

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Representation on Organisations
Meeting/Date: Cabinet – 22 June 2017
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 it is proposed that the Council appoints representatives for 2017/18. 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. confirm proposed nominations to the organisations and partnerships referred to in Appendix 1;
- ii. requires appointed Members to report on an annual basis, in writing, to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and
- iii. 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 2016/17 and those that require appointment to for 2017/18.
- 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 Environment).
- 2.4 A review of the organisations and partnerships has been undertaken with Senior Officers and amendments made to the schedule of proposed appointments accordingly. 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, the Cabinet agreed last year that appointed Members should be required to report on a quarterly basis, in writing, to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel. In practice this has proved difficult and the response from appointed Members to requests for information has been poor. On this basis, the Overview and Scrutiny Panels have agreed that monitoring reports should be submitted on an annual basis, on the understanding that Members could provide updates should any significant issues occur.
- 2.7 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 2017/18 that these should only be serving District Councillors.
- 2.8 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, the Council's Management Team were invited to comment on the list of proposed appointments for 2017/18. As a full review and comprehensive consultation had been undertaken with all external organisations in May 2016, it was considered that a full review was not required on this occasion.

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 2017/18.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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