



Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 11 December, 2019

Place

Diamond Room 2, Council House, Coventry

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declaration of Interests**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 4)
 - a) To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October, 2019
 - b) Any matters arising
4. **Department for Business Energy Industrial Strategy (BEIS) 2019-2020 Funding to the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project** (Pages 5 - 10)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place)
5. **Authority for Attendance** (Pages 11 - 12)

To authorise attendance as detailed on attached form
6. **Outstanding Issues**

There are no outstanding items
7. **Any other items of public business which the Cabinet Member decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.**

Martin Yardley, Deputy Chief Executive (Place), Council House Coventry

Tuesday, 3 December 2019

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Suzanne Bennett e mail suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors J O'Boyle, Cabinet Member, D Welsh, Deputy Cabinet

Member

By invitation Councillor P Male, Shadow Cabinet Member

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.

Suzanne Bennett

e mail suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration held at 2.00
pm on Wednesday, 9 October 2019

Present:

Members: Councillor J O'Boyle (Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration)

Councillor D Welsh (Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration)

Councillor P Male (Shadow Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration)

Employees (by Directorate):

Place: S Bennett, E Kirby, N Parekh, A Williams, B Yorke

Public Business

7. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

8. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July, 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

9. Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub Funding 2019-2022

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which sought approval for match funding allocation to be utilised as a contribution to the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) Growth Hub, which was established in 2014 as part of the Coventry and Warwickshire five-year City Deal agreement. The Growth Hub has grown to become the agreed "one-stop shop" for businesses, providing a single point of contact and has supported thousands of business across the region to access funding, to protect and create jobs, tap into supply chains, increase production and reach their full potential.

Between April 2014 and March 2019, the Growth Hub has engaged with a total of 4030 businesses and assisted 1626 businesses. During the same period, the Growth Hub have helped to create over 1974 jobs and safeguarded a further 740

jobs. The business support activity provided by the Growth Hub has meant that it has been able to lever in over £32m in private sector investment with a Gross Value Added (GVA) of £74m.

Over the next three years, if the proposed contribution of £386,560 for the full three-year funding period from the Council is approved, subject to annual performance and impact reviews, it is expected that the Growth Hub will continue to provide support to Coventry businesses and will be expected to engage with a minimum of 900 business, assist over 360 businesses, create 390 new jobs and lever in £18m in private sector investment.

The report outlined anticipated contributions from other Local Authorities for the three year period. The Cabinet Member welcomed the successes achieved by the Growth Hub so far and noted that the proposed contribution from the City Council had significantly reduced from previous years. It is expected that the Growth Hub will provide the City Council with annual quantitative and qualitative information with a particular focus on levels of business engagements, referrals to City Council programmes and evidence of joint working with the Council.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration:-

- (1) Approves the three-year funding allocation of £128,000 per year (rising to £130.560 in Year 3) for 2019-2022 to the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub**
- (2) Delegates authority to the Director of Business, Investment and Culture and the Section 151 Officer to enter into a grant aid agreement with the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub to deliver the agreed outcomes.**

10. Authority for Attendance - Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) World Congress 2019

RESOLVED that N Parekh, Economic Development Officer be authorised to attend the Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) World Congress to be held in Singapore from 19 to 26 October, 2019.

11. Outstanding Issues

There were no outstanding issues.

12. Any Other Items of Urgent Public Business

There were no other items of urgent public business.

(Meeting closed at 2.20 pm)



Public report Cabinet Member

Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration

11 December 2019

Name of Cabinet Member: Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration - Councillor J O'Boyle

Director Approving Submission of the report: Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Ward(s) affected: All

Title: Department for Business Energy Industrial Strategy (BEIS) 2019-2020 Funding to the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project

Is this a key decision? No

Executive Summary:

The purpose of the report is to seek retrospective approval for a decision taken by Coventry City Council to act as accountable body and release the grant in the sum of £223k to Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership LEP Growth Hub to deliver the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project. Coventry City Council acts as accountable body for the previous and current Growth Hub funding allocations, which are awarded from Department for Business Energy Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration is requested to;

- (1) Give retrospective approval to the grant payment in the sum of £223k to Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub for the delivery of the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project

List of Appendices included:

None

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub Funding 2019-2022

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Department of Business Energy Industrial Strategy (BEIS) 2019-2020 Funding to the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1** Coventry City Council (CCC) is currently the Accountable Body for the Coventry & Warwickshire LEP programmes. This includes being Accountable Body for funds to finance CWLEP Growth Hub activities (i.e. being the central co-ordination point for publicly-funded business support in the area).
- 1.2** BEIS have released additional funds as part of the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project. The purpose of this fund is to raise awareness and support businesses nationally to make the necessary preparations for Brexit.
- 1.3** The Growth Hub was established in 2014 as part of the Coventry & Warwickshire five-year City Deal agreement. It has grown to become the agreed “one-stop shop” for businesses, providing a single point of contact and has supported thousands of business across the region to access funding, to protect and create jobs, tap into supply chains, increase production and reach their full potential.
- 1.4** CWLEP Growth hub has been successful in negotiating and securing additional grant of £223k of BEIS funding. CWLEP (Growth Hub) has been selected as the cluster lead for this region and will be co-ordinating project activity on behalf of the other cluster members:
 - Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP
 - Black Country LEP
 - The Marches LEP
 - Worcestershire LEP
 - Stoke and Staffordshire LEP

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1** Option 1 - Retrospectively approve the committal of the full financial commitment of £223k to support the EU Exit Business Readiness Engagement Project – CWLEP Growth Hub

This option would see the Council commit to the full ask of £223k for the funding period. This is the option that has been implemented as this additional funding will play an important role in helping Coventry and Warwickshire businesses to address the challenges and opportunities associated with Brexit. It also raises the area's profile and reputation through a strong business support infrastructure. The Growth Hub is instrumental in providing support to local businesses and creating new jobs within the City.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1** The Growth Hub regularly surveys and consults with its users. Customer satisfaction ratings from local businesses are included in the bi-annual reports to their core funders including the Department for Business, Enterprise and Industrial Strategy and Coventry City Council.
- 3.2** The Annual Business Festival requests workshop and activity ideas from the local business community to ensure that the event is tailored to local business need. The event also benefits from significant stakeholder and attendee engagement and a report is produced following the festival summarising key outputs and feedback from users. This in turn helps to shape future focus of Growth Hub work.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1** The decision on granting the funding has been affected and this report seeks to retrospectively note the decision which will allow the Growth Hub to confirm its programme of activity. The award and subsequent reporting will be managed from within the Economic Development Service.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services

5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications for the Council. The costs of this additional activity will be funded in full by BEIS.

5.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications associated with the contents of this report

6. Other implications

None apart from not being able to service to the need and demand of the Businesses within the region

6.1 How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

The request for funding contributes to the Council Plan by '*supporting business to grow through attracting inward investment; helping businesses expand and encouraging businesses to create jobs*' Within increased support and offering over the challenging months ahead around Brexit.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The award of the funding would be direct to the CWLEP Growth Hub, which is a fully owned subsidiary of the CWLEP. As such financial and operational concerns are delivered under the CWLEP'S own robust arrangements for governance and scrutiny. All funding decisions and financial issues are overseen by the CWLEPs Finance and Governance Group, which reports to each meeting of the main CWLEP Board. The Growth Hub has its own subsidiary Group which reports regularly into main CWLEP Board

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The Growth Hub would have a substantial gap within its funding therefore a reduced offer of support to local businesses. The Growth Hub is also a partner in the current ERDF Programmes and as such contributes to its overall performance. Without this funding, the Growth Hub may be unable to deliver quality long-term business support within Coventry.

6.4 Equality and Consultation Analysis (ECA)

The Growth Hub provides support to all businesses within Coventry and Warwickshire. They have completed their own equality and access statements to ensure the service is accessible to all. As such there is no wider need for the Council to conduct any further equality impact assessments. The Growth Hub will be expected to provide an annual report on their activity to Coventry City, this will include further breakdowns of client groups

accessing the service and the results of any stakeholder and wider engagement information about the work of the Growth Hub.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

There are no direct implications on climate change or the environment.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

This funding award will strengthen the Growth Hub's offer of business support during the Brexit transition, and as they are leading a cluster of other Growth Hubs, this will also a wider impact around the region.

Report author(s):

Name and job title: Clare Ireland – Programme Manager

Directorate: Place

Tel and email contact: Clare.ireland@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Steve Weir	Head of Economic Growth	Place	11.11.19	11.11.19
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services Co-ordinator	Place	13.11.19	13.11.19
Other members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phil Helm	Finance Manager	Place	11.11.19	12.11.19
Legal: Oluremi Aremu	Major Projects Lead Lawyer	Place	11.11.19	12.11.19
Director: Andy Williams	Director Business Investment and Culture	Place	16.11.19	16.11.19

Martin Yardley	Deputy Chief Executive (Place)	Place	16.11.19	16.11.19
Members: Name				
Councillor J O'Boyle	Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration		02.12.19	02.12.19


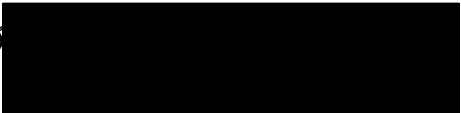

This report is published on the council's website:

www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS
AUTHORITY FOR ATTENDANCE

THIS FORM TO BE USED FOR COUNCILLORS (FOR ATTENDANCE BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE THE U.K.) AND FOR EMPLOYEES (OUTSIDE THE U.K. ONLY OR, IF ACCOMPANYING A COUNCILLOR, INSIDE THE UK)

1. Title of Conference	Business meeting with Spanish company related to developments in Coventry	
2. Organising Body	Coventry City Council	
3. Location	Madrid, Spain	
4. Date(s)	Weds 18/12/19 to Thurs 19/12/19	
5. Councillor(s) recommended to attend	N/A	
6. Employee(s) recommended to attend	Martin Yardley – Deputy Chief Exec, Place to attend a - PLACE	
7. Cost per person, including travel, etc (Note: If total cost is less than £100, formal Cabinet/Cabinet Member approval is not required)	Accommodation	£110
	Travel	£130
	Total per person(A)	£240
	Visit support costs	
	Subsistence	£50
	Insurance	
	Visa	
	Sub-total expense (B)	
	Total cost(A+B)	£290
8. Is participation at this event as part of a group	No	
9. If so, how many people IN TOTAL will be attending the event as part of that group	n/a	
10. Is there anyone travelling with the Member, officer or group in relation to whom any of the costs of travel, accommodation or any other expense will be paid for by a Member or officer. If "YES" please state number.	n/a	
11. Source of Funding (Cost Code)	10523	

<p>12. What are the reasons for attendance and what benefits to the City Council are expected from attendance</p>	<p>Travel authorisation is required for the Deputy Chief Executive to attend a business meeting with a significant Spanish based company.</p> <p>Discussions at the meeting will relate to a significant potential development in the City and are required to maximise the opportunity for a successful investment in to Coventry.</p> <p>Completed By/Signed: </p> <p>Date: 27/11/19</p>
<p>13. Is this conference part of an overall project involving further visits in the future?</p>	
<p>14. Recommendation of Cabinet Member/ Cabinet/Chair of any other City Council Committee</p> <p>(a) Are you satisfied that there is a genuine reason for attendance and genuine benefit for the Council?</p>	<p>YES/NO NO</p> <p>YES/NO NO</p>
<p>(b) Will Councillor attendance affect the decision-making processes of the Council?</p> <p>(c) Is attendance recommended?</p>	<p>YES/NO N/A</p> <p>YES/NO</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Date:</p>
<p>15. Cabinet Member's recommendation</p>	<p>YES/NO NO</p> <p>Signed: </p> <p>Date: 29.11.19</p>
<p>16. Leader's recommendation</p>	<p>YES/NO NO</p> <p>Signed: </p> <p>Date: 29.11.19</p>
<p>17. Person responsible for booking conference following approval of attendance</p>	<p>Name:</p> <p>Department:</p> <p>Telephone No:</p>

**THIS FORM SHOULD NOW BE RETURNED TO
THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES (Room CH 59)**