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### Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

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**Time and Date**

10.00 am on Wednesday, 8 September, 2021

**Place**

DR 1 and 2, Council House, Coventry

Please note that in line with Government and Council guidelines in relation to COVID, there will be reduced public access to the meeting to manage numbers attending safely. If you wish to attend in person, please contact the Governance Services Officer indicated at the end of the agenda.

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

(a) To agree the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 August, 2021

(b) Any matter arising

**4. Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 - Impact and Legacy Planning** (Pages 7 - 10)

Briefing Note of the Director of Business, Investment and Culture

**5. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme and Outstanding issues 2021-2022** (Pages 11 - 14)

Report of the Director of Law and Governance

**6. Any Other Items of Public Business**

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

**Private Business**

**Nil**

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Julie Newman, Director of Law and Governance, Council House Coventry

Tuesday, 31 August 2021

- Notes: 1) The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Suzanne Bennett/Liz Knight, Democratic Services, Council House, Coventry, telephone 76972299, alternatively E-mail: [suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk)/[liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk)
- 2) Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify Suzanne Bennett/Liz Knight no later than 9.00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, giving their reasons for absence and the name of the Council Member (if any) who will be attending the meeting as their substitute.
- 3) Scrutiny Board Members who have an interest in any report referred to this meeting, but who are not Members of this Committee, have been invited to notify the Chair by 12 noon on the day before the meeting that they wish to speak on a particular item. The Member must indicate to the Chair their reason for wishing to speak and the issue(s) they wish to raise.

Membership: Councillors N Akhtar (Chair), M Ali, L Bigham, J Clifford, J Innes, J Lepoidevin, C Miks, G Ridley and R Singh

By invitation Councillor G Duggins, Leader and Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership

### **Public Access**

Please note that in line with current Government and City Council Covid guidelines, there will be reduced public access to the meeting to manage numbers attending safely.

Any member of the public who would like to attend the meeting in person is required to contact the following officers in advance of the meeting regarding arrangements for public attendance. A guide to attending public meeting can be found here:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/publicAttendanceMeetings>

**Suzanne Bennett/Liz Knight, Governance Services - Telephone: 024 7697 2299/2644**

**E-mail:**

**[suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk)/[liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk)**

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee held at 10.00 am on**  
**Thursday, 26 August 2021**

Present:

Members: Councillor N Akhtar (Chair)  
Councillor M Ali (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor J Clifford  
Councillor J Lepoidevin  
Councillor R Lakha (substitute for Councillor L Bigham)  
Councillor C Thomas (substitute for Councillor R Singh)

Other Member: Councillor G Duggins, Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership

Employees:

Finance P Mudhar

Law and Governance S Bennett, G Holmes, G Sangha

Streetscene and Regulatory Services A Walster (Director)

Apologies: Councillors L Bigham, J Innes, C Miks, G Ridley and R Singh

## **Public Business**

### **13. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **14. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July, 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

### **15. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that the Committee agrees to exclude the press and public under Sections 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the private report in Minute 20 below headed 'Restructuring Coventry City Council Subsidiaries' on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as it contains information relating to the financial affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information) and in all

**circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.**

## 16. **Restructuring Coventry City Council Subsidiaries**

The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Governance which was be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 31 August, 2021 and Council on 7 September, 2021. A corresponding private report detailing confidential financial matters was also submitted for consideration (Minute 20 below refers). The Leader, Councillor G Duggins, introduced the report at the meeting.

The report indicated that the City Council's portfolio of wholly owned company investments and joint ventures companies had grown in both volume and complexity over a number of years. A full list of the City Council's company investments was detailed in the report.

Each of these investments had been considered separately by the City Council at the point of purchase and / or investment through detailed due diligence, along with reports to the Cabinet and Council to recommend the appropriate course of action. Equally each investment had its own governance structure which regulated how the company or joint venture operated and performed. However, there was currently no single internal process to allow the City Council to consider the performance of its investments, including the mix of commercial investments and suitable apportionment of risk across different sectors.

In response to the City Council's auditors (Grant Thornton) advocating improvements in the overarching arrangements for the Council's commercial investments, the report sought approval of a revised governance structure for the City Council's commercial investments through the establishment of new sub-committee of Cabinet , the Coventry City Council Shareholder Committee. Along with the grouping of all wholly owned investments under a single parent Company, HoldCo. The proposed governance structure for the City Council's commercial investments was set out in the report.

To facilitate the structure and following independent advice from Pinsent Mason LLP and Deloitte LLP, the report also sought:

- the transfer of shares in all wholly owned companies to HoldCo, and the assignment to the City Council of new shares in HoldCo.
- The adoption of all relevant terms of reference and policies for the Shareholder Committee and HoldCo.
- The financial restructuring of North Coventry Holdings (NCH), in order to release funds back to the City Council.

The Committee received a comprehensive presentation at the meeting and asked questions, received answers and sought clarification on a number of issues including:-

- Clarification on the Teckel status of the subsidiaries and conformation that all steps had been made to ensure that risk of challenge was minimised. The proposal had been ratified by QC and Counsel. This

will also be reported annually on compliance. The legal context will not change as a result of the withdrawal from the European Union.

- The financial years of all of the subsidiaries will be brought into line so there should be minimum impact on the audit timeline of the Council.
- Elected Members on the Shareholder Panel will be appointed by the Leader. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and Audit and Procurement Committee, which have cross party representation, will also receive regular reports.
- Profit and loss and balance sheet information will be published and available in the public domain for each Company.
- Members are not expected to be experts but will require some understanding of the structure and responsibilities in order to carry out their roles effectively. This should include Members who will be considering the reports as part of the Scrutiny and Audit function.
- The benefits of the new arrangements need to demonstrate the benefits to the Council of these investments, including the income which is then available to spend on public services.

The officers were commended for the clarify provided in the presentation and in the responses to questions at the meeting in relation to this matter.

**RESOLVED that Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend to Cabinet at its meeting on 31 August, 2021 that:**

- 1) Cabinet agree the recommendations contained in the report.**
- 2) That training is offered to other relevant Elected Members as well as those specifically appointed to the Board of Directors on an annual basis**
- 3) That Annual reports to Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee include information about the income provided by HoldCo. that is spent on public services and that appropriate communications reflect this**

## **17. Scrutiny Management**

In accordance with the Constitution, the Committee noted that Councillor M Ali, Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and nominee of the Chair, Councillor N Akhtar, attended the meeting of Cabinet Member for City Services on 18 August, 2021 for an item of business relating to “ Objection to Experimental Traffic Regulation order – Whittle Arch”. Councillor Ali agreed that the decision was urgent and that call in should not apply.

The reason for urgency was that there was an urgent need for a formal decision on the Experimental Traffic Regulation order before it expired on 8 September, 2021, so that the legal requirements and any required signage changes could be in place, based on the decision made, by this date. Additional costs would be incurred if it was not completed and interim measures were required.

**18. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme 2021/2022 and Outstanding Issues**

The Committee noted their Work Programme for the current Municipal year.

**19. Any Other Items of Urgent Public Business**

There were no items of urgent public business.

**20. Restructuring Coventry City Council Subsidiaries**

Further to Minute 16 above, the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered a private report of the Director of Law and Governance, setting out the commercially confidential matters relating to the restructuring of Coventry City Council subsidiaries.

**RESOLVED that Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend to Cabinet at its meeting on 31 August, 2021 that:**

- 1) Cabinet agree the recommendations contained in the report.**
- 2) That training is offered to other relevant Elected Members as well as those specifically appointed to the Board of Directors on an annual basis**
- 3) That Annual reports to Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee include information about the income provided by HoldCo. that is spent on public services and that appropriate communications reflect this**

**21. Any other items of urgent private business**

There were no items of urgent private business.

(Meeting closed at 11.15 am)



Coventry City Council

## Briefing note

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To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Subject: Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 – Impact and Legacy Planning

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### 1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To update Members of the Board – with detailed presentations to the Board from the Coventry City of Culture Trust and Council officers – on progress in delivering impact and targeted outcomes for Coventry's year as UK City of Culture 2021 (UKCOC), including plans to secure legacy for the city from hosting the title.

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Co-Ordination Committee is recommended:
- 1) To consider the content of the briefing note and presentations
  - 2) To make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership, in order to further support and secure delivery of a successful UK City of Culture 2021, including through generating enduring legacy for Coventry from the city's title year.

### 3 Information/Background

#### The UK City of Culture Title

- 3.1 On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Coventry was awarded the title of UK City of Culture 2021. The process of implementing and further developing planning for the title year (originally 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021) commenced with immediate effect.
- 3.2 In Spring 2020, in recognition of the emerging impact of COVID on planning for delivery of UKCOC 2021, the Coventry City of Culture Trust (the Trust) worked with all its principle partners, including the Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the City Council, to agree revised dates for the title year. In July 2020, it was announced that Coventry's year as UK City of Culture would run from May 2021 to May 2022.

#### Performance Measurement and Evaluation

- 3.3 To support delivery of the UK City of Culture 2021 in meeting local and regional needs, a strategy for performance measurement and evaluation was developed in partnership with Coventry University and the University of Warwick, the City Council and the Trust. At the centre of this strategy is a Theory of Change for evaluating the cultural, social, economic, health and wellbeing impacts of UK City of Culture 2021

programmes and activities on the city and for its people. Within this approach, there are 15 outcomes linked to four key impacts, focused on Coventry citizens positively influencing and shaping the city they want to live in; Coventry's culture contributing to the social and economic prosperity of the city and region; Coventry's place as a global and connected city; and Coventry being recognised as a future facing, pioneering city.

### Economic Impacts

- 3.4 To date, the Coventry City of Culture Trust has secured £32m of income. This income includes £3.8m received from central government departments and bodies. New funding received in the current financial year includes awards from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (£200k), the Foyle Foundation (£125k), the Backstage Trust (£100k) and Severn Trent (£67.5k), with £150k secured from Corporate Partners. Trust expenditure remains within budgeted levels for the financial year.
- 3.5 In addition to funding secured through the Trust, on the back of winning the City of Culture Title, the Council has directly managed a capital programme investing in the city's public realm, cultural venues, heritage buildings and creative production spaces. The financial value of this programme of direct investment currently exceeds £86m, but the impact of this investment will be felt for years to come – through a creative, transformative programme of investment in public realm; through improving and developing performance venues, gallery spaces and cultural destinations for the benefit of audiences and artists (e.g. the Belgrade Theatre; the Box at FarGo; Herbert Art Gallery and Museum; FarGo Village); by creating new and enhanced production and education spaces (e.g. the Daimler Powerhouse; Belgrade Jaguar facility; the Box at FarGo); and through restoring/renovating key heritage and cultural assets to celebrate and extend the city's cultural and heritage offer (e.g. Drapers' Hall; St. Mary's Guildhall; Coventry Cathedral; Unique Visitor Stay Places Accommodation; Anglican Chapel; Charterhouse).
- 3.6 The programme of cultural capital investment continues to grow, with further legacy capital projects and investment secured. These legacy projects include the Collections Centre – creating a nationally significant centre for the storage, care and management of cultural, arts and historical artefacts – and the further development of The Albany Theatre, creating new studio spaces and improving front of house facilities at the Theatre.
- 3.7 The economic impact of UK City of Culture 2021 is further extended by both the direct and aligned capital and revenue investment secured and managed through wider city partners.

### Audiences, Programmes and Social Impacts

- 3.8 In the three and a half months since the UK City of Culture 2021 opened, in May 2021, the Trust's programme has engaged with audiences from all 18 Wards of the city, equating to 250,000 people with CV postcodes attending events. The Trust has also welcomed 329 delegates to the city, hosted by the Delegates Office. 40% of the City of Culture programme has been co-created with communities and 2,618 City Hosts have been recruited. Already, over 58,000 people have attended an event at the Assembly Festival Garden with events ranging from music, comedy, theatre and children's shows.

- 3.9 Across the month of August alone, a range of outdoor events brought local communities together to enjoy food, drink, activities, performances and art on a

summer's day. Party on the Green came to Jardine Crescent, Holbrooks Park and the John White Community Centre playing field, bringing music and walkabout performances to residents of all ages. In advance of the events, 653 tickets were reserved for Holbrooks, 1144 for Tile Hill and 667 for Binley. Just under 800 people attended the Eastern European HeARTS Festival at Riley Square with food, crafts and music from Coventry residents from backgrounds including Polish, Romanian, Bulgarian and Ukrainian. The Sound of Cov: Live in Assembly Festival Garden showcased an eclectic range of local music acts curated by seven of Coventry's community, student and hospital radio stations, selling out its free ticket allocation of 600 far in advance of the event. 500 wristbands for Pride and Joy at Assembly Festival Garden, part of Coventry Pride, also sold out in advance of the event.

### Planning for Legacy

- 3.10 The Trust has appointed consultants Curium Solutions Ltd. to support the scoping and development of a City of Culture legacy plan on behalf of the Trust, working closely with the City Council and other stakeholders. To date, Curium have run workshops with partners and communities across the city and have been working closely with the Trust's Senior Management Team and Board of Trustees. Over 70 individual conversations have taken place and 5 workshops have been held in person and one on-line, with over 120 people attending. The workshop venues included the Muslim Resource Centre, Highlife Centre, Belgrade Theatre and FarGo Village, with the consultation process seeking to engage a wide range of participants in a variety of city locations. This consultation phase will further support and inform the process of reviewing and refreshing the city's Cultural Strategy.
- 3.11 The above, initial consultation phase completes at the end of August 2021. It is then planned that development work is progressed in parallel with work to review the Coventry Cultural Strategy, in order to develop a City of Culture legacy plan, with the legacy plan to be reviewed over the Autumn and confirmed in November 2021, for implementation from May 2022.

### **Authors**

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# Agenda Item 5

SCRUCO Work Programme 2021-22

Last updated 26/8/21

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b>
Domestic Abuse Act Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21
<b>21<sup>st</sup> July 2021</b>
One Coventry Plan Annual Performance Report 2020-21
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021</b>
Restructuring Coventry City Council Subsidiaries
<b>8<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>
Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 - Impact and Legacy Planning
<b>6<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>
Marmot Principles in Coventry
<b>17<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>
-
<b>15<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
-
<b>12<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b>
-
<b>16<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>
-
<b>16<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>
-
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b>
-
<b>Items for 2021-22</b>
Impact of Brexit on the City Report back of Introduction of Parking Charges at War Memorial Park Alcohol Related Issues Youth Violence/Criminal Exploitation of Young People Community Safety Strategic Assessment

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b>	Domestic Abuse Act	To update following commissioning of services and focus on provision during the Covid-19 pandemic	Cllr AS Khan/ Cllr P Akhtar Liz Gaulton
	Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21	To consider the draft Annual Report before it is presented to Council.	Cllr N Akhtar/ Adrian West
<b>21<sup>st</sup> July 2021</b>	One Coventry Plan Annual Performance Report 2020-21	To be reviewed by SCRUCO prior to submission to Cabinet on 30 August 2021. The data within the plan may help inform the work programmes of the Scrutiny Boards. The item will include information about the refresh of the One Coventry Plan.	Cllr Duggins/ Liz Gaulton/ Si Chun Lam/ Michelle McGinty
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021</b>	Restructuring Coventry City Council Subsidiaries	To consider a Cabinet report on restructuring of Council subsidiary companies.	Julie Newman/ Andrew Walster/Barry Hastie Cllr Duggins
<b>8<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>	Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 - Impact and Legacy Planning	To report on the lasting legacy of the City of Culture including impact on wider jobs and skills as well as capital and cultural assets. To include an update on public art installations and cross partnership digital communications.	Cllr Duggins/ David Nuttall
<b>6<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>	Marmot Principles in Coventry	To scrutinise how the Marmot Principles have been applied in Coventry and how they could be used for the Covid reset and recovery.,	Liz Gaulton Cllr Caan
<b>17<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>	-		
<b>15<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>	-		
<b>12<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b>	-		

SCRUCO Work Programme 2021-22

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	-		
16th March 2022	-		
6th April 2022	-		
<b>Items for 2021-22</b>	Impact of Brexit on the City	To update SCRUCO on the impacts of Brexit and support, particularly to businesses, of new regulations.	Cllr O’Boyle/ Andy Williams/ Steve Weir
	Report back of Introduction of Parking Charges at War Memorial Park	Three-month monitoring and review should include: - Impact on displacement parking the use of alternative modes of transport and the impacts on climate change and the impact of the introduction of charges on blue badge holders	Cllr A S Khan Andrew Walster
	Alcohol Related Issues		
	Youth Violence/Criminal Exploitation of Young People		
	Community Safety Strategic Assessment		

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Relationships with Anchor Institutions	To look at how the Council is working with large organisations in the city for the benefit of all residents and partners.	Cllr Duggins Gail Quinton
	Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board	A report on progress on the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership progress including benchmarking data	Cllr AS Khan/ Cllr P Akhtar Public Health reps