

SCRUTINY BOARD (CITY & REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS) OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME (October) 2008 APPENDIX 1

Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 23rd October 2008		Deadline for receipt of Reports 14th October 2008	
Session 2 of the Inquiry into the role of the voluntary, community and faith sectors (VCFS) in council led community engagement	To consider good practice in Leeds and other areas and hear from witnesses from the VCFS using specific case studies	The Board included this in its work programme at the July meeting	RP / DP
Session 1 Inquiry into Skills	To consider the background and relationships of the LAA, MAA and FE in contributing towards meeting the target indicators with our partners as set out in the Council's Strategic Plan 2008/2011. It will also cover the scope and the rationale behind the targets which have been set.	The Board approved terms of reference for this inquiry at its meeting in September following a recommendation from the Skills Working group it established earlier in the year	RP/DP
Working Groups	To consider a progress report following the establishment of a number of working groups by the Board	The Board established the University Fees Working Group and the Small Businesses Working Group in July	B

Key:

CCFA / RFS – Community call for action / request for scrutiny

RP – Review of existing policy

DP – Development of new policy

MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations

PM – Performance management

B – Briefings (Including potential areas for scrutiny)

SC – Statutory consultation

CI – Call in

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Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 20th November 2008		Deadline for receipt of Reports 31st October 2008	
Session 3 Voluntary Community Faith Sector	To consider information requested at the last Board meeting and to consider the Board’s draft inquiry report and recommendations	The Board included this in its work programme at the July meeting	RP / DP
Invitation to the Chief Executive and Chair of the Leeds Initiative Narrowing the Gap Executive	To hear from the Chief Executive on work being undertaken to Narrow the Gap through our partner organisations	The Board agreed that it would be appropriate to monitor progress through the submission of a quarterly or half yearly report to this Board & from our partners on their concerns & successes	PM
Session 2 Inquiry into Skills	To consider the current proposed arrangements for the MAA in Leeds, in particular the rationale for the MAA (evidence base) and the proposed outcomes of the MAA, and impact on Leeds businesses and residents; consider the proposed merger of 3 FE colleges in the city & the likely impact on employers, individuals & communities & seek input from LSC, college principals and Leeds Skills Board on the plans.	The Board approved terms of reference for this inquiry at its meeting in September following a recommendation from the Skills Working group it established earlier in the year	RP/DP

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Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 17th December 2008		Deadline for receipt of Reports 28th November 2008	
Tracking Recommendations	To consider a report on progress in implementing the Board's recommendations to date.		MSR
Meeting date – 15th January 2009		Deadline for receipt of Reports 29th December 2008	
Session 3 Inquiry into Skills	This Session is to consider any information requested from the previous session and examine any possible future developments to the MAA, eg City Region approaches to tackling worklessness and further matters relating to the merger of the 3 colleges and its impact in Leeds.		RP/DP
Annual Report on Performance against the Leeds Strategic Plan	To receive an Annual Report on Performance against the Leeds Strategic Plan	At the Board meeting in June 2008 officers recommended that this Board was appropriately placed to take an overview of this document	MSR

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Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 26th February 2009		Deadline for receipt of Reports 6th February 2009	
Session 4 Inquiry into Skills	The purpose of this session is to look at how are partners who have signed up to the LAA are delivering on the targets that have been set and to hear about the changes they are making in order that they can meet those targets. It will also explore individuals who are post school who have no qualifications/ no level 1 and the extent to which services are effective.		RP/DP
Meeting date – 26th March 2009		Deadline for receipt of Reports 6th March 2009	
Session 5 Inquiry into Skills	The purpose of this session is to continue hearing evidence from the parties signed up to the relevant improvement priorities and targets in the LSP and any information requested from the previous session.		RP/DP

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Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – April 2009		Deadline for receipt of Reports 9th April 2009	
Session 6 Inquiry into Skills	The purpose of this Session is to consider the Board’s draft inquiry report and recommendations.		RP/DP
Annual Report	To approve the Board’s contribution to the Scrutiny Boards Annual Report 2008/09.		

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Working Groups			
Working group	Membership	Progress update	Date last meeting
Small Businesses	Councillors Bentley, Atha, Kendal	Information from the working group meeting held on 7 th October 2008 will be reported to the Board on the 23 rd October.	7 th October 2008
University Fees	Councillors Bentley, Kendal, J Lewis, Atha and Yeadon	Information from the working group held on the 17 th October 2008 will be provided to the Board meeting on 23 rd October.	17 th October 2008
Skills	Councillors Bentley, Driver, Yeadon and J Lewis	Work completed. Terms of Reference approved for an inquiry by the Board on the 25 th September 2008.	22 nd September 2008

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Outstanding Issues

The Transport Bill

The relationship between Local Government Yorkshire and Humber, Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, the RDAs, Yorkshire Forward and the Regional Minister

Scrutiny Arrangements at a regional level

Marketing Leeds (**see extract of minute below from Scrutiny Board Central and Corporate Functions**)

SCRUTINY BOARD (CENTRAL AND CORPORATE)

WEDNESDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2008

28 Review of Called-In Decision - Grant Agreement with Marketing Leeds 2008/09

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report, together with relevant background papers, relating to an officer delegated decision, D34227 of the Chief Executive as follows:

Grant Agreement to Marketing Leeds 2008/09

‘In accordance with the Council’s agreed budget for 2008-09, a grant of £400,000 is payable to Marketing Leeds Limited to undertake a range of activities as detailed in the attached grant agreement.’

The decision had been called-in for review by Councillors J Lewis, J Dowson, L Mulherin, E Nash and L Yeadon on the following grounds:-

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'I would like the Scrutiny Board to investigate whether the key aims of the partnership between the Council and Marketing Leeds have been, and will continue to be, achieved.'

The Board considered the following written evidence:-

- A copy of the Call-In request form; and
- A copy of the Delegated Decision Form dated 18th August, 2008 of the Chief Executive, together with a copy of the accompanying report on which the decision was based.

The Board also considered the following additional information:-

- Marketing Leeds – Business Plan 2008/09;
- Marketing Leeds – Activity and Events Strategy 2008/09; and
- Marketing Leeds – Statutory Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2008;

Councillors J Lewis and L Mulherin attended the meeting to present evidence to the Board. Councillor J Lewis gave a presentation outlining the reasons for the call-in request.

The following officers were also in attendance to respond to Members' queries and comments:-

- Paul Rogerson, Chief Executive;
- James Rogers, Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement);
- Jean Dent, Director of Development Services; and
- Deborah Green, Chief Executive of Marketing Leeds.

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The Board then questioned Officers at length on the information provided and evidence submitted.

RESOLVED – That the report and information appended to the report be noted.

29 Outcome of Call-In

RESOLVED –

- (a) To note the Board's support for Marketing Leeds;
- (b) That the Officer Delegated Decision D34227 be immediately released for implementation;
- (c) That the Chief Executive reports back to the Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate) at the October meeting regarding amendments to paragraphs 6 (Obligations of Marketing Leeds) and 8 (Performance Monitoring) of the funding agreement between Leeds City Council and Marketing Leeds;
- (d) That the Scrutiny Board (City and Regional Partnerships) consider a broader inquiry into the work and positive achievements of Marketing Leeds; and
- (e) That the draft funding agreement between Leeds City Council and Marketing Leeds for 2009/10 be brought before the relevant Scrutiny Board for comment prior to agreement.

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