



Coventry City Council

# 6b

**Public report**

## **REPORT BACK ON CONFERENCE/SEMINAR**

**REPORT TO:** Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

16th November 2011

**REPORT OF:** Councillor Lakha

**TITLE:** Centre for Public Scrutiny 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

**DATE:** 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009

**VENUE:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nottingham

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### **1. Recommendation**

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee are requested to note the report.

### **2. Background**

The Centre for Public Scrutiny is a national body that promotes and supports the development of effective scrutiny in government. Its annual conference provides an opportunity for people involved in scrutiny across local government to learn from best practice and hear about future developments.

Councillor Lakha (Deputy Chair Scrutiny Board 3) and Adrian West (Head of Performance and Scrutiny) attended the Conference.

### **3. Cost of attending**

**Conference Fees:** £189.00 per person – total £378.00

**Rail Travel:** £28.50 per person – total £57.00

### **4. Benefits**

The Conference was titled "A Critical Friend for Critical Times" and speakers from local and national government talked about their experience of scrutiny and potential developments in the context the government agenda for strengthening community empowerment and democracy.

Workshops included how scrutiny can move from scrutiny of services to scrutiny of place, reflecting the increased role for scrutiny in partnerships, developing health scrutiny to address health inequalities not just health services and engaging the public in scrutiny.

The conference format provided the opportunity for Councillors and Officers to highlight good practice and discuss areas of concern which will help scrutiny develop in the future.

Subject to costs and relevance of the agenda, attendance at future conferences should be considered as this is a useful annual opportunity to take stock of developments in the scrutiny agenda.

List of background papers

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Other contributors:

None

Papers open to public inspection

**Description of paper:**                      **Location**

Conference presentations are available on the Centre for Public Scrutiny website at [www.cfps.org.uk/what-we-do/events/](http://www.cfps.org.uk/what-we-do/events/)