

## **Department for Business Innovation & Skills**

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Cllr John Mutton Leader, Coventry City Council

Councillor Alan Farnell Leader, Warwickshire County Council

28 October 2010

Dear colleague,

## Proposal for a local enterprise partnership – Coventry and Warwickshire

We are writing to thank you for your outline proposal to form a local enterprise partnership. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the considerable efforts that went into the preparation of your proposals over the summer months.

We were impressed by the commitment and ambition demonstrated in the proposals. The innovative ideas put forward to tackle the variety of challenges facing local economies demonstrate the importance of allowing local areas to determine their own economic development and drive private sector job growth.

All proposals were reviewed against the key expectations set out in the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010 letter:

• **Support from business** – this was a particularly important factor, especially whether the proposal demonstrated engagement with a range of local businesses (including SMEs) and reached beyond organisations that represent business and commerce. Sustained business

engagement in partnerships is essential in the long term if partnerships are to realise the economic potential of the area.

- **Economic geography** whether the geography proposed represented a reasonable natural economic geography, wider functional economic linkages and was sufficiently strategic.
- Local Authority support whether there was sufficient support from the local authorities whose areas were covered by the partnership proposal.
- Added value and ambition whether the proposal set out a clear vision in terms of local economic priorities and demonstrated how it would create the right environment for business and growth, over and above that which would otherwise occur.

Having considered your proposal we confirm that it sufficiently addresses the points set out above and we encourage you to establish your partnership and board in line with the expectations set out in the 29<sup>th</sup> June letter. We look forward to your confirmation that you have completed this step.

Our officials will be in touch shortly to work with you as you develop your plans. Contact details of the relevant lead officials from both departments are Samuel Kabiswa at BIS – e-mail: <u>samuel.kabiswa@bis.gsi.gov.uk</u> tel: 020 7215 0739 and Nick Tennant at CLG – e-mail: <u>Nick.Tennant@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u> tel: 0303 444 1681.

MARK PRISK MP

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