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**Report to**  
Business, Enterprise and Economy Scrutiny Board (3)

8<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**Report of**  
Councillor J McNicholas

**Title**  
Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority

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## **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1** This report sets out details of the work of the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1** It is recommended that Coventry City Council, as a constituent member of the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority (a statutory body), should continue to nominate and to send representatives to its meetings.
- 2.2** It is also recommended that, following recent statutory changes to the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority constitution which came into force on 1 June 2014, Coventry City Council should ensure that it sends representatives to the new Centro Member's Joint Committee and Scrutiny function.

## **3 Information on Work of Outside Body**

- 3.1** The West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority (WMITA) has the statutory responsibility to set out and ensure the implementation of policies to co-ordinate and promote the use of public transport in the West Midlands. Centro implements the Authority's policies. Collectively they are responsible for:
- The long term vision for the West Midlands public transport system
  - Developing policies for the promotion and encouragement of safe, efficient and economic transport facilities and services
  - Developing the "Vision for rail" and rapid transport
  - Operating a concessionary fares scheme
  - Developing Smartcard technology
  - Developing bus travel
  - Supporting subsidised bus travel
  - Supporting the provision of transport for disabled people
  - Promoting and publicising the public transport network

- Constructing and maintaining bus stations and public transport infrastructure

**3.2** Key areas of development work for the WMITA in 2013/14 included:

- Improvements and investment in the bus network by operators through the Partnership Plus agreement
- Proposals for the devolution of rail services in the West Midlands
- Ensuring local connectivity to HS2
- Developing proposals for WMITA Governance resulting in statutory change
- Consulting on and setting a reduced balanced budget of £138.7m for 2014/15.

**3.3** From 1 June 2014 the governance arrangements for WMITA have changed. The WMITA itself now has seven members (one from each of the West Midlands Metropolitan District Councils) with a new body, Centro Members Joint Committee, reporting to it.

**3.4** The Centro Members Joint Committee has delegated powers to make recommendations to the WMITA on rail devolution; policies for the promotion and encouragement of safe, efficient and economic transport facilities and services; and on the Authority's revenue budget and district levy. The Centre Members Joint Committee also has delegated powers to determine on a range of functions for the WMITA including:

- General policies on the availability and convenience of public passenger transport
- Monitoring and overseeing the activities and performance of Centro
- Ensuring Centro secures the provision of appropriate public passenger transport
- Ticketing; information and the development of tendered bus services
- Concessionary travel schemes and accessible transport provision
- Monitoring performance of Midland Metro; bus and rail services and initiating appropriate action

**4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment**

**4.1** The appointment ensures that the City Council is directly involved with the planning and provision of public transport for its residents.

**5 What Financial Contribution Does the Council Make to this Organisation**

**5.1** The West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority is funded by Council Tax payers through a direct levy.

**6 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment**

**6.1 Integrated Transport Authority – 9 meetings held**

Councillor McNicholas	attended 9
Councillor Mrs Miks	attended 5
Councillor Noonan	attended 8

**7**

**7.1 Remuneration Received:**

John McNicholas	Basic allowance - £3,939	Special responsibility allowance - £27,472
Catherine Miks	Basic allowance - £3,939	Special responsibility allowance - £1,420
Hazel Noonan	Basic allowance - £3,939	Special responsibility allowance - nil

List of background papers

Proper officer: -

Author: Councillor J McNicholas  
(Any enquiries should be directed to the above)

Telephone: 024 7683 1113

Other contributors: Jenni Venn, Assistant Director – Policy, Chief Executive’s Directorate

Papers open to Public Inspection

**Description of paper**

**Location:**

Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies

[www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings)