Coventry City Council Minutes of the Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 11 April 2018

Present:

Members: Councillor J McNicholas (Chair)

Councillor R Auluck

Councillor R Brown (substitute for Councillor B Singh)

Councillor G Crookes Councillor M Hammon Councillor L Harvard

Councillor Miks (substitute for Councillor R Lancaster)

Councillor H Sweet Councillor K Taylor

Cabinet Member: Councillor J O'Boyle

Employees (by Directorate):

P Deas, Place Directorate G Holmes, Place Directorate M Rose, Resources Directorate A Williams, Place Directorate

Apologies: Councillor R Lancaster

Councillor B Singh

Public Business

41. Declarations of Interest

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

42. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February, 2018 were approved.

43. Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

The Scrutiny Board considered a briefing note with information provided on the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership. Since the inception of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership in 2011, more than £450 million of funds had been managed to contribute to projects which further the Strategic Economic Plan for the region.

The Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration discussed what the role of the LEP and funding.

The Scrutiny Board recognised the positive achievements and welcomed the discussion at Scrutiny. The Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee had been invited to attend and was welcomed to the discussion.

The Scrutiny Board questioned the Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration and officers on aspects of the information including:

- The 7 year history of the LEP since it was established
- Working with the private sector
- Accountability
- Information and meetings available to the public and the Mary Nay report
- The role of scrutiny
- Allocation of funding and the bidding process
- Support for businesses
- Performance benchmarking
- Governance arrangements appointments and committees
- Devolution deal and regional growth fund
- Increased interest in Coventry at the MIPIM Conference
- The Business Festival

The Scrutiny Board requested information be circulated regarding the Mary Nay report and the criteria for funding schemes.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Board requested:

- 1) That Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee lead on Local Enterprise Partnership scrutiny for the Council.
- 2) The Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee to work alongside Local Enterprise Partnership officers and scrutiny officers to co-ordinate an holistic approach to LEP scrutiny across the Coventry and Warwickshire sub-region.

44. Outstanding Issues

There were no outstanding issues.

45. Work Programme

The Scrutiny Board noted the additional meeting arranged for 15th May, 2018.

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

Councillor Hammon

Councillor McNicholas thanked Councillor Hammon on behalf of the Board for both his contributions at Scrutiny Board 3 and for his service over a number of years in Coventry and Warwickshire, as this was his last meeting as a Councillor.

(Meeting closed at 3.25 pm)