

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Outside Organisation Sub Committee

Date of Meeting: 3 May 2012
Report of: Democratic Services and Registration Manager
Subject/Title: Review of Representation on Outside Organisations

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 At its meeting on 23 November 2011 the Sub Committee agreed to commence its review of the appropriateness of Councillor representation on those outside organisations for which it was responsible for appointing the Councils representatives.
- 1.2 The total list of organisations that fall within the purview of the Sub-Committee has been divided into six tranches and a survey letter has been sent to those in tranches 1 – 4. Appended to this report are a number of the responses that remained outstanding from the organisations and Councillors surveyed in Phase 1 (tranches 1 & 2), and responses from those surveyed in Phase 2 (tranches 3 & 4).
- 1.3 The Sub-Committee is now asked to consider the responses.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That consideration be given to the responses received and a decision made as to the continuing appropriateness of the Councils representation on each of the bodies surveyed to date.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Sub-Committee is committed to ensuring that representation on outside organisations remains effective for all concerned.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All, as the outside organisations are spread across the whole of the Borough.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 N/A

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 None identified.

7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)

7.1 None identified.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 Whilst membership of outside bodies carries with it the potential for personal liability for elected Members undertaking such roles as ancillary to their status as a Councillor, particularly in respect of trusteeships, Cheshire East Borough Council has resolved to put in place for elected Members the maximum indemnity which is allowed by law.

8.2 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers local authorities to do any thing which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions, and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers them to do anything they consider likely to achieve the object of the promotion of the economic, social or environmental well-being of their area. Pending the coming into force of the general power of competence in the Localism Act 2011, which will be on a date yet to be announced, either or both of these existing powers would normally be the authority for appointing Members to outside bodies and/or selecting the bodies to which they are to be appointed.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 None identified

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The terms of reference of the Sub-Committee include the comprehensive review the representation of the outside organisations in preparation for the next round of appointments, which will take affect from the date of the new Council in 2015. The current review is part of that ongoing process.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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