



Report to
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

12th March 2018

Report of
Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE

Title
Annual Report on the Work Of Outside Bodies – Whitefriars Housing Group

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the work of Whitefriars Housing Group since May 2017 and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives/nominated Members.

2 Recommendations

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended that the Council continue to appoint representatives as Directors of the Board of Whitefriars Housing Group

3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 This year Whitefriars Housing has modified the way the governance of the organisation as part of WM Housing. The shift of decision making power is tilted in the favour of "Umbrella Group" WM Housing mainly because there has been indication from the government for this kind of shift.
- 3.2 City Council nominated directors on Whitefriars have maintained their position of city Council to keep Whitefriars Housing as independent as it can be within the "Parent Group" WM Housing.

4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment

- 4.1 Being the largest Social Housing organisation in our city it is the best way to deliver the housing policy of Coventry City Council.
- 4.2 The government may or may not have view to reduce the representation of Councillors on Whitefriars Housing Board and other similar bodies but my view is that the City Council founded Whitefriars Housing and the City Council has responsibility for housing policy in the city. Therefore it is very important that City Council continues to appoint its representative on Whitefriars Housing as it is now.

5 What Financial Contribution Does the Council Make to this Organisation

5.1 Coventry City Council has various contracts with Whitefriars Housing to develop new houses in our city. The resources (funds or land) from City Council is based on these contracts.

6 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment

6.1 Whitefriars have provided the table below to show Councillor Attendance at the Whitefriars Board meetings, since my appointment in May 2017. These also include Board Away Day attendance.

Whitefriars Board Member Meeting Attendance 2017

		20/07/2017	14/09/2017	14/09/2017 Away Day	16/11/2017
Harvard	Lindsley	1	1	1	1
Lakha	Ram	1	1	1	1
Taylor	Ken	1	1	1	0
Thomas	Christine	0	0	0	1

BMs attended	3	3	3	3
Total BM	4	4	4	4
% Attendance	75%	75%	75%	75%

6.2 The allowance is £2,000 basic per annum per appointment.

List of background papers

Proper officer:

Author:

Ram P Lakha OBE (Cllr)- Lead Member

(Any enquiries should be directed to the above)

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Other contributors:

Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper

Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies

Location:

Council House, Room 73