

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE ORGANISATION POLICY AND SCRUTINY PANEL

DATE OF MEETING: 29 JANUARY 2019

**SUBJECT OF REPORT: REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPOINTMENTS
ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

TOWN OR PARISH: ALL

**OFFICER/MEMBER PRESENTING: COUNCILLOR TERRY PORTER,
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE ORGANISATION
POLICY AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

KEY DECISION: N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the panel:

1. receives and considers the findings of the review of appointment arrangements to North Somerset Council Outside Bodies, and;
2. considers and agrees recommendations to the Executive Member portfolio holder accordingly.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report provides the findings and recommendations following a review of the North Somerset Council arrangements for appointments on outside bodies.

2. POLICY

The Corporate Plan sets out the vision for North Somerset as: *a great place to live where people communities and businesses flourish*, and for the organisation to provide: *modern, efficient services and a strong voice for North Somerset*.

The Constitution provides that appointments to external organisations are reserved to Council, save where such appointments have been delegated by the Council, or are exercisable by the Executive. Appointments of three or more are subject to political balance.

3. DETAILS

The Chairman of the Community and Corporate Organisation Policy and Scrutiny Panel was requested by the Leader of North Somerset Council to undertake a review of the current arrangements for the appointments to bodies to which the Council is required to appoint members, bodies where it is desirable for a member to be appointed, and those where the Council has a power of appointment but does not need to be a member.

It was considered that a review of the arrangements for these appointments was a timely undertaking. The remit for this review was restricted to consideration of the merit of each of the appointments, and did not extend to identifying individual appointment representatives.

Appointments made by Council are attached as Appendix 1, whilst the Executive appointments are attached as Appendix 2. Information provided in the recommendations in the appendices is based on the responses provided by those councillors currently holding the relevant appointment position.

The attached schedules of appointments list the name of the organisation, the current North Somerset Council representatives, recommendations posed and a summary of the recommendation to be considered by the Panel (see column 4 on the attached appendices). Recommendations regarding 'no change' are listed in white. Those indicating a proposed change are highlighted in yellow, and those recommended for removal are shown in red.

4. CONSULTATION

A small working party of Councillors consulted with both the organisations and the North Somerset Council representatives regarding each of the appointments in question.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has determined either that travel expenses to the main meeting place will be paid by the Council, with other travel expenses requiring prior authorisation or that expenses aren't paid by the Council, in which circumstances claims are submitted to the Outside Body concerned.

6. LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

The Constitution provides that appointments to external organisations are reserved to Council, save where such appointments have been delegated by the Council, or are exercisable by the Executive. Political Balance applies to appointments of three or more.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

N/A

8. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

9. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

10. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

N/A

AUTHOR

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APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Council appointments on Outside Bodies
- Appendix 2 – Executive appointments on Outside Bodies

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2018/19 Annual Report to Council
<http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/docs/doc28833.pdf>
- Councillor response forms filed with Councillor Porter

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Council Appointments			
Organisation	NSC Representatives	Recommendation from Members	Recommendation
Alliance Homes Board	None	No Councillors now on the Board.	Previous agreement with Alliance to no longer have NS Councillors on their Board. Consideration for the report being given to ASH Scrutiny Panel due to importance of Alliance Homes to NS
Avon Fire Authority	4 PB, Donald Davies, Bob Garner, Martin Williams, Nick Wilton	Differing reports from Councillors as to effectiveness of this body and the role of Councillors.	Legal requirement for Councillors on Fire Authority. Due consideration should be given by Council to the appointment of Councillors on this body.
Birnbeck Regeneration Trust	Robert Cleland, Richard Nightingale	An important historical structure in Weston. It is important to show that NSC supports the eventual restoration of this historical structure.	Councillors to remain on this Trust.
Bristol Airport Consultative Committee	Peter Bryant	Essential to have NSC representation on this body to cover local issues to parishes close to airport.	No Change to Representation
Bristol Port Company Liaison Committee	3 [PB] Donald Davies, David Oyns, David Pasley	Various recommendations from Councillors. All agree membership is important. Various suggestions for way forward,	Change to 2 local Councillors on committee. Consider proposal to change overall format of local representation on the committee.
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Ruth Jacobs	Keeps the council in touch with activity in the rural area. Planning applications discussed	No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.

Clevedon Community Association	Bob Garner	Useful to keep in touch with area. Limited benefit to Council	If local Clevedon Councillor available and prepared to serve on association then maintain, although not essential
Clevedon Pier Trust	Colin Hall / Chris Blades	Pier owned by NSC. Help to promote Pier and shows NSC support for the Pier	No Change to Representation
Clifton Suspension Bridge Trust	Charles Cave	Important for local councillor to have contact and be party to this trust	No Change to Representation
Durnford Quarry Local Liaison Group	Kate Stowey	Valuable for local Councillor to be kept aware of Quarry plans.	No Change to Representation
Local Access Forum	3 [PB] Ann Harley, James Tonkin, Peter Burden	Very useful forum. Statutory body (PROW Act 2000) facilitated by NSC Officers. Access to countryside, Coastal path, cycleways etc. Reports to NSC indirectly by officers administrating forum	No Change to Representation Ensure those nominated are able to attend meetings.
Mead Vale Community Association	David Hitchens	The Community Association has now finished	Remove from List
North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	Bob Garner	Good to show NSC support for Bureau.	No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.
Portishead Youth Centre Management Committee	David Pasley	Important for NSC support for Youth activities. Councillor trustee on committee	No Change to Representation
Richard Durban Trust	Jill Iles, Judith Hadley	Both Councillors agree that there is no need for NSC to be on this Trust. Better for local representative.	Remove from List
Sevenside Sirens Trust	Reyna Knight	NSC contributes to Sirens. Important to retain some financial control. Report to Leader of Council when required	No Change to Representation
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education	3 [PB] Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, Deborah Yamanaka	Legal requirement as Councillors part of Statutory body. All agree NSC contribution is valuable.	Statutory requirement. No Change to Representation

Standing Conference of Severnside Local Authorities	Peter Bryant, Peter Burden	Difference in opinion of Councillors. Membership provides access to network of Officers for Severnside issues. NSC only observers not consulted.	Reduce representation to one Councillor
Strawberry Line Society	Ann Harley	Land owned by NSC. No longer maintained by NSC, now volunteers. Important site, NSC support	No Change to Representation
University of Bath Court	CYPS Executive Member (by designation) Jan Barber	Very large body, often many apologies. Councillor considered that it is worthwhile for NSC to be represented	No Change to Representation
University of Bristol Court	3 [PB) Bob Garner, Lisa Pilgrim, Donald Davies	Difference of opinion with Councillors. Two do not see a need. Perhaps reduced presence.	Reduce representation to one Councillor like the Bath University as a courtesy to keep NSC represented
Uphill Victory Hall	Peter Bryant	Value only for local member to be on the committee to offer help & advice.	No Change to Representation
Wessex Reserve Forces and Cadets Association	Bob Garner, Nick Wilton	Both Councillors consider that NS should not attend this association.	Remove from List
Weston Town Centre Co. Ltd.	Richard Nightingale, Martin Williams	Councillors agree on importance of Membership. Be involved in management of town centre.	No Change to Representation
New Outside Body			
Winter Gardens Community Access Board+G35A28:G34A28:G33A28: G32A28:G31A28:G32A28:G33A28 :G32AA28:F30	Sarah Codling	Important for NS Council to be on the Board to ensure protection of Community Access to the Winter Gardens Pavilion.	One Councillor on Board

Executive Appointments

Organisation	NSC Representatives	Recommendation from Members	Recommendation
Archive and Heritage Advisory Panel	Robert Cleland, John Crockford-Hawley	A useful means by which NSC is able to liaise with other statutory heritage and archive bodies, especially with the South West Heritage Trust (formerly part of SCC) which holds all NSC records and WsM TC which displays the NSC collection in its Burlington Street museum	No Change to Representation. Annual Heritage report given to Council.
Avon Pension Fund Committee	Mary Blatchford	NSC representative on Pension Fund. Important to have a representative on the fund committee	No Change to Representation. Regular reports are given to Council
Axe Brue Drainage Board		Representation already cancelled	Remove from List
Bristol Airport Environmental Fund Committee	Karen Barclay, Deborah Yamanaka, Judith Hadley, Nick Wilton	Differing opinions from representatives. Would seem good to have local Councillors on the committee to consider awards to affected communities near the airport.	Reduce to 2 local ward Councillors.
Bristol Water's Challenge Panel	Robert Cleland	Councillor considers representation is very important.	No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.
Campus Management Committee	Peter Crew, David Hitchins, Sarah Codling	Members consider representation is important as The Campus is an important local amenity. They question the need for three representatives	Reduce to 2 local Councillors, Winterstoke & S Worle Wards

Community Alcohol and Drug Misuse Forum	Roz Willis	Councillor considers representation on this body is not necessary	Remove from List. However, check with Executive Member for Health.
Hans Price Dual Use Committee	James Clayton, Sarah Codling, Dawn Payne	Committee cancelled	Remove from List
Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group	Bob Garner	Feedback to NSC on progress of power stations	No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.
Local Government Association Rural Commission	Executive Member for Waste, Streets and Open Spaces (by designation)	This has been disbanded and replaced by LGA People and Places Board. NSC do not have a representative on this new Board.	Remove from List
Mendip Hills AONB Partnership Committee	Executive Member for Planning, Highways, Transport, Housing and Economic Development (by designation) (Councillor Ann Harley as substitute)	Cllr Ann Harley substitutes on this committee. She considers that it is vital for NSC to be represented. Considers there should be a report to NS Council.	No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.

<p>North Somerset Levels Internal Drainage Board</p>	<p>15 PB - Peter Burden, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, Bob Garner, Jill Iles, Dawn Payne, Marcia Pepperall, Terry Porter, David Shopland, Deborah Yamanaka, Tony Moulin, David Poole, Mary Trump, Clive Webb, Simon Stokes</p>	<p>Concern regarding financial controls on the Board. However, this is to change shortly and the administration will be under the Somerset Consortium. There are possibly too many members on the Board, it is very cumbersome. Consider looking at the process to reduce numbers. There is a statutory requirement for NSC to be represented on the Board and to have a Majority</p>	<p>Retain Councillors on Board. Monitor new system of administration by the Somerset Consortium. Investigate the progress for seeking a reduction of Board members to a more manageable number.</p>
<p>SW Councils Employers Panel</p>	<p>David Pasley</p>	<p>Important to be represented and liaise with other Councils</p>	<p>No Change to Representation.</p>
<p>Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee</p>	<p>Peter Burden, Bob Garner (deputy)</p>	<p>Representation to Environment Agency and keep informed of flood risks etc.</p>	<p>No Change to Representation. Recommend Annual report to Council.</p>
<p>West of England Joint Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>3 PB - Donald Davies, Chris Blades, Charles Cave</p>	<p>Representation by NSC essential. Important to retain effective scrutiny with WECA. Important for JSP and JTP scrutiny</p>	<p>Retain Important for NSC to be represented on Scrutiny panel. Regular report is given to Council.</p>

Possible new Outside Body?		
North Somerset Cycle forum		Councillors have requested that it could be considered for a NS Councillor to be on this body. NSC is already heavily involved in promoting cycleways.
Recommend for one Councillor to be nominated to this body. Local parish councils already represented. Council officer is already in attendance.		

