

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

TO:	POLICY COMMITTEE		
DATE:	13 JUNE 2022		
TITLE:	APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES		
LEAD CLLR:	COUNCILLOR BROCK	PORTFOLIO:	LEADERSHIP
SERVICE:	LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report asks the Policy Committee to make appointments or nominations to outside bodies for the Municipal Year 2022/23, or longer where required. A schedule of outside body appointments showing the Group Leaders' recommendations will be circulated prior to the meeting.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Committee make appointments or nominations to the outside bodies listed on the schedule (to be circulated);
- 2.2 That the appointments or nominations be made on an "or nominee" basis where the organisation in question is willing to accept this arrangement.

3. OUTSIDE BODIES

- 3.1 The Weller Centre Advisory Board and Reading Hampshire Property Partnership (officer appointment) have been added to the register in 2021/22.
- 3.2 Appointments to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, Joint Waste Disposal Board and LGA General Assembly were made by Policy Committee motion at the Council AGM on 25 May 2022 - see the Minutes elsewhere on the agenda.

4. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Attendance by Councillors appointed to the above bodies will be an approved duty for the purposes of the Council's scheme made in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 1991.

This means that travel and subsistence claims may be made in respect of expenses incurred in attending meetings.

- 4.2 The Council cannot legally provide personal liability cover for representatives serving on outside bodies (*Burgoine v Waltham LBC 1996*) and it is the responsibility of the outside body to secure the appropriate insurance and personal liability cover for people on it. Local authorities do not have a legal power to extend their insurance policies to cover the liabilities of third parties.
- 4.3 All Councillors, officers and other people appointed by Reading - and any other local authority - are therefore advised of the need to check directly with the outside body about its insurance cover, and how far it protects them.
- 4.4 Non-Councillors who are appointed to represent the Borough on outside bodies may claim financial loss allowance and travel and subsistence, if applicable.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 Representation on joint committees and outside bodies gives the Council an opportunity, through its representatives, to work with partner organisations to achieve the vision and priorities set out in the Corporate Plan.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Representation on outside bodies gives the Council an opportunity, through its representatives, to engage with the community on matters that affect the Borough.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Outside Bodies correspondence and questionnaires.