

# Full Council

16 May 2024

## Appointments to Outside Bodies, Joint Bodies and Panels

### For Decision

**Portfolio Holder:** N/A

**Local Councillor(s):** All

**Executive Director:** J Mair, Director of Legal & Democratic

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**Report Status:** Public

### Brief Summary:

This report seeks the appointment of councillors to outside bodies. Outside bodies are broadly split into three categories which include national and significant bodies, outside (external) bodies, and local member appointments.

### Recommendation:

1. That the appointment of councillors to national and significant bodies in Appendix 1 be approved.
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer, after consultation with Group Leaders, to make appointments and fill vacancies where appropriate.
3. That the appointment of councillors to local member positions in Appendix 3 be approved.
4. To grant a dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 to all members, for the council term, from the provisions of Sections 31(4)(a) and (b) of the Localism Act enabling members to fully participate and vote in any business of the council when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so by virtue of an Other Registerable Interest arising from their nomination or appointment to an outside body.

## **Reason for Recommendation:**

To support good governance through appointment to external bodies with statutory responsibilities or that have a community value to the council.

### **1. Report**

1.1 This report sets out the appointment of members to Outside Bodies.

1.2 Due to the time available for political groups to consider appointments to outside bodies, Group Leaders have only been asked to provide their nominations to serve on the significant and national bodies included in Appendix 1. Where a specific Portfolio Holder does not need to fill a vacancy, appointments to these bodies are in accordance with political proportionality rules.

1.3 Delegation to the Monitoring Officer is sought to enable appointments to be made to outside bodies and to fill vacancies, after consultation with Group Leaders.

1.4 Appointments to Outside Bodies in Appendix 2 would be made by the Monitoring Officer, following consultation with group leaders. Appointments to these bodies do not need to be made in accordance with political proportionality, however some vacancies need to be filled by the relevant Portfolio Holder or Committee Chairman. It is recommended that members appointed to the outside bodies have a general interest in the subject area. Appointments to these outside bodies will be undertaken as a priority after the Annual Council meeting.

1.5 Approval is sought for a range of local member appointments which are detailed in Appendix 3. Local member outside bodies usually have a local ward focus and cover local matters. Where there are more local members than places available, the appointments will be discussed with the relevant local members following the Annual Council meeting.

1.6 All appointments will be held until the next Dorset Council elections. Where vacancies arise during the council term, the vacancies would be appointed to by the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with Group Leaders.

1.7 Under the Member Code of Conduct, members must disclose any Other Registerable Interests. This includes where the business of the authority relates to or is likely to affect: any body of which you are in general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.

1.8 Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 provides that members may not participate in any discussion or vote on any matter where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest. A dispensation granted under Section 33 of the Localism Act would allow members to participate and vote on matters where they have a disclosable interest arising from being nominated or appointed to a body by the authority.

## 2. **Financial Implications**

Travel and subsistence allowances are claimable by members in respect of some of these organisations. Details of allowances are set out in the Members' Allowances Scheme.

In addition to allowances, there may be additional costs for members to attend any specific conferences and training associated with these bodies.

## 3. **Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications**

There are no implications on the natural environment, climate and ecology as a direct result of this report. Members may travel to in-person meetings of outside bodies which may produce emissions depending on the mode of travel.

## 4. **Well-being and Health Implications**

There are no direct wellbeing and health implications as a result of this report. However, some outside bodies, which members would be appointed to, work to improve the wellbeing and health of the local population.

## 5. **Other Implications**

None

## 6. **Risk Assessment**

6.1 **HAVING CONSIDERED:** the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low  
Residual Risk: Low

7. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – National and Significant Bodies

Appendix 2 – Outside Bodies

Appendix 3 – Local Member Appointments

9. **Background Papers**

None

10. **Report Sign Off**

This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director for Corporate Development (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s).