

Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Cabinet Feedback: Overview and Scrutiny Review of Representatives on Outside Bodies and Internal Drainage Boards

Meeting/Date: Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) – 1st March 2023

Executive Portfolio: Councillor S Conboy, Executive Leader and Executive Councillor for Place

Report by: Cabinet

Ward(s) affected: All

Executive Summary:

To provide feedback to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) on the outcome of Cabinet's deliberations on the Panel's Task and Finish Study on the Review of Representatives on Outside Bodies and Internal Drainage Boards.

Recommendation:

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) is

RECOMMENDED

to note the contents of this report.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Cabinet considered the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Study on the Review of Representatives on Outside Bodies and Internal Drainage Boards at its meeting on 7th February 2023. This report provides feedback on the Cabinet's deliberations.

2. THE CABINET'S DELIBERATIONS

- 2.1 The Managing Director presented the report, reminding the Cabinet of the background to the study which reviewed representatives appointed to outside bodies, in particular the Internal Drainage Boards. The recommendations proposed sought to provide clarity and consistency in the current process.
- 2.2 The Cabinet welcomed the report and its findings, in particular, the implementation of a reporting process that would enable appointed representatives to feedback on the organisations/bodies to which they were appointed to.
- 2.3 The Cabinet placed on record their thanks to the Task and Finish Group and Officers for their work. The recommendations proposed would strengthen and provide more robustness in the current appointments process.
- 2.4 The Cabinet agreed the following recommendations:
- (a) to implement a proper reporting process;
 - (b) to identify the relevant Officers to take ownership of the relationship between the Council, Councillor and Organisation or Board;
 - (c) to establish regular communication between Officers and nominated Councillors to ensure consistency and clarity;
 - (d) to develop a job description to establish clarity and consistency for appointed Councillors;
 - (e) to set clear expectations for Members and ensure they are able to fulfil the duties of the role when appointed;
 - (f) to review the list of organisations and boards appointed to; and
 - (g) to ensure that appointments are non-political and are made taking Ward and specialist expertise into account.

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 3.1 There is a constitutional requirement for the relevant Executive Councillor to provide a written response to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel's recommendations.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Study on Review of Representatives on Outside Bodies and Internal Drainage Boards - Cabinet, 7th February 2023.](#)

CONTACT OFFICER

Name/Job Title: Habbiba Peacey, Democratic Services Officer
Tel No: 01480 388007
Email: Habbiba.Peacey@huntingdonshire.gov.uk