



Policy and Resources Committee – 8 April 2013

Representation on Outside Bodies

Purpose of report: This report asks Councillors to review the current list of representatives on outside bodies to ensure that the council focuses on representation on bodies where such representation actively contributes to the delivery of the council's corporate objectives.

The report also seeks to add an additional councillor to those given authority to agree any mediation settlement in respect of the Nene Centre roof, along with the Chief Executive or the Head of Resources and Organisational Development, in order to provide resilience for any mediation meetings.

Attachment(s):

Appendix A – Table of current representatives on outside bodies and their current relationship to the council

1.0 Background to the appointment of representatives on outside bodies

1.1 The council appoints representatives on a range of outside bodies for a number of reasons. These bodies include:

- National and regional organisations that set strategic policy that affects or aligns with this council's corporate objectives
- Organisations with whom we share delivery of our services
- Bodies where we have contacts for the delivery of community services contracts

1.2 The council's representatives work in a number of ways. The purpose of the role varies but they can have an important role in communication between the organisation and the council, ensuring an up to date and accurate view of how the organisation and council feel about key issues. There is a variety of ways in which this communication takes place, from reports to Council to discussions with other councillors or officers. However, it should be noted that, for some bodies, this two-way communication process is no longer effective, or necessarily needed any more as council priorities have changed.

1.3 Increasingly the representative role on community (as opposed to local government) organisations is one of an observer rather than part of the management of organisation. This is because it is recognised that the focus of the directors of the organisation must be what is best for the organisation, rather than for the council which appointed them as representative.

1.4 The council's representation on outside bodies has not been reviewed for a number of years and had grown rather than reduced over time as new bodies have been added. In view of the increasing workloads of Councillors, it is considered timely to review the council's requirements for representation on outside bodies. Current representation is set out at Appendix A.

2.0 Change in delegation for agreement of the Nene Centre legal case

2.1 In February 2011 this committee resolved (minute 393) to give authority to the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and Councillor Andy Mercer to agree any mediation settlement in conjunction with the Chief Executive and Head of Resources and Organisational Development in order to minimise delays and ensure robust

management of the legal claim. The nomination of the Deputy Leader was subsequently changed in May 2012 to Councillor David Jenney.

- 2.2 For a variety of reasons it is possible that one or more of the nominated councillors may not be able to make the proposed mediation meeting in May. It is therefore proposed to add the current Deputy Leader to the list of nominated councillors.

3.0 Legal implications

- 3.1 There are some outside bodies on which representation by this council is a requirement of the funding or shared service agreement. It is important that this representation continues.

4.0 Risk implications

- 4.1 Representation on outside bodies can occasionally provide the council with insights or advance notice of risks to the outside body or the council. However, unless there is effective communication by the representative to the council any advantage will be lost.
- 4.2 The addition of a further nominated councillor with authority to agree a mediation settlement reduces the risk of any settlement proposal not being agreed within acceptable timetable.

5.0 Financial implications


- 5.1 There are minimal financial implications of any changes, which would result only in a slight increase or decrease in Members' travel expenses.

6.0 Equality and diversity implications

- 6.1 There are no known direct equality issues arising from this report. Some representatives may acquire knowledge of issues faced by particular communities as a result of their involvement with the outside body, which in turn could inform the council's decision making. However there are other routes by which this knowledge can be acquired and key implications should be raised in either the officer report or Equality Impact Assessment.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Councillors are asked to:
- a) Review the list of current representation by the council on outside bodies and consider if any no longer add value to the councils activities or corporate objectives
[Reason: To focus the council's increasingly scarce resources on activities which deliver the council's legal obligations and corporate outcomes.]
 - b) Add the Deputy Leader, Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE, to the list of councillors given authority to agree any mediation settlement in conjunction with the Chief Executive and Head of Resources and Organisational Development
[Reason: to minimise delays in agreeing a mediated settlement]

Legal	Power: Local Government Act 1972				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers: List of Council Representatives agreed at Annual Council, May 2012					
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Date: 26 March 2013					
CFO		MO		CX	

Item 7 - Appendix A - Representation on Outside Bodies

Name of Outside Body	2012/13 Appointee	Comments on relationship between organisation and ENC
Economic and Community Development		
Community Safety Partnership	Councillor Brian Northall	Active Partnership
Groundwork Northamptonshire	Councillor Gill Mercer	Will be supported with £10K core funding in 2013/14.
Nene Valley Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Committee	Councillor Sylvia Hughes	Not funded by ENC
Northamptonshire Action With Communities In Rural England (Acre)	Councillor Steven North	Not funded by ENC
Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership	Councillor Eloise Lucille	This partnership could become more important as central government growth related funding is developed to LEPs
Oundle & Thrapston Youth Counselling (Chat)	Councillor Rupert Reichhold	Not funded by ENC
The Volunteer Centre, Thrapston	Councillor Wendy Brackenbury (observer)	Not directly funded by this council although part of consortium led by Serve
Community Law Service (Northampton and County)	Vacancy – no member currently appointed	Holders of the voluntary sector grant for advice and information to 31/3/14
Serve Management Board	Councillor Rupert Reichhold	Lead organisation for community transport grant consortium to 31/3/14
Service 6	Vacancy – no member appointed	Holders of the voluntary sector grant for counselling support to 31/3/14
Welland Market Towns Group	Councillor Phillip Stearn Deputy – Councillor Richard Lewis	
Educational		
University Of Northampton Court	Chairman of the Council (Ex Officio)	Civic role
Health		
Healthier Communities Scrutiny Committee - Northamptonshire County Council	Councillor Marian Hollomon	This could be an important role over the next two years as NHS provision evolves locally
East Northamptonshire Locality Forum - Nene Commissioning area - Borders (Peterborough) Commissioning area	Councillor Marian Hollomon Councillor Jeremy Taylor	These could be important roles over the next two years as NHS provision evolves locally

Name of Outside Body	2012/13 Appointee	Comments on relationship between organisation and ENC
Kettering General Hospital: Foundation Trust	Vacancy – no member currently appointed	
Housing		
Parson Latham's Almshouses Trust (Oundle)	Councillor Phillip Stearn Mr John Richardson MBE	Limited feedback over past few years from organisation
Parson Latham's Hospital In Barnwell Trust	Mrs Sue North	Limited feedback over past few years from organisation
Rockingham Forest Housing Association	Mr Peter Atchison	Limited feedback over past few years from organisation – council no longer directly represented on Spire Housing Association which is largest RSL in district
Supporting People	Councillor Rupert Reichhold	This role appears to be reducing
Leisure/Tourism		
(Destination) Nene Valley Board	Councillor Sarah Peacock	Important delivery vehicle for economic development in the district
East Midlands Museum Service	Councillor Dudley Hughes JP	Not funded by ENC
Northamptonshire Arts Partnership	Councillor Sylvia Hughes	Not funded by ENC
Northamptonshire Sports Partnership	Councillor Steven North	Will be supported with £.7.5K core funding in 2013/14
Stanwick Lakes Management Board	Councillor Glenvil Greenwood-Smith Councillor Dudley Hughes JP Councillor Richard Lewis Reserves: Councillor Marika Hillson Councillor Robin Underwood	Key partner in local leisure and tourism delivery
CCP (Cultural and Community Partnerships) Board	Observer : Councillor Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	CCP currently run the contract for the council's leisure facilities at the Pemberton Centre, Splash and Nene Centre
Planning and Environment		
CPRE (Campaign To Protect Rural England – Executive Committee Of County Branch)	Councillor Tony Boto	Useful information service and lobbying in relation to issues of interest to this council
East Northamptonshire Grounds Maintenance Consortium	Councillor Tony Boto	Currently active consortium

Name of Outside Body	2012/13 Appointee	Comments on relationship between organisation and ENC
North Northamptonshire Development Company	Councillor Eloise Lucille Reserve: Councillor Steven North	Role is reducing but required for at least next 2 years
Northamptonshire Waste Partnership Management Board	Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE Councillor Richard Lewis	
River Nene Regional Park Company Board	Mr John Richardson MBE	Limited feedback over past few years from organisation. No longer funded by ENC.
Rockingham Motor Speedway – Rockingham Forum	Councillor Pauline Bradberry JP Councillor Roger Glithero JP Councillor Glenvil Greenwood-Smith Councillor Sylvia Hughes Councillor Jeremy Taylor	Active partnership
Regional/County Local Government		
EAST MIDLANDS LEADERS BOARD/EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS (Replacing East Midlands Regional Assembly And Local Government East Midlands)	Councillor Steven North Substitutes: Councillor Richard Lewis Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE	
East Midlands Rural Affairs Forum	Councillor Jeremy Taylor	
Fourth Option Special Interest Group	Councillor Phillip Stearn	This group is experiencing a resurgence as more councils switch to committee-based systems.
Local Government Association	Councillor Steven North Substitute: Glenn Harwood MBE	
Local Government Association - Rural Commission	Councillor Rupert Reichhold Councillor Pauline Bradberry JP Substitute: Jeremy Taylor	
Northamptonshire Councils Association	Councillor Steven North Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE Councillor Richard Lewis	
Northamptonshire Parking Committee	Councillor Gill Mercer Substitute – Cllr Pauline Bradberry JP	Important link for town and parish councils
Northamptonshire Overview & Scrutiny Board	Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee (reflecting minute 459 – 15 April 2009)	
Northamptonshire Partnership	Councillor Steven North Substitute – Councillor Glenn Harwood	

Name of Outside Body	2012/13 Appointee	Comments on relationship between organisation and ENC
	MBE	
Police And Crime Panel	Councillor Brian Northall Reserve – Councillor Gill Mercer	This could be an important role over the next two years as role of Police and Crime Commissioner evolves locally
Sparse	Councillor Rupert Reichhold	Useful information service and lobbying in relation to issues of interest to this council
Welland Partnership Board	Councillor Glenvil Greenwood-Smith Reserve:- Councillor Steven North	Partnership links appear to be reducing
Welland Joint Committee	Cllr Steven North Councillor Glenn Harwood Reserve - Councillor Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	This is a separate legal entity governing the Welland shared service arrangements