

## Outside Body Appointments 2015/16

### Report by the Director for Communities

#### 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report asks the Leader to consider nominations for appointments to the Council's Outside Bodies within the remit of the Executive.

#### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Each year, the Council appoints Members to represent the authority at meetings of various local organisations, such as community groups, referred to as 'Outside Bodies'. These appointments strengthen the links and aid communication between the Council and the community and contribute to the role of local Councillors.
- 2.2 The Leader of the Council has delegated powers to consider the nominations received from Members and determine the appointments under the Local Choice Functions as outlined in the Constitution. Some appointments are directly linked to executive decision making under particular portfolios. These are listed against each Outside Body and are also noted in the Responsibility for Functions in the Constitution.
- 2.3 Each of the Council's current Outside Body organisations were consulted regarding their appointment(s) in April 2015 and the details updated accordingly. All Councillors are being invited to nominate themselves via their group Leaders for the Outside Bodies they were interested in being appointed to; individual councillors can also submit their name to the Leader directly. Details of the process were outlined in the Members Bulletin with Group Leaders having information sent to them direct including Annex A.
- 2.4 Details of the Council's Outside Bodies and current appointments are set out in Annex A.
- 2.5 There is an ongoing review of the Council's representation on Outside Bodies linked to Wave Catcher 2 'Cultivating Enterprising Communities'; brief details are given at 3.7.
- 2.6 Members are reminded that in the Constitution, Article 2 and also Council Procedure Rule 21, they are encouraged to report back to Council on meetings of outside bodies that they attend. This report can be placed in the Members Room,

on request a summary can be placed in the next edition of the Members Bulletin or if the matter is of such significance ask the Proper Officer to place an item on the agenda for an appropriate meeting. Members can also make a posting on Google Communities.

### **3.0 Outside Bodies - Appointment Details**

3.1 Each Outside Body has specific requirements regarding their appointment(s) such as any special skills or interests required. These are set out in full in Annex A. The Leader is asked to consider each of these requirements when determining the recommended appointment(s). Further details to be taken into consideration are highlighted below:

#### **3.2 Executive representation**

Some Outside Bodies directly link to an Executive Member Portfolio where this is the case, this is indicated on the page in Annex A and also pre-filled on Annex B.

#### **3.3 Outside Bodies No.18 – Quality Bus Partnership**

The response from the Organisation has been placed with Annex A. This is the third year that this organisation has not met.

#### **3.4 Outside Body No. 21 - South Downs National Park Authority**

This is a joint Outside Body appointment with Adur District Council. The appointment was made for four years from May 2014 by the Joint Strategic Committee. The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) has advised this Council that since Adur and Worthing Councils' joint representative, Councillor Yallop had 'technically resigned as a councillor due to his council term of office coming to an end' it (the SDNPA) will require a positive affirmation of the appointed representative after the election.

The Leader is requested to note this advice from SDNPA and take this into account with the outcome of the election on 7 May.

#### **3.5 West Sussex Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee**

As this appointment to this Committee must be a member of Overview and Scrutiny; this is now appointed at Council as part of the Committee appointments process. It will be removed from the outside bodies book after Annual Council (formally No. 29).

#### **3.6 South East Employers**

This organisation gives support and advice to Employers; staffing matters fall within the remit of non-executive matters most being delegated by Council to the Head of Paid Service with some reserved for various Joint Staff Committees; the Leader could make this appointment for the Chairman of the Joint Governance Committee with the Substitute member being the Chairman of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### 3.7 **Future direction**

Member representation on Outside Bodies offers a significant and valuable opportunity to support, engage in, and add value to the work of a diverse range of groups and organisations that support our communities and the Council in achieving commonly shared goals and ambitions. In order to enhance the value of Member representation on Outside Bodies, there is an ongoing a review of support for Members on Outside Bodies within Wave Catcher 2 that will seek to provide:

- Officer support for Members: identifying a contact officer for Members for each Outside Body;
- Advice and guidance to Members pertinent to their role on the Outside Body;
- A means by which information on Member representation on Outside Bodies is communicated back to the Council;
- A review of any gaps in Member representation on Outside Bodies i.e. are there any groups where Member representation would be desirable, but isn't currently in place;
- A means for Outside Bodies to comment on the role of Members on their body to ensure the role brings value to both the Outside Body and the Council.

3.8 The Leader may like to consider that in future years, appointments to outside representation are considered for longer than an annual appointment, for example 2 or 4 years. Benefits to this approach could be the opportunity for the building of longer term understanding of the needs of the organisation and how the council can support this; it also provides for continuity to both parties.

### 4.0 **Legal**

4.1 Involvement in Outside Bodies is part of the key role and duties of a District Councillor, as set out in Article 2 of the Constitution.

4.2 The terms of reference of the Leader of the Council, as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution, include the consideration of appointments to Outside Bodies under local choice functions.

### 5.0 **Financial implications**

5.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report although the member appointed may be entitled to claim some allowances under the 'Members Allowances Scheme'

### 6.0 **Conclusion**

6.1 The Leader is asked to consider the appointment details for each Outside Body, as set out above and in the Annexes, and nominations received from Group Leaders and individual councillors.

6.2 The Leader is invited to complete the information at Annex B as a Leader Decision.

## **7.0 Recommendation**

- 7.1 That the Leader receives nominations from Councillors for appointment to Outside Bodies, consulting with Group Leaders and Officers on any matters of clarification
- 7.2 The Leader notes the ongoing review of representation on Outside Bodies during 2015/16 as detailed in paragraph 3.8
- 7.3 that, having received representations from Councillors, the Leader determines his nominations to the Outside Bodies by completing Annex B into account matters raised in paragraph 3 of the report.

## **Local Government Act 1972**

### **Background Papers:**

Worthing Borough Council Constitution  
Various Returns of information from Outside Bodies

### **Contact Officer:**

Julia Smith  
Democratic Services Manager  
01903 221150 [Julia.smith@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.smith@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

## **Schedule of other matters**

### **1.0 Council Priority**

1.1 This report relates to Wave Catcher 2.

### **2.0 Specific Action Plans**

2.1 This report does not relate to any specific Action Plans.

### **3.0 Sustainability Issues**

3.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **4.0 Equality Issues**

4.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **5.0 Community Safety issues (Section 17)**

5.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **6.0 Human Rights Issues**

6.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **7.0 Reputation**

7.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **8.0 Consultations**

8.1 Consultation has been undertaken with each Outside Body organisation and with each Member of the Council, as set out in the report.

### **9.0 Risk assessment**

9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **10.0 Health & Safety Issues**

10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **11.0 Procurement Strategy**

11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **12.0 Partnership working**

12.1 The report relates to working in partnership with various local organisations.