

Agenda Item No. 13

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Board of Directors Meeting – 16th September 2005

The regions Response to London's successful bid for the Olympics and Para-Olympics in 2012

Report of the Chief Executive

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise the Board of progress since the Full Assembly meeting on 15th July 2005.
- 1.2 To endorse the draft composition and terms of reference of the regional 2012 leadership group and nominate an alternate member

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Board endorse the draft composition and terms of reference of the west Midlands 2012 regional leadership group.
- 2.2 To endorse Cllr Chris Saint Regional portfolio holder for culture as the WMRA member of the leadership task group and nominate an alternate for him

3. Background

- 3.1 Members will recall that the Assembly at its AGM recognised the potential benefits to the region arising from the 2012 Games and the value of a west midlands task force. It endorsed a strong input and lead by both the Assembly and West Midlands Local Government Association to create strong lasting economic and social benefits to the region.
- 3.2 The existing Steering Group, chaired by the Assembly's Chief Executive met on Friday 12 August to progress this.
- 3.3 The final announcement at national level on the arrangements to support the Nation's preparation and how these relate to regional structures is still awaited.

4. Proposed Regional Structures

- 4.1 The following arrangements, recommended by the steering group are planned subject to any national initiatives:

- (a) A West Midlands 2012 Leadership Group – to be established as a Concordat Partnership comprising Board-Level Champions with a high profile Chair. The Draft Terms of Reference and Composition of the WM 2012 Leadership Group are attached as appendix 1 .The Group’s first meeting will be on Friday 14th October at 2pm at the Regional Partnership Centre.
- (b) A formally constituted Officer Working Group – this will be an overarching group with a sub-group looking specifically at opportunities and requirements for Preparation Camps and a number of Theme Leads to carry forward the commitments of the Task Force. The terms of reference and composition of this group will be determined over the next 3 months. Meanwhile the current open access steering group will continue
- (c) A training Camp sub group of the officer group –this will be chaired by Rick Bailey of the WM regional sports board who is a former Olympic coach.

4.2 We are seeking representatives to sit on this leadership group. We are looking for one person from each Sub Regional County Sports Partnership area - this will ensure geographical coverage whilst ensuring a workable size leadership group. It will be for each area to identify their nominee, from which ever sector they feel is appropriate.

4.3 The Leadership and Officer Groups will be supplemented by a number of regional ambassadors for London 2012. Ambassadors will be drawn from a range of sectors (including of course sport) and locations.

5. Financial and Resource Implications

5.1 The preparatory work undertaken including the commissioning of the Richard Calicott’s report was jointly funded by the Assembly, AWM, Sport England West Midlands, Birmingham City Council and Culture West Midlands. Further resources will be required and all partners are exploring their potential contributions. The Assembly and WMLGA have agreed to continue to service the both the steering group and the leadership group for the next 3 months whilst further work on resource requirements and how they are met are undertaken. Any contribution from the assembly in this

financial year will need to be from within existing resources, an issue the Board can explore under Agenda item X.

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