

CABINET – 21 JUNE 2011

REVIEW OF APPOINTMENTS

Report by Head of Law & Governance

Introduction

1. This 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.

Joint Committees

2. 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.

Local Statutory Bodies

3. 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 although the view has been taken in the case of the Oxfordshire Supporting People Commissioning Body that the appointee should be a Cabinet Member.

The current local statutory bodies are listed in **Section 2**.

Strategic Partnerships

4. 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.

The current strategic partnerships are listed in **Section 3**.

Standing Advisory Bodies

5. 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**.

Informal Member/Officer Working Groups

6. 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 sub-committees; however, some are open to the public and may allow public address at their meetings.
7. These bodies cannot exercise executive functions themselves but provide a valuable 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.

The informal member / officer working groups are listed in **Section 5**.

Member Champions

8. Under the Council's Constitution the Cabinet may designate member champions and appoint councillors to, and remove them from, these roles.

The current member champions are listed in **Section 6**.

Strategic Outside Bodies

9. 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. Appointments need to be made to those bodies for 2011/12 onwards.

The strategic outside bodies are listed in **Section 7**.

RECOMMENDATION

10. **The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to agree the appointments as set out in the Annex to this report and, where necessary, make further or substitute appointments.**

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Background Papers Nil

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