

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities)
Councillor Townshend

14 November 2014

Council

9 December 2014

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director, Resources

Ward(s) affected:

None

Title:

The Coventry Award of Merit

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

To consider advice from the meeting of the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) Coventry Award of Merit Advisory Panel held on 17 October 2014.

Recommendations:

1. That the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) considers the advice from the meeting of the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) Coventry Award of Merit Advisory Panel held on Friday 17 October and makes recommendations to the City Council accordingly.
2. That the City Council approves the recommendations of the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) and grants the Coventry Award of Merit to the recipients recommended by the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities).

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

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

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes, 9 December 2014

Report title:

The Coventry Award of Merit

1. Context (or background)

1.1 The Coventry Award of Merit was established by the City Council in the 1960s as a means of acknowledging and honouring personal behaviour reflecting the highest ideals of citizenship or outstanding performance in any field of human endeavour which enhances the good name of Coventry and affords inspiration to its citizens.

The Award has previously taken the form of a citation under the common seal together with a presentation of a gold medallion pendant from a ribbon in the City's colours. The motif on the medallion is the phoenix, symbolising the resurgence of Coventry from the flames of the Blitz.

1.2 The Advisory Panel is made up of the following members:

- The Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) (Chair)
- Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources)
- Shadow Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities)
- Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee (or their representative)
- The Lord Mayor, ex officio
- The Council's Honorary Recorder, Judge Griffith-Jones

1.3 The Advisory Panel met on 17 October to advise the Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) on possible recipients of the Award.

1.4 The Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) will consider the advice from the Panel and make recommendations to Council for approval at the Council meeting on 9 December 2014.

1.5 The Panel noted that where the Cabinet Member was minded to accept its advice that he would have to consult the proposed recipient of the Award prior to presenting proposals for approval to full Council on 9 December 2014. It was recommended that pending such consultation that the nominations should remain confidential.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 Cabinet Member is recommended to endorse the view that confidentiality should be maintained pending reporting to the full Council meeting.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 The Cabinet Member consulted the Advisory Panel on 17 October and will consider its advice in making his recommendations to Council.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) will consider recommendations from the Coventry Award of Merit Advisory Panel and will then make recommendations regarding recipients to the City Council for approval at their meeting on 9 December 2014.
- 4.2 Following the decision of Council on 9 December, suitable arrangements will be made for an Awards Ceremony should the Council approve recipients of the Awards.

5. Comments from Executive Director, Resources

5.1 Financial implications

In previous years the costs associated with the Ceremony and the Awards were met from within the existing budget of the Lord Mayor's Hospitality Budget. The Cabinet Member will consult with the Lord Mayor and submit financial proposals to Council on 9 December for any Awards that he may recommend to Council.

Costs are not yet certain, however, if the Cabinet Member accepts all the nominations and all of the nominations accept the Award then the cost would be in the region of £8,000. Costs will be funded from the Lord Mayor's Hospitality Budget subject to full Council approval.

5.2 Legal implications

There are no legal implications associated with this decision.

6. Other implications

None

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / LAA (or Coventry SCS)?

One of the Council's key priorities is to develop a strong sense of civic pride across the city. These awards give recognition to individuals or organisations that have rendered outstanding service to the city and promote civic pride.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

None identified.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

These Awards enhance and promote the reputation of the Council and the City of Coventry

6.4 Equalities / EIA

There are no EIA implications

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None.

Report author(s):**Name and job title:**

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Resources

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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Usha Patel	Governance Services Officer	Resources	23 October 2014	5 November 2014
Jane Barlow	Principal Private Secretary to the Lord Mayoralty	Resources	23 October 2014	5 November 2014
Other members	Councillor Hazel Noonan,	Lord Mayor	23 October 2014	27 October 2014
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Kathryn Sutherland	Lead Accountant, Finance	Resources	23 October 2014	23.10.14
Legal: Andrew Burton	Solicitor, Legal Services	Resources	23 October 2014	23.10.14
Director: Chris West	Executive Director	Resources	23 October 2014	5.11.14
Members: Councillor Townshend	Cabinet Member	(Policing and Equalities)	23 October 2014	

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Appendix