

Individual Decision

The attached report will be taken as
Individual Portfolio Member Decision on:

Thursday, 7th June, 2012

Ref:	Title	Portfolio Member(s)	Page No.
ID2495	Amendments to Appointments to Outside Bodies	Councillor Graham Jones	1 - 8



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Title of Report:	Amendments to Outside Body Appointments
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	07 June 2012
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2495

Purpose of Report:

1. To appoint Members to be the Council's representative as Governor of the NHS Trust Berkshire West and a trustee of the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire.
2. To appoint a Member to be the Council's representative on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel as agreed at the Executive meeting on the 29 March 2012.
3. To note that Councillor Alan Law would be appointed to the Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel.

Recommended Action: That the Council appoints representatives on the NHS Trust Berkshire West, The Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel, the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire and the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel.

Reason for decision to be taken: To ensure that the Council is represented on these organisations.
The introduction of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 ('the Act') introduces new structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision making, neighbourhood policing and police accountability.

Other options considered: None

Key background documentation: None

Portfolio Member Details	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Graham Jones
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Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Moira Fraser/Susan Powell
Job Title:	Democratic and Electoral Services Manager/ Safer Communities Partnership Team Manager
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Implications

Policy: Appointments will be made in accordance with Part 13 Appendix J (Protocol for Council Representation on Outside Bodies) of the Council's Constitution

Financial: Members are not paid to attend Outside Body meetings however any costs associated with meeting attendance will be met from within existing budgets.

In terms of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel an annual draft budget for the operation of the Panel will be drawn up each year and approved by the Panel. For the first year of operation (Up until April 2013), the Host Authority (Buckinghamshire County Council)will provide a level of service to the Panel within the resources granted by the Home Office (£53.3k), excluding some of the on-costs which will be covered by the Host Authority.

In subsequent years, any costs approved in the annual budget by the Panel that are above the costs granted by the Home Office, or in the event of the cessation of the Home Office grant, will have to be borne between the 18 Authorities equally.

In respect of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel the Home Office is providing a maximum of £920 per Member for expenses. No funding is provided for Member allowances. Each Authority has the discretion to pay its representatives on the Panel an allowance which will be determined and borne by the appointing Authorities. Should West Berkshire Council opt to pay an allowance to its representative this will have to be from the existing Members Allowances Budget.

Costs of recruiting co-opted members to the Panel will be met from within the existing budget approved by the Panel. Costs will be minimised by targeting potential applicants through existing networks and advertising online through the national public appointments website, rather than advertisement in newspapers

Personnel: None for the Volunteer Centre, Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel or the NHS Trust Berkshire West as the administration of Outside Bodies will be met from existing resources.

In terms of the Police and Crime Panel Buckinghamshire

County Council will act as Host Authority, providing Scrutiny Officer and other secretariat support as needed to enable the Panel to undertake its functions.

Any dedicated staff employed to support the Panel will be employed by the Host Authority, and as such their terms and conditions will be that of the Host Authority.

Legal/Procurement: The introduction of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 ('the Act') introduces new structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision making, neighbourhood policing and police accountability.

Environmental: None

Property: None

Risk Management: The Council indemnifies Members in certain circumstances – details are set out in Appendix J to Part 13 of the Constitution (Protocol for Council representatives on Outside Bodies).

Equalities Impact Assessment: EIA Stage 1 completed

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: Graham Jones

Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman: Brian Bedwell – had no comments on the report

Ward Members: N/a

Opposition Spokesperson: Jeff Brooks

Local Stakeholders: Volunteer Centre West Berkshire, NHS Trust Berkshire West, Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel – comments included in the report

Officers Consulted: Andy Day, Robin Steel, Gillian Durrant

Trade Union: Not consulted

Is this item subject to call-in?	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:		
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission or associated Task Groups within preceding six months	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Item is Urgent Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Report is to note only	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint representatives to a range of Outside Bodies. The bulk of these appointments were made on the 02 June 2011 following the local elections. The Council has recently received notification that Members appointed to two of these outside bodies (NHS Trust Berkshire West and the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire) are no longer able to act as the Council's representatives on the organisations.
- 1.2 In addition Executive responsibility for pensions was transferred from Councillor Joe Mooney to Councillor Alan Law at the Annual Council meeting on the 10 May 2012 and it was therefore felt appropriate that membership of this outside body.
- 1.3 In addition the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) introduces new structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision making, neighbourhood policing and police accountability. The Act requires Authorities to establish and maintain a Police and Crime Panel (the Panel). As the Thames Valley is a multi-authority police area a joint panel known as the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel has been set up. The Panel will comprise of 18 elected members (one from each Authority) and 2 co-optees. West Berkshire Council is therefore required to make an appointment to this Panel.
- 1.4 Appointments will be made in accordance with Appendix J to part 13 of The Constitution (Protocol for Council representatives on Outside Bodies).

2. Volunteer Centre West Berkshire

- 2.1 The organisation, which is a Charitable Trust, has been established to undertake voluntary work in education, health, social services and similar charitable activities amongst those in most need of assistance. West Berkshire Council has been asked to appoint one trustee to the organisation. Meetings take place around five times a year and trustees are also required to attend occasional events and activities. Meetings usually take place in the Carter Jonas Offices in the Market Place in Newbury.
- 2.2 The Council's current representative on the organisation Mary Bedwell has with regret had to resign from her role as a trustee of the group.
- 2.3 The following Member(s) have expressed an interest in being appointed to the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire: Tony Vickers and Jeff Beck

3. Council of Governors of Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation

- 3.1 Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust provides community based physical and mental health services across Berkshire. Care is mainly provided through local community teams who offer treatment and support through a wide range of services with strong links to local partnerships. The Trust also provides inpatient care at mental health wards and community hospitals throughout the county.
- 3.2 Following the resignation of the Council's current representative, Councillor Joe Mooney, West Berkshire Council has been asked to appoint one Governor to the

organisation. Full Council meetings take place around four times a year and meetings usually take place in Bracknell. The role of the Council of Governors is to represent the interests of the whole population of Berkshire and to provide input to the Trust's strategic development. The Council of Governors has statutory responsibility for appointing the Trust's Non-Executive Directors, including the Chair, and the External Auditors. They are also required to approve the Board's recommendation regarding the appointment of the Trust's Chief Executive Officer. Governors are not paid for their time but necessary expenses can be claimed. Under the provisions of the Health and Social Care Act 2011, Governors powers will be increasing and they will take on a number of functions currently discharged by the foundation trust sector regulator, Monitor.

- 3.3 The following Member(s) have expressed an interest in being appointed to the organisation: Peter Argyle and Sheila Ellison

4. Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel

- 4.1 The Council is required to appoint one Member with voting rights but no legal responsibilities to this panel. Executive responsibility for pensions was transferred from Councillor Joe Mooney to Councillor Law at the Annual Council meeting on the 10 May 2012 and it was therefore felt appropriate that the position on this outside body should be aligned to this change.

5. Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel

- 5.1 The Panel will comprise 18 elected members (one from each Authority) and 2 co-optees. Appointments of elected Members to the Panel will be made in accordance with each Authorities own procedures with a view ensuring that the 'balanced appointment objective' is met so far as is reasonable practicable.

- 5.2 The balanced appointment objective requires that the Panel should (when taken together):

- (1) Represent all parts of the police area;
- (2) Represent the political make-up of the Authorities;
- (3) Have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.

- 5.3 A Member shall be appointed annually to the Panel to hold office matching the municipal year, subject to the following provisos that he/she:

- (1) Shall cease to be a Member of the Panel if he/she ceases to be a member of:
 - (a) The Authority;
 - (b) The political group in the Authority when the appointment to hold office was made.

- 5.4 The following Members have expressed an interest in being appointed to the panel: Geoff Mayes, Anthony Stansfeld, Adrian Edwards, Paul Bryant, Dominic Boeck, Garth Simpson, Tony Linden and Richard Crumly.

6. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 That the Council appoints representatives to Volunteer Centre West Berkshire, Council of Governors of Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation, Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel as set out in the paragraphs above.

Appendices

Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment – Stage 1

Equality Impact Assessment – Stage One

Name of item being assessed:	Amendments to outside Body Appointments
Version and release date of item (if applicable):	
Owner of item being assessed:	Moira Fraser
Name of assessor:	Moira Fraser
Date of assessment:	25 May 2012

1. What are the main aims of the item?
The report requires elected Members or Council representatives to be appointed to represent the Council on a number of Outside Bodies .

2. Note which groups may be affected by the item, consider how they may be affected and what sources of information have been used to determine this. (Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)

Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this.
All	Members appointed to these outside bodies provide a liaison between them and the wider area of West Berkshire to raise awareness of the issues they face.	

Further comments relating to the item:
All Outside Bodies would themselves be responsible for any equality impact assessment needed for the buildings used to hold any meetings involving the nominee.

3. Result (please tick by double-clicking on relevant box and click on 'checked')
<input type="checkbox"/> High Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Low Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Relevance - This does not need to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment

For items requiring a Stage 2 equality impact assessment, begin the planning of this now, referring to the equality impact assessment guidance and Stage 2 template.

4. Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	
Stage Two not required:	✓

Name: Moira Fraser

Date: 25 May 2012