

Individual Decision



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

Friday 11 May 2018

Ref:	Title	Portfolio Member	Page No.
ID3432	Outside Bodies - Amendments	Councillor Graham Jones	3 - 8



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Individual Executive Member Decision

Outside Bodies - Amendments

Committee considering report:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date ID to be signed:	11 May 2018
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Graham Jones
Forward Plan Ref:	ID3432

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To consider West Berkshire Council nominations to the following outside bodies:

- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel
- Local Government Association General Assembly
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors
- South East Employers (SEE)

2. Recommendation

2.1 To agree the appointment of representatives on the following outside bodies:

- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel
- Local Government Association General Assembly
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors
- South East Employers (SEE)

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** West Berkshire Council Members are not paid to attend Outside Body meetings but any costs associated with meeting attendance will be met from within existing Members Allowances budget, where the Outside Body does not pay these costs.
- 3.2 **Policy:** Appointments will be made in accordance with Part 13 Appendix J (Protocol for Council Representation on Outside Bodies) of the Council's Constitution.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** None.
- 3.4 **Legal:** None.
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** None.

3.6 **Property:** None.

3.7 **Other:** None.

4. Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: Councillor Graham Jones

**Overview & Scrutiny
Management** Councillor Emma Webster

Commission Chairman:

**Opposition
Spokesperson:** Councillor Lee Dillon

Officers Consulted: Gabrielle Mancini
Clare Gray - TVP
Fayth Rowe - RBFRS

Trade Union: Not consulted

5. Other options considered

5.1 Not to appoint representatives.

6. Introduction/Background

- 6.1 The Council is required to appoint representatives to a range of Outside Bodies. The majority of these appointments were made via an Individual Decision in June 2015 and the appointments were aligned to the Council's electoral cycle.
- 6.2 Nominations to the four Outside Bodies, Royal Berkshire Health Authority, Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel, Local Government Association General Assembly and SEEMP are required annually. Two further Outside Bodies, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors, request nominations on a three year cycle, due May 2018.
- 6.3 Appointments will be made in accordance with Appendix J to Part 13 of the Constitution (Protocol for Council Representatives on Outside Bodies).

7. Royal Berkshire Fire Authority

- 7.1 Members are responsible for setting the Fire and Rescue Service operating budget and determining how the service is run. Meetings of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority take place in the evenings, on a quarterly basis, at the authority's Headquarters in Calcot, Reading. It should be noted that a Member appointed to this Fire Authority is expected to attend all Fire Authority meetings and to serve on at least one committee or working party.
- 7.2 Appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority are made on a proportionality basis based on the electoral roll. Following a decision made at the 25 April 2016 Fire Authority meeting it was been agreed that 20 members would be appointed from 2017/18, a reduction of five members, in total. The Fire Authority comprises local councillors appointed by the six unitary authorities in the county: Bracknell Forest Borough Council (3 seats); Reading Borough Council (3 seats); Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (3 seats); Slough Borough Council (3 seats); West Berkshire Council (4 seats) and Wokingham District Council (4 seats).
- 7.3 At the Executive meeting in May 2007 it was agreed that West Berkshire Council appointments will be made based on the Council's proportionality rules.
- 7.4 The representatives for the 2017/18 period were Councillors Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards, Carol Jackson-Doerge and Emma Webster.
- 7.5 The following Members have expressed an interest in being nominated to this Outside Body for 2018/19: Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards, Carol Jackson-Doerge and Emma Webster.

8. Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel

- 8.1 The Panel comprises 18 elected members (one from each Authority) and 2 co-optees. Appointments of elected Members to the Panel are made in accordance with each Authority's own procedures, with a view to ensuring that the 'balanced appointment objective' is met, so far as is reasonable practicable.
- 8.2 The balanced appointment objective requires that the Panel should (when taken together):

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

8.3 A Member shall be appointed annually to the Panel to hold office matching the Municipal Year, subject to the following provisos that he/she:

Shall cease to be a Member of the Panel if he/she ceases to be a member of:

- The Authority;
- The political group in the Authority when the appointment to hold office was made.

8.4 The Council's current representative on the organisation is Councillor Emma Webster.

8.5 The following Member has expressed an interest in being appointed to the panel for 2018/19: Councillor Emma Webster.

9. Local Government Association General Assembly

9.1 The Local Government Association is a politically-led, cross-party organisation that works on behalf of councils to ensure that local government has a voice with national government. It aims to influence and set the political agenda on issues relevant to councils in order to deliver local solutions.

9.2 The General Assembly acts as the 'parliament' of local government, with all authorities in LGA membership entitled to have a minimum of one representative. It meets each summer at the LGA's Annual Conference. Membership is reviewed annually.

9.3 Four places are available to West Berkshire Council, although only two nominations have been made recently. In June 2015, Councillor Gordon Lundie, then Leader of the Council, and Councillor Roger Croft, then Deputy Leader of the Council, were nominated to the Assembly.

9.4 In November 2016, Councillor Graham Jones replaced Councillor Gordon Lundie; representatives were Councillor Roger Croft as Leader of Council and Councillor Graham Jones as Deputy Leader.

9.5 Following the death of Councillor Roger Croft in March 2017, Councillor Graham Jones became Leader and Councillor Hilary Cole, Deputy Leader and both were nominated as representatives for 2017/18.

9.6 The following Members have expressed an interest in being nominated to this Outside Body for 2018/19: Councillor Graham Jones and Councillor Hilary Cole.

10. Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

10.1 The Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust provides mental health and community health services as part of the NHS provision in Berkshire. It was originally set up in 2001 and gained foundation status in May 2007. The principal

purpose of the Trust is the provision of goods and services for the purposes of the health service in England.

- 10.2 West Berkshire Council has one Governor representative on the Trust with legal responsibilities and voting rights. The period of representation is three years, to May 2021, but may be revisited following the 2019 Local Government election.
- 10.3 The Council's current representative is Councillor Adrian Edwards.
- 10.4 The following Member has expressed an interest in being appointed to the Trust for 2018/19: Councillor Adrian Edwards.

11. Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors

- 11.1 The Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors advises on the strategic direction of the Trust and holds the Board of Directors to account. The Council of Governors is elected, in the main, by the members of the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust.
- 11.2 The Council of Governors represents the needs and ideas of the community. Its duties include the appointment of the non-executive directors of the Trust Board, including the Chairman. Governors attend meetings of the Council and can influence the way the Trust delivers services by contributing views on behalf of the members who elect them.
- 11.3 West Berkshire Council has one Partner Governor representative on the Trust with legal responsibilities and voting rights. The period of representation is three years, to May 2021, but may be revisited following the 2019 Local Government election.
- 11.4 The Council's current representative is Councillor Gordon Lundie.
- 11.5 The following Member has expressed an interest in being appointed to the Trust for 2018/19: Councillor Gordon Lundie.

12. South East Employers (SEE)

- 12.1 SEE represents the interests of local authorities and public sector bodies in the South East; one of nine similar organisations in England.
- 12.2 It is an independent, not-for-profit organisation which is member-led. The aim of the organisation is to add value to councils and communities through local knowledge and professional expertise providing a forum for networks and partnerships, collating management information and data to share learning, build on best practice and provide benchmarking information.
- 12.3 SEE is a provider of consultancy, training and development in areas of organisational change, leadership, compliance with employment law, governance and local democracy.
- 12.4 The role of the representative is to act as a link between South East Employers and the Council.

- 12.5 The Council is entitled to appoint two representatives to South East Employers and two deputies who can attend full meetings of South East Employers on behalf of the representative.
- 12.6 The Council's current representatives are Councillor Hilary Cole and Councillor Keith Chopping, and Councillor James Cole and Councillor Graham Bridgman are substitutes.
- 12.7 The following Members have expressed an interest in being appointed to South East Employers for 2018/19: Councillor Hilary Cole and Councillor Rick Jones as representatives and Councillor Ian Morrin and Councillor Jason Collis as substitutes.

13. Proposals

- 13.1 That the Council appoints representatives to the organisations as set out in the paragraphs above.

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

Strategic Aims and Priorities Supported:

The proposals will help achieve the following Council Strategy aim:

MEC – Become an even more effective Council

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the following Council Strategy priorities:

HQL1 – Support communities to do more to help themselves

MEC1 – Become an even more effective Council

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14. Appendices

None.