

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)
held at 3.00 pm on Wednesday, 8 July 2015

Present:

Members: Councillor T Khan (Chair)
 Councillor F Abbott
 Councillor P Akhtar
 Councillor M Auluck
 Councillor J Innes
 Councillor R Lancaster
 Councillor P Male
 Councillor K Mulhall
 Councillor B Singh
 Councillor D Skinner
 Councillor R Thay

Other Members: Councillor F Abbott

Employees (by Directorate): G Holmes, Resources Directorate
 D Nuttall, People Directorate
 G Paddan, Resources Directorate

Public Business

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Communities and neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) meeting held on 25 March 2015 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

3. Coventry Bid for UK City of Culture 2021

The Scrutiny Board considered a report of the Executive Director of Place which sought approval for the development of a Coventry bid for the UK city of Culture 2021 title. The report outlined the anticipated bid process and timescales, the bid feasibility work undertaken in Coventry to date and the expected commitments and benefits for the successful city being awarded (in 2017) the title of UK City of Culture 2021.

The Board questioned the officers on a number of issues and responses were provided. Matters raised included:

- What work had taken place to date on the bid and the inclusion of young people being part of the development of the UK City of Culture 2021 bid

- Working with smaller arts organisations
- Whether any potential reduction in Council funding for existing cultural assets or programmes such as libraries and the Godiva Festival could affect the outcome of the bid
- Working with partners outside of Coventry and potential funding opportunities from businesses
- Bid for European Capitals of Culture between 2020 and 2033 (including UK cities)

Members were fully supportive of the development of a bid in 2017 and were advised that the Cabinet meeting held on 7 July 2015 had approved the recommendations for Coventry developing a whole City bid for the title of UK City of Culture 2021.

RESOLVED, that the Scrutiny Board note the contents of the report and a briefing note be submitted to Council on the 14 July 2015 recommending that:

- 1. Children and young people are included in the development of the UK City of Culture 2021 bid.**
- 2. The steering group be advised to consider representation from the school and Further Education sector.**

4. Outstanding Issues

All outstanding issues have been included in the Work Programme.

5. Work Programme 2015-16

The Scrutiny Board noted proposed changes to the work programme.

6. Any Other items of Public Business

There were no additional items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 4.30pm)