

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

16 September 2026

CATEGORY B OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS 2026/27

Report by the Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

RECOMMENDATION

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to AGREE the appointments to Category B outside bodies listed in Annex 1 to this report until July 2027.

Introduction

1. The report asks the Audit and Governance Committee to consider Member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's responsibilities, but which are the responsibility of the Committee - and not Cabinet - to appoint.

Background

2. The Council has the power to appoint individuals onto external bodies through Paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations (England) 2000. Schedule 2 sets out the functions which may be (but need not be) the responsibility of an authority's executive. Paragraph 19 provides for:

“The appointment of any individual—

(a) to any office other than an office in which he is employed by the authority;

(b) to any body other than—

(i) the authority;

(ii) a joint committee of two or more authorities; or

(c) to any committee or sub-committee of such a body,

and the revocation of any such appointment.”

3. The Council has chosen not to make appointments to non-strategic outside bodies via the Cabinet, but through the Audit and Governance Committee.
4. At its 16 July 2025 meeting, the Audit and Governance Committee agreed to a recommendation that it should be responsible for appointments:

‘in the case of any office or body which has not been identified by the Cabinet and endorsed by the Council as strategic, the functions relating to appointment

of individuals to offices or bodies as specified in Paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations (England) 2000.'

5. This change was endorsed by Council on 09 September 2025, and the Council's constitution was consequently updated, reflecting that the Audit and Governance Committee is responsible for appointments to those offices and bodies which Cabinet and Council have not explicitly deemed 'strategic'. These bodies are referred to as 'Category B' outside bodies.

Basis of Appointment

6. The basis of appointment for Category B outside bodies agreed by Audit and Governance at its 16 July 2025 meeting was that the Committee should appoint on the basis of 'the best person for the role' having sought nominations from political group leaders.
7. The requirement for appointments to be made on the basis of the best person for the role means that political proportionality does not apply.
8. **Annex 1** lists the Council's Category B outside bodies, highlighting where relevant the requirements for specific office holders to take specific roles (a specific Cabinet member, or the Chair of the Council). The list also contains the complete list of nominations received from political group leaders. All nominees put forward have confirmed their willingness to take up (or continue) their role.
9. As there are no bodies with multiple nominations, the Committee is recommended formally to agree, the proposed list of nominations in Annex 1.

Financial Implications

10. There are no direct financial implications for this report.

Legal Implications

11. Part 5.1A 1(a) (16) of the Council's constitution states that the Audit and Governance Committee may exercise the following power:

'In the case of any office or body which has not been identified by the Cabinet and endorsed by the Council as strategic, the functions relating to appointment of individuals to offices or bodies as specified in Paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations (England) 2000.'
12. There are no other specific legal implications directly arising from this report.

Anita Bradley,
Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

Annex: 1. Proposed appointments for 2026/27

Background papers: Nil

Contact Officer: Tom Hudson, Scrutiny Manager

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