

<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>	
MEETING:	<b>Council</b>
MEETING DATE:	<b>14<sup>TH</sup> September 2017</b>
TITLE:	<b>Outside Bodies review</b>
WARD:	All
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>	
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b> Appendix 1 – Current outside body representation Appendix 2 – Policy – Representation on Outside Bodies	

## **1 THE ISSUE**

1.1 This report invites the Council to consider its arrangements for councillor representation on outside bodies.

1.2 The current list of appointments can be seen here;

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgListOutsideBodies.aspx?bcr=1>

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 To note the list of current representatives and advise the Democratic Services Manager of any necessary amendments;

2.2 To adopt a half yearly report back process as described in paragraph 5.5 of this report, and paragraph 53 of the attached policy;

2.3 To agree the Outside Body Policy as attached at Appendix 2.

## **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

3.1 The Policy sets out the arrangements concerning payments of expenses. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

## **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 As outlined in the attached Policy. This report is brought to Council to confirm the Council's approach to outside body representation and establish a clearer arrangement for reporting back, if agreed.

## **5 THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The Council has a commitment to partnership working with a range of outside bodies. This term covers organisations such as voluntary bodies, trusts, charities, community associations etc. The list does not cover Council organised bodies. The Council currently has councillors represented on 33 outside bodies.
- 5.2 Earlier in 2017, Democratic Services issued a questionnaire to all organisations on the outside bodies list to check a number of details such as organisational aims, status, fit with Corporate Priorities, representation requested, frequency of meetings, training, term of office etc. Following this exercise, the list has been updated and is attached at Appendix 1; however, it is acknowledged that Councillors may have greater knowledge of local organisations so they are invited to pass back any updated information to the Democratic Services Manager, including details of other bodies they consider should be included.
- 5.3 The list is split into 3 sections; those appointed by agreement by Council (via agreement between Group Leaders), those appointed by the Leader and those appointed directly by the Local Government Association.
- 5.4 At the inception of B&NES Council, a Policy was agreed to cover representation on Outside Bodies. It has been brought up to date to reflect the current picture and is attached at Appendix 2. If agreed, the Policy will be added to Part 6 of the Constitution – Codes of Conduct and Working Protocols.
- 5.5 There are currently no formal arrangements for members to report back to the Council regularly on the work of the Outside body, although it is presumed that informal arrangements may take place into Directorates. Paragraph 54 of the attached policy describes this in more detail and proposes a light touch but regular e-mail to the Democratic Services Manager (half yearly is proposed) of the key issues the member feels are important to note.
- 5.6 This list does not cover the range of organisation and bodies supported by the Strategy & Performance team.

## **6 RATIONALE**

- 6.1 To ensure that member representation is appropriate and contributes to the corporate priorities within the Corporate Strategy.

## **7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 7.1 To continue with existing arrangements.

## **8 CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The Leader of Council, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer were consulted in the preparation of this report.

## 9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 Liability and responsibilities are covered within the attached Policy. By formalising the approach to reporting back, potential risks should be minimised.

<b>Contact person</b>	Jo Morrison, Democratic Services Manager 01225 394358
<b>Background papers</b>	Questionnaire responses
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	