

Committee(s)	Dated:
Policy and Resources Committee	16 June 2016
Subject: Representative on Cross River Partnership	Public
Report of: Director of Economic Development	For Decision/
Report author: Liz Skelcher , EDO	

Summary

The City Corporation has been a member of Cross River Partnership (CRP) since its inception in 1994 and is signed up in membership until 2017/18.

CRP is a strategic economic development and delivery, public/private partnership working across 6 Central London boroughs and 15 Business Improvement Districts.

George Gillon, CC, has been the City Corporation's representative on CRP for 13 years. Mr Gillon has indicated that he will stand down from the Board at the end of his 5 year term as co-chairman.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to appoint a Member to replace replace Mr Gillon on the CRP Board from September 2016.

Main Report

Background

1. The City Corporation has been a member of Cross River Partnership (CRP) since it was founded in 1994. CRP is a strategic economic development and delivery, public/private partnership working across 6 Central London local authority areas (including the City) and 15 Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). It works on the four themes of: economic growth and prosperity; air quality and carbon reduction; sustained employment opportunities and; quality place making in Central London.
2. Since its inception, CRP has attracted over £300m of investment into its 6 local authority areas and BIDs. An independent review of its activities, which took place in 2014/15, underlined considerable support for the achievements of the partnership from across its membership. In 2015/16 it levered in nearly £6m of investment.

Current Position

3. The Policy and Resources Committee in April 2015 approved further membership of CRP for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 subject to annual review by the Director of Economic Development. It also gave the Director delegated authority to approve annual contributions of £10,000 from the Economic Development budget in each of the three years, subject to satisfactory performance by CRP and no major policy changes by CRP. Our membership of CRP has been confirmed under delegated authority for 2016/17.
4. George Gillon, CC, has been the City Corporation's representative on CRP for 13 years, 5 of which also as (public sector) co-chair, alongside private sector co-chair, Simon Pitkeathley (from Camden Town Unlimited Business Improvement District).
5. The Partnership Board has particularly valued the City Corporation's co-chairmanship in the light of our perceived neutrality. This has provided much-needed continuity, helping to steer a steady course for CRP, which has experienced an inevitably high turnover of political board members from the other boroughs.
6. Mr Gillon has indicated his wish to stand down from the Board at its September meeting having completed 5 years as co-chairman.

Proposals

7. Your Committee is asked to appoint a replacement CRP board member from September.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. Membership of CRP supports the Key Policy Priority 4 of the Corporate Plan (*Maximising the opportunities and benefits afforded by our role in supporting London's communities*).

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