

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Representation on Organisations
Meeting/Date: Cabinet – 21 July 2016
Executive Portfolio: Executive Leader
Report by: Democratic Services Officer
Ward(s) affected: All

Executive Summary:

The Council's representation on a variety of organisations and partnerships is reviewed annually. Listed in the attached schedule, Appendix 1, are those organisations/partnerships to which the Council appoints representatives for 2016/17. The first part refers to partnerships and the second part to general external bodies/groups. These appointments are important to ensure the Council is efficient and effective on how it spends time, resources and influences outcomes.

Recommendation(s):

That the Cabinet:

- i. make nominations, if deemed necessary, to the organisations and partnerships referred to in Appendix 1;
- ii. agree to not appoint representatives to those organisations/partnerships as indicated in Appendix 1;
- iii. that appointed Members be required to report on a quarterly basis, in writing, to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and
- iv. in the event that changes or new appointments are required to the District Council's representation during the course of the year, the Corporate Team Manager be delegated, after consultation with the Deputy Executive Leader, to nominate and authorise alternative representatives as necessary.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 For the Cabinet to make appointments to the organisations/partnerships referred to in Appendix 1.

2. WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's representation on a variety of organisations and partnerships is reviewed annually.
- 2.2 Listed in Appendix 1 are those organisations and partnerships that the Council appointed representatives to for 2015/16 and those that require appointment to for 2016/17.
- 2.3 For the sake of transparency the list includes those appointments that are the responsibility of the Licensing and Protection Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Communities and Customers).
- 2.4 A review of the organisations and partnerships has been undertaken and those that the Cabinet are requested to no longer appoint to are indicated as 'Do Not Appoint' on the attached schedule, Appendix 1. However, this does not preclude the Cabinet from also deciding to not appoint to other organisations and partnerships.
- 2.5 The number of meetings held each year by these organisations and partnerships varies and in accepting these appointments Members are required to endeavour to attend each meeting, in order to fully represent the Council.
- 2.6 To improve the monitoring of how these organisations and partnerships contribute to the Council and its Corporate Objectives it is proposed that the appointed Members be required to report on a quarterly basis, in writing, to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel. This will enable Members to provide an update about the respective organisation/partnership.
- 2.7 A number of Internal Drainage Boards were supported in 2015/2016 by Officers from the Projects and Assets Team. As part of the Zero Based Budget process, consultation is being undertaken that the Projects and Assets Team be discontinued. The Cabinet are therefore requested to be mindful when making appointments that as a result there may not be the Officer support in the future.
- 2.8 Previously the Cabinet have appointed Officers and former Councillors to organisations/partnerships. It is considered appropriate that when the Cabinet are considering appointments to organisations and partnerships for 2016/17 that these should only be serving District Councillors.
- 2.9 In the event that changes or new appointments are required to the District Council's representation during the course of the year, it is proposed that delegation be given to the Corporate Team Manager, after consultation with the Deputy Executive Leader, to nominate and authorise alternative representatives as necessary.

3. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Appointing to the various organisations and partnerships will contribute to the following elements of the Corporate Plan:

- Enabling sustainable growth – to develop sustainable growth opportunities in and around our market towns; and
- Working with our Communities – to create safer, stronger and more resilient communities; improve health and well-being; and to empower local communities.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 To ensure that the Council's representation remained appropriate and added value, each of the organisations and partnerships that the Council appointed to in 2015/2016 were contacted and invited to complete a review form.
- 4.2 Last year the Council appointed to 55 organisations and partnerships. 50 of those organisations and partnerships were appointed to by the Cabinet, 4 by the Licensing and Protection Committee and the remaining appointment made by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Communities and Environment).
- 4.3 Of the 55 organisations and partnerships, responses were received regarding 30 of those. Those organisations and partnerships that did not respond to the consultation are highlighted yellow in Appendix 1. The consultation responses are attached as Appendix 2.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Members appointed to represent the Council on any organisations/partnerships are entitled to claim travel and subsistence allowance, which is attributed to the Members Allowances and Support budget.

6. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 6.1 To undertake the annual review of the Council's representation on a variety of organisations and partnerships. To ensure the Council is efficient and effective on how it spends time, resources and influences outcomes.

7. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - Representatives on Organisations 2016/17.
- 7.2 Appendix 2 – Responses to Review.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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