

meeting **Administration Committee – Urgency Sub-Committee**

date 23 February 2010

agenda item number

5

Report of the Head of Service - Economic Regeneration

Mansfield 2020 Ball and Business Awards 2010

Purpose of the Report

1. This report seeks approval for Councillor Keith Girling, Deputy Cabinet Member for Culture and Community, to attend the Mansfield 2020 Ball and Business Awards 2010, to be held on Saturday 20 March 2010.

Information and Advice

2. Mansfield 2020 (formerly known as Mansfield 2010) is a business development and networking organisation. It was set up in 1991 by local business people with the aim of promoting and revitalising the town after the decline of the traditional mining and textile industries. It is a partnership between the public and private sectors, with participation drawn from organisations such as Mansfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Business Link, the East Midlands Development Agency, Mansfield Area Strategic Partnership, Mansfield Town Centre Partnership, West Notts College and businesses of all sectors and sizes – all with a vested interest in seeing the wider Mansfield area thrive and grow.
3. Nottinghamshire County Council is a member of Mansfield 2020 and pays an annual membership fee. Councillor Keith Girling is a member of the Mansfield 2020 Board.
4. In addition, Councillor Girling is the authority's Business Engagement Champion, and as such he will be ensuring that the authority's commitment to effective and genuine two-way engagement with the Nottinghamshire business community is met.
5. Mansfield 2020 holds a monthly breakfast meeting. These successful meetings are extremely well attended by the local business fraternity, with a regular attendance of over 150 members. Councillor Girling regularly attends the breakfast meetings.

6. Mansfield 2020 hold an annual dinner and business awards to celebrate the achievements of both Mansfield 2020 members and other businesses in Nottinghamshire. The 2010 awards are to be held on the evening of Saturday 20 March 2010 at the Mansfield Civic Centre. The award categories are:-
 - Community Award - sponsored by Ron Brooks (Mansfield) Limited
 - Best New Business – sponsored by Barclays Commercial Bank
 - Entrepreneur of the Year – sponsored by Hopkins Solicitors
 - Best Retailer Customer Focus Initiative – sponsored by Four Seasons Shopping Centre
 - Business of the Year Award – sponsored by West Nottinghamshire College
7. The cost of attendance is £40 inclusive of VAT. This includes a 4-course meal and entertainment.
8. It is proposed that Councillor Girling attend the event. The cost will be met from the Economic Regeneration Service (Communities) budget 2009/10.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, Crime and Disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

10. Mansfield 2020 operates an equal opportunities policy and is open to all businesses. The business awards are open to all businesses in Nottinghamshire. The judging process is undertaken by a number of organisations and ensures that there is transparency and fairness in the judging process.

Recommendation

11. That approval is given to Councillor Girling's attendance at the Mansfield 2020 Ball and Business Awards 2010, to be held on 20 March 2010, at the Mansfield Civic Centre. The cost of £40 inclusive of VAT is to be met from the Economic Regeneration Service Budget (Communities)2009/10.

Caroline Agnew
Head of Economic Regeneration
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Legal Services' Comments

The Administration Committee has authority to approve the recommendation set out in this report.(NAB 9.02.10)

Comments of Service Director - Finance

The financial consequences are noted within the report. (DD 09/02/10)

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Email to Councillor Girling from Mansfield 2020 dated 4 February 2010 inviting participation by Nottinghamshire County Council.

Electoral Division(s) Affected

Mansfield Divisions