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**Report to**  
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

**1 April 2015**

**Report of**  
Councillor Linda Bigham

**Title**  
Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – The Coventry Law Centre

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**1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the work of the Coventry Law Centre over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Coventry City Council should nominate two elected Members due to the nature of its work and the level of financial support from the City Council

**3 Information on Work of Outside Body**

- 3.1 Coventry Law Centre's Audited Accounts and Trustee's report sets out the organisation's activities and resourcing. The report is available as an appendix.
- 3.2 The Coventry Law Centre states its purpose as, 'To fight social exclusion in communities and to effect change in society by increasing rights awareness and using legal processes to fight poverty, inequality and discrimination.'
- 3.3 'We seek to make our services accessible to those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged and socially excluded. The need in the population we service is high.'

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

- 4.1 Members are able to set the direction for the Law Centre, are able to scrutinise annual accounts and are responsible for electing the Trustees who make up the Management Committee of the Law centre.

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

2014/2015 the financial contribution was £513,729 which includes restricted funds for Social Services, Multi-disciplinary Team, Welfare Benefits and Troubled Families.

## 6 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

- 6.1 There have been 5 meetings of the board of trustees of which Councillor Mrs Bigham has attended 4. Councillor Michael Hammon was appointed as a second Council representative, but is not a trustee, so would only be required to attend General Meeting, none of which have been called at this point.

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(Any enquiries should be directed to the above)

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**Description of paper**

Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies

**Location: CH59**