

PART A: MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 2013

REPORT OF THE: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (s151)

**PAUL CRESSWELL** 

TITLE OF REPORT: SCUTINY REVIEW - MEMBER ROLES ON OUTSIDE

**BODIES AND AS MEMBER CHAMPIONS** 

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report includes the revised draft recommendations to the Policy and Resources Committee arising from the above review. The Overview and Scrutiny will consider the comments from this committee at its meeting on the 20 February before making final recommendations to Council on the 6 March 2014.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee provide its views on the following draft recommendations:
  - (i) That the following outside bodies be removed from the list: Supporting People NY Joint Committee (agreed at Annual Council on 16 May 2013), Endowment Governors Charity called Malton School, LG Yorkshire & Humber Elected Members Cohesion Group (agreed at Annual Council on 16 May 2013), Rural Action Yorkshire (formerly YRCC);
  - (ii) That substitute representatives be appointed for outside bodies, where their governance arrangements permit, and that it be the nominated representatives responsibility to notify the substitute if they are unable to attend a meeting of the outside body;
  - (iii) That a précis from Member representatives on outside bodies be published on the website following each meeting, subject to the approval of the outside bodies, to ensure feedback of key decisions and discussions relevant to the Council is available, and including their attendance record;

- (iv) That appointments to outside bodies be for four year terms, from 2015 onwards to coincide with the District elections, subject to an annual review to address any attendance issues;
- (v) That attendance on outside bodies be reviewed annually by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting in February, as part of its role reviewing and scrutinising performance, based on the attendance details in the précis and prior to consideration at Annual Council, and that recommendations be made on appointments to Annual Council;
- (vi) That nominations of representatives to outside bodies should be recommended to Council based on their skills and expertise, in addition to attendance records, and that Members be asked to provide an oral statement of this upon nomination. That Members of Council should consider the recommendation made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform the vote at Annual Council;
- (vii) That the Independent Remuneration Panel be requested to review allowances payable to representatives on outside bodies, where a payment is currently made;
- (viii) (a) That subject to the exceptions in sub paragraph (b) below, all Members note that any representative on an outside body cannot be involved in any financial or regulatory decision taken by the Council that relates to that body. They can make representations, either through the public speaking opportunity for a relevant application at Planning Committee, or for other committees and Full Council by addressing the meeting at the chairman's discretion;
  - (b) The exceptions where Members may participate and vote are the setting of council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 or where a dispensation has been granted.
- (ix) That the Member Champion role be abolished.

## 3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 At the last meeting of this Committee members referred back the Scrutiny recommendations and requested the opportunity to meet with the Scrutiny Committee to go through the recommendations. A meeting was arranged on the 21 January 2014 and all members were informed of the meeting and requested to respond direct or channel their comments through group leaders who were invited on the 13 December 2013 and 6 January 2014.
- 3.2 No Members, aside from Overview and Scrutiny Members, attended on the 21 January and in addition no written comments have been received from any members.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny Committee would like the views of the Policy and Resources members prior to considering the recommendations again at their meeting on the 20 February and then referring them direct to Council on the 6 March 2014.

#### 4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 There are no significant risks in considering the draft recommendations.

### 5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

5.1 The proposals are within existing Council policy and the report attached provides the detail of consultation undertaken.

### **REPORT**

### 6.0 REPORT DETAILS

6.1 Attached to this report is the draft Overview and Scrutiny recommendations on their review of Member Roles on Outside Bodies and as Member Champions. The background information is also supplied.

### 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
  - a) Financial
     There are no new significant financial implications in considering this report.
  - b) Legal There are no significant legal issues in considering this report.
  - Other
     There are no significant other issues in considering this report.

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# **Background Papers:**

None.