventry and Warwickshire, the West Midlands region and through wider national contacts. From owner managers, Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs), to national and international businesses City College Coventry has built mutually beneficial relationships irrespective of size or sector.
- 3.7 Charterhouse Training, the corporate training arm of the college is responsible for bespoke and scheduled programme training to employers. It moved from its location off the London Road to new premises at the College in Swanswell in the Autumn of 2010. City College is in the course of finalising plans for the historic Charterhouse building which has been vacant since Charterhouse Training moved to its new location.
- 3.8 The uncertainty about Government policy and funding for vocational and post16 education continues to make planning at the College for the future needs of its students difficult. The links between City College and Coventry Council at all levels, assists in dealing with this uncertainty.

4. Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 Cllr Maton was originally appointed to Tile Hill College Governors on the 2/12/1998 as a Business Governor. He was then re-appointed, as a Local Authority nominee, on 2/12/1999, 11/12/2002 (when the Colleges merged) and 11/12/2006 and 11/12/2010. His present Governorship will run until 10/12/2014.
- 4.2 He was appointed as Corporation Vice-Chair on 1/1/2008 and has been re-appointed each year since then. He previously chaired the Estates Committee and the Quality & Performance Committee. He is also a member of the Policy and Finance, Remuneration and Search Committees.
- 4.3 The City Council was the nominating body, but once the nomination was made, the nominating role of the City Council is finished. Any individual is appointed by the Corporation for the term of office set out in his letter of appointment – in the case of Cllr Maton this was for 4 years. The position now is that, there will be no further nominated Governors as all will be appointed as Independent Governors. This process is undertaken through the Corporation's Search Committee.
- 4.4 The City College plays a crucial role in promotion of and provision of learning in the City and surrounding area. Its future role in supporting the Academy at Sidney Stringer is testament to its commitment, driven by Governors and staff, to excellent provision of education in the City. The opportunity to connect the City Council's own corporate objectives linked to learning with the provision available through City College via membership of the Corporation is one that should continue to be supported.

5. Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 5.1 Councillor Maton attended all five Corporation meetings between July 2010 and June 2011, both meetings of the Estates Committee and the only meeting of the Search Committee.
- 5.2 The post attracts no remuneration.

List of background papers

Proper officer:

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Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper

Schedule of City Council Appointments to outside Bodies

Location CH59