

Agenda Item No. 14(a) – for information
WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
Board of Directors - Friday 10th March 2006

LEONARDO Project bid - Confirmation of Chairman's Action
Report of the Strategic Advisor (Europe)

1. Purpose

To inform the Board of Chairman's action in connection with the Region's longstanding relationship with Lower Silesia, and its role as Regional Planning Body.

2. Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report.

3. Background

- 3.1 A request was been made by the Lower Silesia Bureau for Regional Spatial Planning to the West Midlands Regional Assembly to enable the West Midlands Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) to partner them in a LEONARDO exchange programme due to take place at the end of Summer 2006.
- 3.2 As the Royal Town Planning Institute is a charitable body it was unable to sign the letter of intent but was keen to assist them with a programme to bring a number of planning officers from Lower Silesia to the region.
- 3.3 The Chairman signed a letter of intent to enable the application for funding to be made.
- 3.4 This letter is a simple letter of intent and is not binding until such time that the project is approved and signed. If at such time the WMRA discover hidden costs or work which they feel they cannot honour they are able to withdraw their signature.
- 3.5 In the event that the application is successful the RTPI West Midlands has also requested that the WMRA act as banker distributing funds as set out within the LEONARDO programme.
- 3.6 The Assembly would also be able to claim the costs of managing the funds.
- 3.7 In addition to the above the RTPI West Midlands have requested that planners within the Assembly make a presentation on the work of the Assembly to the visitors.

Esther Knight
Strategic Advisor (Europe)
Tel No: 0121 678 1043
e-mail: e.knight@wmra.gov.uk

