

## Individual Decision

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<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Representation on Outside Bodies – LGA General Assembly, LGA Rural Commission, South East Employers, and the Joint Strategic Planning Committee, and St Bartholomew’s School Foundation</b>		
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	<b>Councillor Graham Jones</b>	<b>on:</b>	<b>4 May 2006</b>
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	<b>ID1047</b>		

**Purpose of Report:** To consider nominations to the outside bodies as listed below.

**Recommended Action:** To agree the Council’s representation on  
(1) LGA General Assembly  
(2) LGA Rural Commission  
(3) South East Employers  
(4) Joint Strategic Planning Committee  
(5) St Bartholomew’s School Foundation

**Reason for decision to be taken:**

- Appointments to the LGA, LGA General Assembly, South East Employers and the Joint Strategic Planning Committee are made on an annual basis.
- The Council appoints six representatives (not all of whom need be Councillors) onto the Foundation. Currently there is one vacancy.

**List of other options considered:**

- None

**Key background documentation:**

- Correspondence from the LGA General Assembly and the LGA Rural Commission

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### Supporting Information

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## **1. LGA General Assembly**

- 1.1 The Annual Meeting of the LGA General Assembly will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2006 and a second meeting will be held on 14 December 2005. The Council has received a circular from the LGA inviting West Berkshire Council to appoint their representatives to serve on the General Assembly for 2006/2007. The registration form should be returned by the 29 May 2006 to ensure that representatives receive their papers for the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly.
- 1.2 West Berkshire Council is entitled to appoint three representatives and the Association encourages Authorities entitled to three or four representatives on the General Assembly to allocate one of those positions to Minority Group Leaders on their Authorities.
- 1.3 The representatives for 2005/2006 were Cllr Graham Jones, Cllr Joe Mooney and Cllr Jeff Brooks with one vote each.
- 1.4 Members are appointed on an annual basis and Cllr Graham Jones, Cllr Joe Mooney and Cllr Denise Gaines have indicated that they would like to represent West Berkshire Council on the General Assembly for 2006/2007.

## **2. LGA Rural Commission**

- 2.1 The Rural Commission provides the forum within the LGA for member authorities with an interest in rural affairs. The LGA Rural Commission and Annual Conference will take place on 12 and 13 September 2006 in Chester.
- 2.2 West Berkshire Council is entitled to appoint two representatives, one of whom must be a Member. The other representative can be a Member or an Officer. Each authority has one vote on the Rural Commission. The first named elected member will be allocated the authority's vote on the Commission and his/her political affiliation will help determine the political balance of the Rural Executive and the Rural Policy Review Group.
- 2.3 The Council's representative for 2005/2006 was Councillor Geoff Findlay.
- 2.4 Members are appointed on an annual basis. Cllrs Geoff Findlay and Royce Longton have indicated that they would like to represent West Berkshire Council on the Rural Commission for 2006/2007.

## **3. South East Employers**

- 3.1 West Berkshire Council is entitled to appoint two representatives to South East Employers. The Council is also entitled to appoint two deputies who can substitute for the appointed representatives at full meetings of South East Employers.
- 3.2 The Annual Meeting of South East Employers is scheduled for 13 July 2006. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and the members of the Management, Executive and Regional Joint Committees will be appointed at this meeting.
- 3.3 Representatives should have a close involvement in the personnel and management function. Ideally the representation would include an Executive Member, Scrutiny Member or a Member who serves on a committee with personnel responsibilities.
- 3.4 The representatives should be in a position to represent the views of the Council.

- 3.5 The representatives should not be employees of another local authority or an employee or official of any of the local government unions.
- 3.6 The representatives for 2005/2006 were Cllr Paul Bryant and Cllr Phil Barnett. No substitutes were appointed.
- 3.7 Cllrs Tony Linden and Phil Barnett have expressed an interest in representing West Berkshire Council on South East Employers for 2006/2007.

#### **4. Joint Strategic Planning Committee**

- 4.1 Appointments to the Joint Strategic Planning Committee are made on an annual basis. Appointments are made to the JSPC to commence in June each year. The need for the Committee is currently being reviewed but as an interim measure it would be prudent to appoint a representative.
- 4.2 Representatives are elected to the JSPC from each of the six Berkshire Unitary Authorities to liaise and co-ordinate work on strategic planning matters.
- 4.3 During the preparation of the Berkshire Structure Plan meetings were held in the early evening on a quarterly basis at venues across the County.
- 4.4 Two Members are required, one voting and one non-voting. For the year 2004/05 Cllrs Royce Longton and Owen Jeffery respectively have filled these two roles.
- 4.5 No appointment was made to this Outside Body for the year 2005/2006.
- 4.6 Cllrs Keith Chopping and Royce Longton have expressed an interest in representing West Berkshire Council on the Joint Strategic Planning Committee for 2006/2007.

#### **5. St Bartholomew's School Foundation**

- 5.1 The purpose of St Bartholomew's School Foundation is to manage the endowment income to the Foundation which is used to enhance the education of students at the school
- 5.2 The representative, although not a required criteria for the role, should be a local person who ideally would have a past or present connection with the school and catchment area.
- 5.3 The representative will have voting rights.
- 5.4 Meetings will be held on average three times a year in the evenings at Digby Croft, 6 Buckingham Road, Newbury, Berks.
- 5.5 Cllr Emma Webster has expressed an interest in representing the Council on the Foundation.

### **Appendices**

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Appendix A - LG Alert 74/06

Appendix B - LG Briefing Note

Appendix C - The Role of a Representative Serving on South East Employers

## **Implications**

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<b>Policy:</b>	The proposals outlined in this report are not in contradiction to any of the Council's existing policies, including those outlined in the Corporate Plan.
<b>Financial:</b>	The payment of travelling and subsistence claims.
<b>Personnel:</b>	None
<b>Legal:</b>	None
<b>Environmental:</b>	None
<b>Equalities:</b>	The proposals outlined in the report promote social inclusion in line with the Council's Equality Policy
<b>Partnering:</b>	None
<b>Property:</b>	None
<b>Risk Management:</b>	None
<b>Community Safety:</b>	None

## **Consultation Responses**

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### **Members:**

<b>Leader of Council:</b>	Cllr Graham Jones
<b>Select Committee Chairmen:</b>	Cllr Graham Jones, Cllr Sally Hannon
<b>Ward Members:</b>	Cllr Phil Barnett and Cllr Trevor Banning (for St Bartholomew's School Foundation)
<b>Opposition Spokesperson:</b>	Cllr Jeff Brooks
<b>Advisory Members:</b>	N/a
<b>Local Stakeholders:</b>	N/a
<b>Officers Consulted:</b>	Andy Day, Vicky Wheatley, Steve Clarke, Tim Slaney
<b>Trade Union:</b>	N/a