

Divisions: N/A

CABINET – 18 JUNE 2023

APPOINTMENTS 2024/25

Report by Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to agree the appointments to the bodies set out in the Annex to this report.

Introduction

1. The report asks the Cabinet to consider member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's executive functions. The report reflects the basis on which appointments to the respective bodies have been made in the past and, subject to any adjustments that may be considered appropriate, invites the Cabinet to agree arrangements for filling the councillor places on those bodies.
2. The schedule only refers to those appointments which are the direct responsibility of Cabinet to make. There are other outside body appointments that are the responsibility of the of Full Council, its committees or, in the case of local bodies, the Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer following consultation with the local Member(s).

Joint Committees

3. These are formal bodies set up to exercise statutory functions jointly with other authorities. Members of joint committees exercising executive functions must be members of the Cabinet.

The current joint committees are listed in **Section 1** of the Annex to this report.

Appointments to sub groups of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership

4. The Future Oxfordshire Partnership was established to:
 - Coordinate local efforts to manage economic, housing and infrastructure development in a way that is inclusive and maximises local social and environmental benefits;
 - Support the development of local planning policy that meets the UK Government's stated aim of net zero carbon by 2050, and contributes towards biodiversity gain whilst embracing the changes needed for a low carbon world; and,
 - Seek to secure funding in the pursuit of these aims and oversee the delivery of related work programmes delegated to it by the Joint

Committee's constituent local authority members.

Future Oxfordshire Partnership Advisory Sub Groups

5. The Terms of Reference establish advisory sub groups to the Partnership to oversee programmes to oversee specific work programmes or broader thematic areas as required, to monitor progress against the key milestones and make recommendations to the Partnership on decisions required. It is expected that the sub groups will normally meet on a quarterly basis.
6. The advisory sub groups are made up of elected member representatives from each of the constituent councils appointed by the Leader of that council and other representatives as agreed by members of the Partnership Joint Committee. The Chair of the sub-groups will be appointed by the Partnership and normally drawn from the voting membership of the Partnership acting as an independent Chair.

Local Statutory Bodies

8. The County Council is required to set up and run a number of local bodies in connection with certain of its statutory functions, typically with other organisations. County Council representation is not generally limited to Cabinet Members.

The current local statutory bodies are listed in **Section 2** of the Annex to this report.

Strategic Partnerships

9. This category comprises Partnerships which the Cabinet has designated as 'strategic' and whose membership Cabinet has agreed should be linked to the role of Cabinet Member/s and not to individually named members. An exception in the past has been the representative on the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership being the representative of the County Council on the Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel.

The current strategic partnerships are listed in **Section 3** of the Annex to this report.

Standing Advisory Bodies

10. This category comprises bodies which have been set up on a permanent basis in connection with particular functions. They do not possess executive powers but provide a forum for discussion and liaison. County Council representation is not limited to Cabinet Members.

The current standing advisory bodies are listed in **Section 4** of the Annex to this report.

Informal Member/Officer Working Groups

11. This is a diverse group of informal bodies set up from time to time to assist with the discharge of the responsibilities of the Cabinet. There is a wide variety of form and purpose, from purely internal management tools to inter-authority forums for overseeing issues of common interest. Members and officers share an equal status on these bodies, which are not subject to the access to information rules applying to formal committees and subcommittees; however, some are open to the public and may allow public address at their meetings.
12. These bodies cannot exercise executive functions themselves but provide available forum for discussion of issues outside the formal decision-making processes. Thus, where voting on such groups is permitted this can only be on the basis of an indicative view and cannot in any way bind the body responsible for the ultimate decision.
13. The Corporate Parenting Panel was previously listed in this category under the name "Guardians for Us". In May 2023, Council decided to establish a committee to undertake this work. However, Members and officers, having had informal meetings, recognised that a formal committee was not the right forum for the Council to undertake its role as Corporate Parent. Council at its meeting in April decided to remove the committee and a cross-party panel has been re-established.

The informal member / officer working groups are listed in **Section 5** of the Annex to this report.

Strategic Outside Bodies

13. The Cabinet is responsible for appointments to those outside bodies which it has identified as 'strategic' and which have been endorsed as such by the Council.

The strategic outside bodies are listed in **Section 6** of the Annex to this report.

Member Champions

14. Cabinet may appoint Member Champions under Part 1.2 of the Constitution. The current Champions are listed in **Section 7**.

Financial Implications

15. There are no financial implications for this report.

Comments checked by:

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Legal Implications

16. Appointments/nominations to outside bodies are made in accordance with

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the Council's Constitution There are no other specific legal implications arising from this report.

Comments checked by:
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ANITA BRADLEY

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Annex: Proposed appointments for 2024/25.

Background papers: None

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