
Appointments to Outside Bodies

Committee considering report:	Individual Executive Member Decisions
Date of Decision:	2 October 2026
Executive portfolio holder:	Councillor Jeff Brooks
Date portfolio holder agreed report:	24 August 2026
Responsible director:	Sarah Clarke Executive Director – Resources
Responsible officer:	Stephen Chard Democratic Services Manager

1 Purpose and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report is being brought to the Leader of the Council as several Members have agreed to swap positions on outside bodies.
- 1.2 The Leader of the Council, using their delegated powers, has the authority to appoint representatives to outside bodies - except regulatory bodies, which is reserved to full Council. All appointments are made in accordance with Appendix D to Part 13 of the [Constitution](#) (Protocol for Council Representatives on Outside Bodies).
- 1.3 Therefore, the Leader of the Council is recommended to approve the appointments as laid out in Section 2.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Leader of the Council appoints:
 - (a) Councillor Stuart Gourley to be the Council's representative on the PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) joint committee, replacing the existing representative, Councillor Justin Pemberton.
 - (b) Councillor Martha Vickers to be the Council's representative on the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire, replacing the existing representative, Councillor Denise Gaines.
 - (c) Councillor Tony Vickers to be the Council's representative on the Kennet & Avon Canal Partnership Steering Group, replacing the existing representative, Councillor Louise Sturgess.
 - (d) Councillor Owen Jeffery to be the Council's substitute representative on the Kennet & Avon Canal Partnership Steering Group, replacing the existing substitute representative, Councillor Janine Lewis.

3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Financial	
There are no expected financial implications directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Human resources	
There are no expected HR implications directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Legal	
There are no expected legal implications directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Risk management	
There are no expected risk management implications directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Council Strategy	
The continued appointment of members as representatives of the Council to outside bodies supports the Council Strategy 2023-27 Priority Area: 5. Thriving communities with a strong local voice.	
Other Implications	
There are no other expected implications directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Equalities Impacts: Neutral	
There are no expected equalities impacts directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Data Impacts: Neutral	
There are no expected data impacts directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Environmental Impacts: Neutral	
There are no expected environmental impacts directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Health Impacts: Neutral	
There are no expected health impacts directly arising from the recommended decision.	
Consultation and Engagement:	Mel Booth – Liberal Democrat Group Executive

4 Background

- 4.1 The Council makes appointments to a range of outside bodies and finds value in this continued participation and engagement.
- 4.2 As the Councillors on these outside bodies intend to stand down and be replaced by the above-mentioned Members, outlined in Section 2, if the replacement is not agreed then this could result in a vacancy.
- 4.3 Filling these vacancies and making appointments to outside bodies supports Council Priority Area: 5. 'Thriving communities with a strong local voice', as well as allowing the Council to build strong working relations with local stakeholders and partners.
- 4.4 For these reasons, approving these swaps is strongly encouraged.

5 Proposals and Options Considered

Option	Comments
To approve all of the swaps on the outside bodies. This is the recommended option.	These swaps have been agreed by all the Members involved and the continued representation on these outside bodies is seen as beneficial to the Council.
To approve a select number of swaps on the outside bodies. This is not recommended.	As we received a number of requests for swaps, there is an option to only approve a limited number of them. However, if this is done, then those outside bodies to whom a swap was not approved, may result in a vacancy. This would harm the ability for the Council to engage proactively with local groups and organisations.
To not approve any swaps on outside bodies. This is not recommended.	Having representatives on outside bodies is very positive for the Council and would help to fulfil Council Priority 5. Therefore, not approving any swaps could results in all of these groups experiencing vacancies and the Council losing its ability to proactively engage with local groups and organisations.

6 Appendices

- 6.1 None.

Background Information

None.

Subject to Call-In

Yes ☒ No ☐

Call-in Deadline: 12 October 2026 (At 5pm five clear working days after the date of decision)

Governance Pathway

Committee/Body	Date
Individual Executive Member Decisions	2 October 2026