



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Resources and Council Services)

Date: 27th October 2014

Subject: Discussion with Richard Corbett MEP

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. Scrutiny Board (Resources and Council Services) has invited Richard Corbett MEP for Yorkshire & Humber, to attend today's meeting. This meeting provides members with an opportunity to ask Mr Corbett a broad range of questions; however the Board has previously indicated its interest in the following areas;
 - Given England no longer operates at a Regional level it is often felt the regional voice is now missing (with the demise of Brussels office, other regional structures). MEPS and the EC however still recognise regions – how can we better influence and shape 'regional policy' without any regional infrastructure?
 - As a city or city region how can we ensure we have influence with the Commission and develop the relationships needed to position Leeds to take maximum advantage of what European funding may become available?
 - How can MEPs help shape the funding arrangements for the future to make them more sensitive to local government?
 - Are there opportunities for Councils to work effectively with our local MEPs in the future?

Recommendations

2. With the above in mind, Members are asked to hold a discussion with Mr Corbett MEP and make appropriate comment, observations or recommendations.

Background papers¹

None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.