

# Review of representation on outside bodies

<b>Report number:</b>	<b>AGM/WS/23/002</b>	
<b>Report to and date:</b>	<b>Annual Council</b>	23 May 2023
<b>Cabinet member:</b>	Leader of the Council <i>(Appointment of the Leader of the Council to be confirmed at Annual Council on 23 May 2023)</i>	
<b>Lead officer:</b>	Teresa Halliday Monitoring Officer Tel: 01284 757144 Email: <a href="mailto:teresa.halliday@westsuffolk.gov.uk">teresa.halliday@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a>	

**Decisions Plan:** This report refers to non-executive matters and therefore is not required to be included on the Decisions Plan

**Wards impacted:** None

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that:

- 1. The Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to appoint the Council's representatives on outside bodies, in accordance with the nominations put forward by Group Leaders.**
- 2. Where no representative is nominated, the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to seek nominations from other bodies and individuals to be approved by Council in due course.**
- 3. The Council notes that where the outside organisation is discharging executive**

**functions, or the Council is an observer on an organisation, these appointments will be undertaken by Cabinet.**

- 4. The Council notes that it is intended to continue to review representation on outside bodies to ensure that it remains beneficial for the organisation and for the Council.**
- 5. The Council notes that appointments to the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee will be made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

## **1. Context to this report**

- 1.1 One of the functions exercised by the Council, or to arrange the delegation of, is to receive nominations of Councillors to serve on any outside body for which a new appointment or re-appointment is required.

Council shall also appoint to those outside bodies, except where appointment to those bodies has been delegated by the Council or is exercisable only by the Cabinet.

- 1.2 Acting as a representative on an outside body can cover a wide range of functions – in some cases, the representative will sit as part of a Board; they will be a trustee, a Director of the company, or will act as a shareholder to make decisions on behalf of the Council.

## **2. Proposals within this report**

- 2.1 Attached as Appendix A to this report, is the current list of outside bodies, which sets out the detail of the organisation, the meeting information (where known) and the required representation.

- 2.2 An ongoing review of the list is undertaken to ensure the outside bodies have the correct representation to best suit their requirements. In the circumstances, it may be subject to change.

- 2.3 It is recommended that councillors wishing to serve on an outside body first speak with one of the supervising officers in order to ascertain the level of involvement required before seeking to be nominated.

- 2.4 It is proposed:

- a. that the Monitoring Officer works with the Group Leaders to agree nominations and appoint to the relevant bodies subject to those specific appointments as set out in the 3<sup>rd</sup> column of the list at Appendix A.
- b. Should no nomination be secured, then the Monitoring Officer will undertake an appropriate process to seek nominations from the local community, for example through relevant Parish or Town Councils or previous representatives, for Council to subsequently agree.
- c. It is also proposed that representation on outside bodies continues to be reviewed to ensure it is helpful and effective to have representatives from the Council, for example, in the case

of very local organisations, the Parish or Town Council may wish to increase the level of representation they hold on that organisation.

- d. There are some organisations, such as Anglia Revenues Partnership, which are performing functions of the Council and the Council needs to appoint a representative to their Board. As these are deemed executive functions, it will be for Cabinet to make the nomination to the Board. Similarly, acting as an observer on a committee is also an executive function and Cabinet will make such appointments.
- e. Representation on the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee requires its representation to be drawn from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the district/borough councils in the county. This appointment will therefore be considered and made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its first meeting.

### **3. Alternative options that have been considered**

- 3.1 Council is recommended to consider and agree the principles outlined in 2.4 above.
- 3.2 Alternatively, Council may vote on each individual appointment at its next Ordinary Meeting which can delay the process of making such appointments.

### **4. Consultation and engagement undertaken**

- 4.1 Not applicable.

### **5. Risks associated with the proposals**

- 5.1 None.

### **6. Implications arising from the proposals**

- 6.1 These proposals ensure that the Council appoints representatives which supports the development of effective working relationships with outside organisations and that they can meet in accordance with their constitutional requirements.

**7. Appendices referenced in this report**

- 7.1 Appendix A - current list of outside bodies

**8. Background documents associated with this report**

- 8.1 None.