

CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION JOINT CABINET

JOINT CABINET MEETING 15 JANUARY 2018

REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

REPORT OF THE CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM: 4

Appendix 1 of this report is not for publication as it contains exempt information of a kind described in paragraphs 13, 14 and 21 of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12a to the Local Government Act 1972.

Reason for this Report

1. To update the Cabinet on the appointment of the Board of the Regional Economic Growth Partnership (REGP).

Background

2. A report outlining recommendations for the establishment of the Regional Economic Growth Partnership was approved by Cabinet on 14th July 2017.
3. Following this, steps were taken to advertise for the Chair based on the process approved in the 14th July report. An open advert was published on the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal website once a similar process being undertaken for the appointment of the Chair of the Regional Business Organisation was completed. Coverage for the post was also extensive in local media. The deadline for applications for the REGP Chair closed on 20th October 2017. Applications were received from individuals for the position of Chair following the deadline stated in the advertisement of the role. A brief shortlisting exercise was undertaken following which it was decided to interview Frank Holmes for the role of Chair.
4. An interview panel comprising Cllr Andrew Morgan, Cllr Huw Thomas, Cllr Huw David and the Chair of the Regional Business Organisation conducted an interview of the shortlisted candidate on 2nd November 2017. The interview process concluded that the Frank Holmes should be recommended to the Cabinet as the Chair of the Regional Economic Growth Partnership, following the process outlined in the report of 14th July 2017. Members approved the appointment of Frank Holmes as the Chair of the REGP at the meeting of the 20th November 2017 where the report outlined the details of this process and included the Terms of Reference and Terms of Appointment for the Chair.

5. At the meeting of 20th November it was also agreed that the local government nominations for the REGP would be Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr Peter Fox.

Issues

6. Following the Chair appointment the next stage of the establishment is to appoint the Board Members for the REGP. An advertisement seeking applications to the Board was published on the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal website, with coverage for the advertisement in local and national press.
7. To accelerate the board appointment process the Chief Executive of Cardiff Council was delegated for appointing the interview panel, in consultation with the Chair of the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet, the Chair of the REGP and the lead member for the REGP, and have delegated authority to conclude the appointment process for board membership. Following a number of interviews, led by the Chair of the REGP the individuals identified in Confidential Appendix 1 have been offered positions. Their names will be made public once all have formally agreed to take their positions.
8. Both the Higher Education and Further Education positions will be filled on an annual rolling basis, in order to ensure that the sector is fully represented. In addition, standing observer positions will be offered to the Chairs of the Regional Business Organisation and the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership.
9. Pursuant to the delegated authority granted by Regional Cabinet on 20th November 2017 to the Chief Executive of Cardiff Council to carry out and conclude the appointment process of REGP Board Members, Terms of Reference for the Board positions were determined.

Finance Implications

10. The report states that whilst there are no salary costs as a result of being a Board member, there is the obligation to cover reasonable costs incurred in carrying out said duties. These costs will be contained within a budget from the Wider Investment Fund.

Legal Implications

11. This report is submitted for members information to note the appointments made to the REGP Board, pursuant to delegated authority granted by Regional Cabinet to the Chief Executive of Cardiff Council, to carry out and conclude the appointment process of REGP Board Members. As such the report does not raise any direct legal implications.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet notes the appointment of the REGP board.

The following Confidential Appendix is attached:

Confidential Appendix 1: REGP Board Nominations

The following background papers have been taken into consideration:-

- 1) *Regional Cabinet Report on the Regional Economic Growth Partnership, 14th July 2017*
- 2) *Regional Cabinet Report on the Regional Economic Growth Partnership, 20th November 2017*