

Policy Committee

27 May 2026



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

Title	Appointments to Joint Bodies and Outside Bodies and Establishment of a Trustees' Sub-Committee
Purpose of the report	To make a key decision
Report status	Public report
Executive Director/ Statutory Officer Commissioning Report	Jayne La Grua, Director of Legal & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer
Report author	Simon Hill, Acting Democratic Services Manager
Lead Councillor	Councillor Terry, Leader of the Council
Council priority	All
Recommendations	<p>Policy Committee is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. appoint to the Joint Committees and Outside Bodies set out at paragraphs 3.1 to 3.6 of this Report;2. establish and appoint to a Trustees' Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 in accordance with Article 7.2.2 and Part 3 Section 2 of the Constitution of the Council and within the terms of reference set out therein;3. authorise the Director of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and (if applicable) the relevant Group Leader, to appoint to any vacancies not appointed to at this meeting or arising mid-year.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The Council is required to agree appointments to the Joint Bodies and Other Bodies to which the Council is invited to nominate representatives. The background and criteria for appointing to these bodies is set out in paragraph 3.1 to 3.6 of this report.
- 1.2. This report also asks the Policy Committee to establish and appoint to a Trustees Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

2. Policy Context

- 2.1. Appointing the Council's representatives on Joint Bodies and Outside Bodies is a Key Decision delegated to Policy Committee by the Council in accordance with Part 2 Article 13.3 and Part 3 Section 2(5) of the Council's Constitution.
- 2.2. Policy Committee has sub-delegated the function of considering the Council's responsibilities for its trusts to a Trustees Sub-Committee, under section 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.

3. The Proposal

Appointments to Joint Bodies and Outside Bodies

- 3.1. The majority of Joint and Outside Body appointments are made through an annual report to Policy Committee in June, but a small number are required to be made at this meeting, either at the request of the external body or for operational reasons.
- 3.2. The Berkshire Prosperity Board is a Joint Committee discharging various functions of the participating local authorities including developing a shared Berkshire-wide vision for inclusive and sustainable economic prosperity, making funding applications and/or investment bids to external bodies in relation to economic prosperity for the benefit of the Berkshire, and representing the participating local authorities in discussions and negotiations with regional bodies, national bodies, central government inward investors and others on matters relating to investment and funding for the benefit of Berkshire. Each authority appoints one member to the Board, and it is anticipated that, where practicable, this will be the Leader of the Council.
- 3.3. The Joint Waste Disposal Board is a Joint Committee established by Bracknell, Wokingham and Reading to administer the operation of the waste disposal arrangements of the Councils in accordance with a Joint Working Agreement. Each Council appoints two members to the Board.
- 3.4. The Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has 20 seats which are allocated in proportion to the number of registered local government electors in each of the Berkshire local authorities. This calculation gives Reading three seats, which should be allocated proportionately (2:1).
- 3.5. Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London (PATROL) is the statutory joint committee of over 300 local authorities and charging authorities that manage and enforce parking and other traffic restrictions in England (outside London) and Wales. Authorities issuing penalties for contravening such restrictions have a statutory duty to make provision for independent legal adjudication of any resulting appeals, and making provision for this adjudication (delivered by the Traffic Penalty Tribunal) is the core function of the PATROL Joint Committee. One representative and one deputy are appointed.
- 3.6. Appointments to the LGA Conference and General Assembly are made at this meeting so that details can be submitted to the LGA ahead of their deadlines.

Trustees Sub-Committee

- 3.7. Appointments to the Trustees Sub-Committee must be made in line with the political proportionality of seats on the Council as a whole.
- 3.8. There is no requirement for members of the Trustees' Sub-Committee to be drawn from within the membership of Policy Committee.

4. Contribution to Strategic Aims

- 4.1. Representation on joint committees and outside bodies gives the Council an opportunity, through its representatives, to work with partner organisations to achieve the priorities set out in the Council Plan:
 - Promote more equal communities in Reading
 - Secure Reading's economic and cultural success
 - Deliver a sustainable and healthy environment and reduce our carbon footprint
 - Safeguard and support the health and wellbeing of Reading's adults and children
 - Ensure Reading Borough Council is fit for the future
- 4.2. In delivering these priorities, we will be guided by the following set of principles:
 - Putting residents first
 - Building on strong foundations
 - Recognising, respecting, and nurturing all our diverse communities
 - Involving, collaborating, and empowering residents
 - Being proudly ambitious for Reading

- 4.3. Full details of the Council Plan and the projects which will deliver these priorities are published on the Council's website - [Council plan - Reading Borough Council](#). These priorities and the Council Plan demonstrate how the Council meets its legal obligation to be efficient, effective and economical.

5. Environmental and Climate Implications

- 5.1. There are no environmental or climate implications arising from the decision to make appointments to outside bodies.

6. Community Engagement

- 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. Equality Implications

- 7.1. Under the Equality Act 2010, Section 149, a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- 7.2. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not relevant to the decision to make appointments to outside bodies.

8. Other Relevant Considerations

- 8.1 No other relevant considerations.

9. Legal Implications

- 9.1. These are set out within the body of the report.

10. Financial Implications

- 10.1. Attendance by Councillors appointed to outside 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. Non-Councillors who are appointed to represent the Borough on outside bodies may claim financial loss allowance and travel and subsistence, if applicable.

11. Timetable for Implementation

- 11.1. Details of the new appointments will be circulated to the relevant organisations and published on the Council's website in the week following this meeting.

12. Background Papers

- 12.1. There are none.