

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Outside Body Appointments - North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Council of Partners Board and North Wessex Downs LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) Board
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	14 January 2016
Forward Plan Ref:	ID3067

Purpose of Report:

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

- North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Council of Partners Board
- North Wessex Downs LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) Board

Recommended Action:

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

- North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Council of Partners Board
- North Wessex Downs LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) Board

Reason for decision to be taken:

To ensure that the Council is represented on the outside organisations

Other options considered:

Not to appoint representatives

Key background documentation:

None

Portfolio Member Details	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Roger Croft
E-mail Address:	rcroft@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:	West Berkshire Council 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 where the Outside Body does not pay these costs.
Personnel:	None
Legal/Procurement:	None
Property:	None
Risk Management:	None

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 http://intranet/EqIA		<input type="checkbox"/>
Not relevant to equality		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: NA

Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman: NA

Ward Members: NA

Opposition Spokesperson: NA

Local Stakeholders:

Officers Consulted: Rob Alexander

Trade Union: Not consulted

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

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 via an Individual Decision in June 2015 and the appointments were aligned to the Council's electoral cycle. From time to time the authority is required to revisit these appointments for a variety of reasons.
- 1.2 Appointments will be made in accordance with Appendix J to Part 13 of the Constitution (Protocol for Council Representatives on Outside Bodies).
- 1.3 **North Wessex Downs AONB Council of Partners Board and North Wessex Downs LEADER Local Action Group Board**
- 1.4 The primary purpose of the North Wessex Downs AONB Council of Partners Board is to enhance and protect the natural beauty of North Wessex Downs. The Board produces, prepares and reviews a joint management plan. In addition, it is an advisory partnership body which acts as a catalyst and facilitator in forging consensus and making recommendations to its constituent bodies (including 10 other LAs) and other organisations on policies and the allocation of resources in relation to the protection and enhancement of the AONB.
- 1.5 The North Wessex Downs LEADER Local Action Group Board determines the development strategy, bids for funding and makes decisions on individual grant applications for the LEADER Funding. LEADER is the EU funding provided to improve the rural economy and quality of life for people living and working in the North Wessex Downs Local Action Group area. Grants of up to approximately £50k are available to farmers, foresters, micro and small rural businesses and community enterprises.
- 1.6 Traditionally, the West Berkshire Council Portfolio Holder for Countryside represents the Council on both boards. In July 2015, Councillor Keith Chopping was, therefore, appointed as representative to both boards when he became Portfolio Holder for Countryside. Councillor Anthony Chadley had been appointed as substitute in June 2015.
- 1.7 Following a reorganisation of the Executive, Councillor Chopping wishes to stand down. His replacement as Portfolio Holder for Countryside, Councillor Hilary Cole, wishes to join both Boards.
- 1.8 It is proposed that Councillor Chadley will continue to represent West Berkshire Council on both boards as a substitute.
- 1.9 The Member who has expressed an interest being nominated as Representative Member to this Outside Body is to be confirmed by 14 January 2016.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes

- 2.1 There are no equalities issues associated with this report.

3. Conclusion

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

Appendices

There are no Appendices to this report.