

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Representation on Outside Bodies
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	29 May 2014
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2841

Purpose of Report: To consider West Berkshire Council nominations to the following outside bodies:

- Hungerford Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee (sub);
- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service;
- Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors;
- Standing Conference on Archives (sub);
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel;
- Thatcham Volunteer Bureau;
- Tourism South East (sub);
- Thatcham Vision (sub);
- City Deal (sub)

Recommended Action: To agree the Council's representatives on the following outside bodies:

- Hungerford Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee (sub);
- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service;
- Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors;
- Standing Conference on Archives (sub);
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel;
- Thatcham Volunteer Bureau;
- Tourism South East (sub);
- Thatcham Vision (sub);
- City Deal (sub)

Reason for decision to be taken: To ensure that the Council is represented on the outside organisations.

Other options considered: None

Key background documentation: None

Portfolio Member Details	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Gordon Lundie
E-mail Address:	glundie@westberks.gov.uk

Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Moira Fraser
Job Title:	Democratic and Electoral Services Manager
Tel. No.:	01635 519045
E-mail Address:	mfraser@westberks.gov.uk

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 Members Allowances budget.
- Personnel:** None except for the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel where Buckinghamshire County Council acts 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') introduced revised structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision making, neighbourhood policing and police accountability.
- 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).

Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes	Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:			
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Outcome (Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality)			
Relevant to equality - Complete an EIA available at www.westberks.gov.uk/eia	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Not relevant to equality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: Gordon Lundie

Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman: Brian Bedwell

Ward Members: N/a

Opposition Spokesperson: Jeff Brooks

Local Stakeholders: None

Officers Consulted: Andy Day, Gillian Durrant, Robin Steel

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 (Thatcham Volunteer Bureau and Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors) are no longer able to act as the Council's representatives on the organisations.
- 1.2 The Council is also required to make annual appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel.
- 1.3 In addition there are also a number of organisations where there are vacancies for substitutes namely Hungerford Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee, Standing Conference on Archives, Tourism South East, Thatcham Vision and City Deal.
- 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. Thatcham Volunteer Bureau

- 2.1 The organisation provides transport for Thatcham and surrounding community residents for hospital/doctor appointments etc. Meetings take place quarterly. The Council's current trustee on the body Geoff Findlay has informed the Council that, due to ill health, he is no longer able to represent West Berkshire Council on the body.

3. Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Council of Governors

- 3.1 The organisation advises on the strategic direction of the trust and is responsible for holding the Board of Directors to account. The Council's current trustee on the body Alan Law has informed the Council that, due to workload, he is no longer able to represent West Berkshire Council on the body.
- 3.2 Councillor Gordon Lundie has expressed an interest in replacing Councillor Law.

4. Royal Berkshire Fire Authority

- 4.1 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 various venues in the County. Members should note 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.
- 4.2 Appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority are made on a proportionality basis based on the electoral roll. There were 25 members appointed in 2013/14. The Fire Authority comprises local councillors appointed by the six unitary authorities in the county: Bracknell Forest Borough Council (3 seats); Reading Borough Council (5 seats); Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (4 seats);

Slough Borough Council (4 seats); West Berkshire Council (4 seats) and Wokingham District Council (5 seats).

- 4.3 At the Executive meeting held on 17 May 2007, it was agreed that the decision regarding Member representation on this outside body would be delegated to the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition. The appointments will be made based on the Council's proportionality rules.
- 4.4 The representatives for the 2013/14 period were Councillors Jeff Brooks, Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards and Emma Webster.
- 4.5 The following Members have expressed an interest in being nominated to this Outside Body: Councillors Jeff Brooks, Paul Bryant, Adrian Edwards and Emma Webster.

5. Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel

- 5.1 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 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 Council's current representative on the organisation is Councillor Quentin Webb.
- 5.5 The following Members have expressed an interest in being appointed to the panel: Councillor Quentin Webb.

6. Varies Appointments for Role of Substitute

- 6.1 There are a number of vacancies for the role of substitutes on the organisations set out in the table below:

Organisation	Description	Representative	Nominees for role of subs
Hungerford Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee	Acts as an advisory board for the leisure centre service. Oversee service standards, considers annual price increases, customer complaints/comments etc	Paul Hewer	TBC
Standing Conference on Archives	Consultative forum for matters relating to the services provided by Berkshire Record Office. Membership comprises representation of the six unitary authorities in Berkshire and of other bodies with a special interest or expertise in the subject.	Hilary Cole	TBC
Tourism South East	Helping tourism business to become more successful. To sustain and improve tourism industry performance by working in partnership to maximise the economic and social benefits from tourism in the region whilst safeguarding valuable assets. To serve as non-executive director. Officers welcome to attend.	Tony Linden	TBC
Thatcham Vision	To identify needs, opportunity and actions for the benefit of Thatcham (Parish Planning Initiative)	Dominic Boeck	TBC
City Deal – Joint Committee	To raise the skills of young people (16-24 year olds) who are in work but are without accredited training.	Alan Law	TBC

7. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes

7.1 There are no equalities issues associated with this report.

8. Conclusion

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

Appendices

Appendix A – Current Appointments to Outside Bodies