



Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)

Time and Date

11.00 am on Wednesday, 25th February, 2015 **PLEASE NOTE TIME**

Place

Committee Rooms 2 and 3 - Council House

Public Business**1. Apologies and Substitutions****2. Declarations of Interest****3. Minutes** (Pages 3 - 6)

(a) To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 2015

(b) Matters arising

4. Public Transport (Pages 7 - 14)

The Scrutiny Board will receive a briefing on public transport in the City.

Briefing Note of the Executive Director of Place

(Guy Craddock, Centro's Area Manager – Coventry will be presenting at this meeting)

5. Outstanding Issues

Outstanding Issues are included in the Work Programme below

6. Work Programme 2014/2015 (Pages 15 - 18)

Report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator

7. Any other items of business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**Private Business**

Nil

Chris West, Executive Director, Resources, Council House Coventry
Tuesday, 17 February 2015

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Michelle Salmon, Governance Services, Tel: 024 7683 3065, Email: michelle.salmon@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors R Bailey, L Bigham, J Birdi, G Duggins (Chair), A Khan (By Invitation), K Maton (By Invitation), J McNicholas (By Invitation), K Mulhall, T Skipper, H Sweet, S Walsh and D Welsh

By invitation Councillors A Khan (Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports and Parks), K Maton (Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment), J McNicholas (Deputy Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment)

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting OR if you would like this information in another format or language please contact us.

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Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)
held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 28 January 2015

Present:

Members: Councillor G Duggins (Chair)
 Councillor J Birdi
 Councillor L Bigham
 Councillor T Skipper
 Councillor S Walsh
 Councillor D Welsh

Other Members: Councillor J Clifford (Deputy Chair of Scrutiny)

Employees (by Directorate):

Chief Executive's P Hargrave

Place J Hunt, D Nuttall

Resources G Holmes, M Salmon

Others by Invitation: P Breed (Chief Executive of Coventry Sports Foundation)

Apologies: Councillors R Bailey, K Mulhall and H Sweet

Public Business

35. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

36. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

37. Coventry Sports Strategy 2014-2024 - Progress Review

The Board received a Briefing Note and supporting presentation of the Executive Director of Place that provided an update on progress of the Coventry Sports Strategy 2014-2024 over the four months since its endorsement at the meeting of the Council in September 2014 (their minutes 58/14 refers) where a further investment of £36.7m was also approved for a City Centre destination sports and leisure facility. It was also agreed that the City Council would work with the City of Coventry Swimming Club and other partners to explore the feasibility of keeping a 50m pool within the City, if it could be technically possible and deliverable within the available financial resource. A copy of the Sports Strategy was attached as an appendix to the report.

The mission of the Coventry Sports Strategy 2014-2024 was 'To develop a more active, inclusive and vibrant Coventry through positive experiences in sport' and was structured around eight Vision Aims and 37 Strategic Objectives. Included within these were objectives concerned with increasing and widening participation in sport; increasing the number of people receiving sports coaching; increasing the number of people volunteering in sport; establishing and embedding early specialist support services for talented athletes; developing City Centre sports facilities that are accessible, high quality, sustainable and of significance to the Midlands (proposed by switching long-term resources from Coventry Sports and Leisure Centre to investing in a new City Centre destination facility); attracting high profile sporting events to the City; establishing a Coventry Sports Network; and harnessing the power of sport to promote community cohesion and address public health inequalities in the City.

The Strategy was influenced and supported by the Coventry Playing Pitch Strategy 2014-2024, the Coventry Indoor Facilities Strategy 2014-2024 and the Coventry Aquatics Strategy 2014-2024.

The Briefing Note provided key Strategy updates under the heading of each of the Strategy's eight Vision Aims:

- To inspire more people in the City to take up and regularly take part in sport
- To provide a wide range of high quality and exciting sporting opportunities and experiences
- To inspire more people to volunteer, coach and be facilitators of sport
- To identify and support talented athletes to reach their sporting potential
- To provide a range of modern, accessible and high quality sports facilities in the City
- To attract high profile sporting events to the City and to celebrate sporting achievement
- To grow and promote sport in the City through effective partnerships
- For sport to make Coventry a better place to live, work and visit

The Board questioned officers and discussed the matters detailed in the Briefing Note and on the elements of the Sports Strategy, including:

- Transport links - improving access to sports facilities in the City in respect of public transport links
- Increasing participation levels across vulnerable groups and deprived communities
- Building stronger links with schools and universities for wider public participation
- Tracking sports centre registration to provide data on diversity of memberships
- Investigating, through the Parks Team, the better use of existing facilities in parks e.g. measured routes for running, trim trails, marked out pitches/areas for cricket, tennis, bowls and football
- The production of a location map of sports and leisure facilities across the City, including those available in the private sector

- Health and Inequality - Public Health to identify high inactivity areas in the City and encourage participation, to include the promotion of Passport to Leisure
- Reporting the outcomes of the Sports Strategy to the Health and Wellbeing Board and other relevant bodies
- Providing a diverse range of key sports and development sports to drive up participation
- How sport was developing in the City – Rugby was currently the primary sport in Coventry following the WASPS Rugby Team investment in the Ricoh Arena as their new home ground and also following the Rugby World Cup
- The locations available in the North of the City for playing tennis
- The encouraging rise in numbers registering to participate in the Coventry Marathon

The Board acknowledged that the successful delivery of the Strategy was underpinned by partnership-based and collaborative work between different partners and stakeholders in the City. They thanked the officers for the update and were encouraged by the progress made on the implementation of the Strategy to date.

RESOLVED that the Business Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3):

- (1) Notes the progress on implementing the partnership Coventry Sports Strategy 2014-2024 since its approval by the Cabinet in August 2014 and endorsement by the Council in September 2014.**
- (2) Had no recommendations to make to the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Parks, Sports and Events.**

38. Outstanding Issues

There were no outstanding issues.

39. Work Programme 2014/2015

RESOLVED that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) notes the Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2014/2015.

40. Any other items of business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 4.10 pm)

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Briefing note

To: The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) Date: 25 February 2015

Subject: Public Transport

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To update Members of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) on the current bus services in Coventry

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board are recommended to:
- i) Note the content of the report.
 - ii) Identify any recommendations for the appropriate Cabinet Member.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Centro works to ensure everyone benefits from an effective transport system that meets the economic and environmental needs of the region, as well as providing access to jobs, finding innovative ways to help reduce congestion and offering seamless connections for people and goods.
- 3.2 Across the Country road based public transport is defined as a bus service that is open for any member of the public to use and that the user pays a separate fare for that travel whether personally or on their behalf in the case of concessionary travel holders

4 Key Facts about Bus Services in Coventry

- Bus reliability in Coventry currently stands at 98.0% which is above the West Midlands average of 96.7% and currently the highest of the districts
- Overall bus customer satisfaction in Coventry is running 81% who are Satisfied or very satisfied with the bus network
- 19.6 % of all subsidised bus journeys operated in the West Midlands are in Coventry and Centro spends around £1.56M per year on these services
- 12% of all registered users of Ring and Ride live in Coventry and they make 13.6% of all trips made across the West Midlands
- All bus services in Coventry are operated by low floor wheel chair accessible buses apart from service 30 which will be from 26th April.
- There are a total of 1430 bus stops in Coventry and 450 have Real time passenger information scenes and 550 have bus shelters.
- There are 53,083 active English Travel Concessionary Scheme cardholders of living in the Coventry area. (out of 537,000 card holders across the Centro area)

4.1 Back in 2011 in response to general concerns that the Coventry bus network did not meet user requirements Centro undertook a fundamental bus network review in city (along with a number of others across the Centro area). This was in conjunction with the bus operators, City Council, elected Members, users and other key stakeholders.

The new network was launched in February 2012 and included:

- More buses between the rail station and the City Centre
- Improved links to the Coventry and Warwickshire University Hospital
- Generally a more simple network of routes that are easier to understand
- Increased frequencies on many radial corridors of less than every 10 minutes eg London Road every 7-8 minutes and Foleshill Road every 5 minutes

4.2 A key output was the creation of a voluntary multilateral bus partnership agreement for Coventry. Partners to this are Centro, Coventry City Council, the bus operators, Warwick University and the Coventry and Warwickshire University Hospital. This has proved to be one of our strongest of the partnerships Centro has and has resulted in a series of very real quality improvements like more new buses, more real time passenger information displays, and a Coventry area all operator smartcard ticket.

4.3 Since 2012 Centro has monitored the satisfaction of passengers, in addition to patronage and bus reliability and punctuality in Coventry. This currently running at 81%, an increase of 8 percentage points since the baseline survey took place prior to the review 2012. Significant improvements were noted with the at stop cleanliness, lighting and graffiti, driver helpfulness, and information provision.

The Coventry Network Review results are presented in the table below;

COVENTRY Review Date: 26/02/2012	Baseline Year Mar 12 to Feb 13	Year 1 Mar 12 to Feb 13	Year 2 Mar 13 to Feb 14	Year 3 Mar 14 to Feb 15
Overall Customer Satisfaction	73%	80%	83%	81%
Overall comfort while waiting for the bus	70%	83%	85%	82%
Overall comfort while travelling on bus	84%	88%	91%	84%
Overall driving and drivers behaviour	-	83%	88%	84%
Value for money	49%	54%	60%	64%

5 Bus Reliability and punctuality

5.1 Bus reliability in Coventry currently stands at 98.0% which is above the West Midlands average of 96.7% and currently the highest of the districts. This was helped by the introduction of new buses in the area. Services improved through the Coventry Network Review saw a peak of 99.3% reliability in late 2013.

5.2 **Punctuality** National standards are set by the Traffic Commissioner who licenses bus operation that all bus services should operate no more than 1 minute early and 5 minutes late. In Coventry bus punctuality in currently stands at 79.3% which is slightly below the West Midlands average of 80.4%. Some of this is put down to the many sets of road works currently across the city

6 Supporting our most vulnerable members of society

- 6.1 Supporting our most vulnerable members of society is integral to the work which Centro funds within Coventry and the rest of the West Midlands. Providing access to opportunities and enabling people to visit friends, go shopping or access leisure facilities brings immeasurable social, mental and physical benefits to many people
- 6.2 The West Midlands Concessionary Pass for Senior Citizens, Blind and Disabled residents provides mobility options for 53,083 active cardholders living in the Coventry area. The West Midlands' Rail and Metro Concession extends the free Bus Concession to trains and the tram, allowing West Midlands' Senior Citizens and qualifying blind and disabled pass holders to the same level of travel opportunities on these modes as well as bus
- 6.3 According to the latest demographic data available there are approximately 54,000 children in Coventry aged between 5 and 18, most of whom will be eligible for Child Concessions

7 Summary of Centro supported Local Bus Services in Coventry

- 7.1 Centro procures and oversees subsidised bus services operating in the Coventry area which equates to 16.8% of the total subsidised bus services annual budget. This represents 19.6 % of all subsidised bus journeys undertaken in the West Midlands. The routes which are subsidised are set out in the table below and cost around £1.56M per year

Service No.	Operator	From	To	Via	What Centro pays for
1	National Express	Chapelfields	Brade Drive	City Centre and Hospital	Whole service
3	National Express	City Centre	Fenside	Dillotford avenue	Evening and Sunday service
4	National Express	Arena Retail	Hospital	Holbrook Lane and City Centre	Evening service between Arena Retail Park and City Centre
5	National Express	Tile Hill South	Arena Retail	City Centre and Coundon	Torrington Avenue, also Jubilee Crescent to Arena Retail Park
6 + 6A	National Express	Tanyard Farm	Little Heath & Victoria Farm	Tile Hill and City Centre	Evening and Sunday service between Stoke Heath, Little Heath and Victoria Farm
Service No.	Operator	From	To	Via	What Centro pays for
7	National Express	City Centre	Brownhill Green	Coundon	Evening and Sunday service between Coundon and Brownhill Green

8 + 8A	National Express	Rail Station	Wood End	Ansty Road	Evening and Sunday service between Rail Station & Bus Stn
9 + 9A	National Express	Finham	Hospital	Rail Station and Ansty Road	Off peak service, evenings & Sun between Finham and Rail Station
10	National Express	Eastern Green	Bell Green	City Centre and Stoke Heath	Evening and Sunday service between Stoke Heath and Bell Green
16	National Express	Keresley	Hospital	City Centre and Stoke Aldermoor	Certain journeys between Keresley Vill & Keresley Gn. Stoke Aldermoor to the Hospital
18 + 18A	National Express	City Centre	Tile Hill South	Canley	Diversions via Cannon Park shops, also Charter Avenue to Tile Hill sth
27	WMSNT	City Centre	Willenhall Middle Ride	Whitley	Whole service
30	Community Tpt	City Centre	Lenton's Lane	Court House Green	Whole service
41	WMSNT	City Centre	Stonehouse Estate		Whole service
42	National Express	City Centre	Coundon	Moseley Avenue	Whole service
47	WMSNT	City Centre	Canley and Cannon Park		Whole service
82	Signature Johnsons	Coventry	Solihull	Meriden	Whole service
87	Signature Johnsons	Coventry	Balsall Common	Westwood Heath	Whole service
360	De Courcey	City Circle		Hospital, University, and Arena Retail Park	Whole service
703	De Courcey	Hospital	Arena Retail	Bell Green and Potters Green	Evening and Sunday service
900	National Express	Coventry	Birmingham	Meriden	Part evenings and Sundays

- 7.2 Centro has managed to maintain frequencies including evening and Sunday services despite pressures on the budgets through close working with the bus operators. This is unlike many local authorities across the Country like Warwickshire where they have seen major cuts in especially evening and Sunday bus services because of major cuts in the funding they have available.

8 Ring and Ride

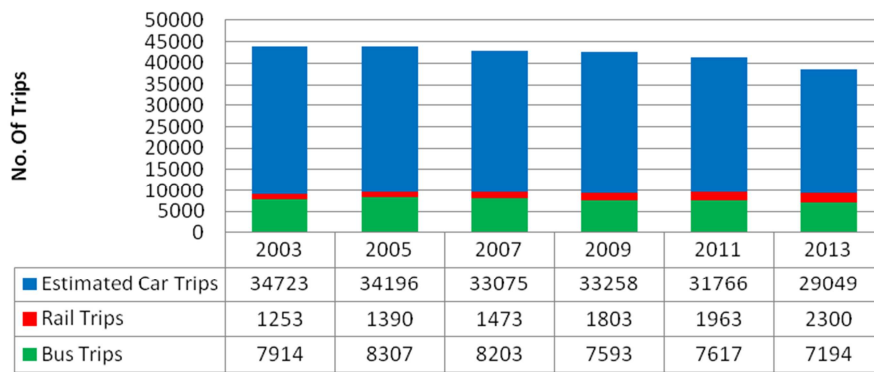
- 8.1 Ring and Ride is a door-to-door accessible transport service operating throughout the West Midlands. It operates 0800-2300, six days a week, (not Christmas Day and Bank Holiday Mondays), and is run by a charity, Ring and Ride West Midlands, which receives funding from Centro. Generally, to become a registered user of Ring and Ride, you must find it difficult or impossible to use conventional public transport and be resident in one of the seven districts of the West Midlands. 12% of all registered users live in Coventry and they make 13.6% of all trips made.

9 Infrastructure

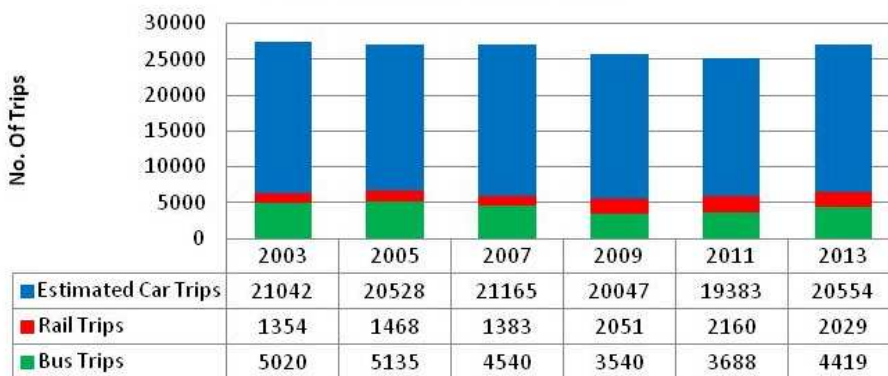
- 9.1 There are a total of 1430 bus stops in Coventry and 450 have Real time passenger information screens and 550 have bus shelters.
- 9.2 Centro owns and operates the 20 stand Pool Meadow Bus Station (3 of which are used by long distance coach services). This has around 79 bus departures an hour.
- 9.3 All bus stops have bus stop flags and information and this is funded largely by a recharging scheme that the bus operators pay for with Centro administrating and updating the information. Centro with financial help from the bus operators provides comprehensive bus timetable leaflets that are available from a number of key location like libraries but also at the Travel shop in Pool Meadow Bus station. As well as being available as printed material this is also available on the web and via phone apps
- 9.4 Centro and National Express jointly fund a cleaner at Pool Meadow Bus Station to specifically clear rubbish off National Express bus whilst they are in service.
- 9.5 Centro is also working with both University of Warwick and University Hospital (Walsgrave) to build new larger bus interchanges on their respective sites.
- 9.6 In addition to the all operator partnership agreement for Coventry Centro also has a Centro wide agreement with National Express. In Coventry this resulted in around 20 new buses in Coventry last year and more to come this year, additional driver training, agreed cap on annual fares rises and the service 900 will be the first 'Platinum' hi-spec route this summer with audio visual announcements, Wi-Fi etc.

10 Coventry Modal Share

- 10.1 The Graph shows the modal share of trips into Coventry City Centre during the morning peak



10.2 The Graph shows the modal share of trips out of Coventry City Centre during the morning peak



11 Rail Station Connectivity

- 11.1 The use of Coventry Rail Station is continuing to grow and has some of largest increases in users outside of London. There is currently a package of measures being implemented to improve access capacity for users at the station to meet this growth.
- 11.2 Centro and Coventry City Council are continuing to jointly work to ensure connectivity between rail services; the bus services: the new Friargate development and the wider city at Coventry rail station are improved.
- 11.3 A temporary bus interchange is currently being constructed on the site of the former Starley House next to the rail station. This will open in April and will allow the area outside the rail station currently being used by buses to be given over to the construction of a new pedestrian boulevard into the city centre.
- 11.4 Discussions are ongoing about the planned more permanent and larger bus interchange which will be provided at the rail station to cater for projected growth in both rail use and those wanting to access the new Friargate development

12 Background to who Centro is

- 12.1 Centro is responsible for delivery of public transport in the West Midlands and is largely funded and represents the seven metropolitan councils of the West Midlands: Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton. This largely revenue funding comes through a levy and is proportionally based on the population size of each district. The following table shows the total levy of £138.7M for the current financial year is divided

	Population	Levy £M	%
Birmingham	1,085,417	54.5	39.3%
Coventry	323,132	16.2	11.7%
Dudley	313,589	15.7	11.3%
Sandwell	311,304	15.7	11.3%
Solihull	207,380	10.4	7.5%
Walsall	270,924	13.6	9.8%
Wolverhampton	250,970	12.6	9.1%
	2,762,716	138.7	100%

Name : Guy Craddock

Job Title : Area Manager for Coventry working for Centro

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Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)

Work Programme 2014/15

For more details on items, please see pages 2 onwards

Meeting Date

16th July 2014

Jobs Strategy Update 2011-14

10th September 2014

Meeting cancelled – items rescheduled

18th September (Joint meeting with SB2)

Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)

8th October 2014

MIPIM outcomes

Carbon Management Plan

City Deal/Coventry and Warwickshire Strategic Economic Plan

12th November 2014

Core Strategy/ Coventry Development Plan

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

17th December 2014

Job Strategy half yearly results

City Centre Developments and Friargate

28th January 2015

Sports Strategy

25th February 2015

Public Transport

4th March 2014 – joint meeting with SB2

Progress on NEETS

11th March 2015

Skills Strategy Update

Home Energy Conservation Act

1st April 2015

Homelessness Service

Coventry Homefinder Choice Based Lettings Policy

Date to be identified

Climate Change Strategy

Task & Finish group recommendations - private rented sector

Next Municipal Year

MIPIM Outcomes

City Centre Developments and Friargate

Sports Strategy

Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) Work Programme 2014/15

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Meeting Date	Work programme item	Lead Officer	Brief Summary of the issue	Source
16 th July 2014	Jobs Strategy Update 2011-14	Rebecca Young	To look at the progress of the action plan in the Jobs Strategy for the previous year	Meeting 18/11/13
10 th September 2014	Meeting cancelled – items rescheduled			
18 th September (Joint meeting with SB2)	Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)	Rebecca Young	Approaches being taken to tackle NEETs with emphasis on the older cohort of NEETs. To include review of issues underpinning a reduction in performance outlined in the Council Plan 2013/14 Performance Report. Joint meeting with Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Board (2). Invite Cabinet Member for Education and Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment.	SB3 meeting 16/04/14
8 th October 2014	MIPIM outcomes	Deidre Fitzhugh	A conference report to be presented for MIPIM 2014 and Board requested an update briefing note on the outcomes and progress made on the follow ups from the MIPIM 2013 conference. – David Cockroft to add progress info	Meeting 5/11/13
	Carbon Management Plan	John Kyffin Hughes	Revision of plan, reporting on progress against targets from last 5 years	SB4 June 2013
	City Deal/Coventry and Warwickshire Strategic Economic Plan	Martin Yardley/Paula Deas	To be taken as one item	15/01/14
12 th November 2014	Core Strategy/ Coventry Development Plan	Jim Newton	As part of the new core strategy, the links with Social Housing need to be considered, including links with other policies.- October as going to Cabinet in Sept	All Members briefing 26/6/13
	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment	Jim Newton	Initial Feedback to public consultation	SB3 meeting 16/04/14
17 th December 2014	Job Strategy half yearly results	Rebecca Young	To report on the first six months performance data of the new Jobs Strategy including the gender employment gap as highlighted in the Equality Strategy Progress Report.	Meeting 18/11/13 and Scrucro 3/9/14

Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) Work Programme 2014/15

Meeting Date	Work programme item	Lead Officer	Brief Summary of the issue	Source
	City Centre Developments and Friargate	David Cockroft	The Board are interested in businesses in the city centre – including City Centre South. To look at the marketing of Friargate beyond the Council as tenants and the business involvement side.	SB3 meeting 16/04/14
28 th January 2015	Sports Strategy	David Nuttall	The relocation of the Sports Centre and consultation associated with the new facilities and how this is supporting the Councils health priorities. If possible to hold the meeting at Centre AT7	
25 th February 2015	Public Transport	Mike Waters Cllr McNicholas	How public transport in the city is supporting the local economic agenda. Also how public transport can contribute to air quality. Centro to attend.	8/10/14
4 th March 2014 – joint meeting with SB2	Progress on NEETS	Rebecca Young Anne Brennan	Further information on progress being made to address the issue of NEETS, including up to date data, information from employers and colleges.	Joint SB2/SB3 meeting 18/9/14
11 th March 2015	Skills Strategy Update	Martin Yardley/Paula Deas	A year on from the launch of the Skills Strategy a report on Progress	15/01/14
	Home Energy Conservation Act	Michael Checkley	The Council is required every two years to produce a report on action it is taking to promote home energy conservation. The Cabinet Member will be considering this on 23 rd March and this provides an opportunity for Scrutiny to review progress and make any recommendations.	
1 st April 2015	Homelessness Service	Ayaz Maqsood	Report back on the performance of the new service implemented in April 2014 run by the Salvation Army	
	Coventry Homefinder Choice Based Lettings Policy	Ayaz Maqsood	Report back on the impacts of the policy, following on from the first full year implementation.	19th March 2014
Date to be identified	Climate Change Strategy	Michael Checkley	Update on the strategy	
	Task & Finish group recommendations -	Craig Hickin	Cllrs Welsh, Walsh, Bigham, Bailey to look at the quality of private sector housing (what implications are there from the rise	19/06/14

Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) Work Programme 2014/15

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Meeting Date	Work programme item	Lead Officer	Brief Summary of the issue	Source
	private rented sector		in the private sector – Discretionary Licensing) and identify recommendations to the Cabinet Member	
Next Municipal Year	MIPIM Outcomes	David Cockcroft	A conference report to be presented for MIPIM 2015 an update briefing note on the outcomes and progress made on the follow ups from the MIPIM	Meeting 8/10/14
	City Centre Developments and Friargate	David Cockcroft	Following their consideration of progress in December 2014, the Board requested regular updates on progress in securing tenants and investment in the project.	Meeting 17/12/14
	Sports Strategy	David Nuttall	To monitor progress on the Strategy, particularly in terms of increasing participation in young people and disadvantaged areas, access to facilities via public transport, improved links with sports facilities in parks free at the point of access, and better public access to schools and university facilities.	Meeting 28/1/15