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Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee

27 September 2024

**Appointment of Members to the Business
Advisory Board**

Report of: Growth Directors

Report Reference No: CWJC/04/24-25

Significant/Key Decision?	Yes/No	Definition (to be deleted once completed)
Cheshire West and Chester	No	Constitution Page 115.
Warrington	No	Constitution page 41
Cheshire East	No	Constitution Page 78

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report seeks Joint Committee approval for the appointment of the Chair and final 10 members of the Joint Committee's Business Advisory Board (BAB). The appointments are the remainder of the Business Advisory Board's members and have been identified via an open competition.

Executive Summary

- 2 At its meeting on 8 April 2024, the Joint Committee agreed the terms of reference of C&W's Business Advisory Board (BAB) and subsequently agreed the appointment of the first ten members of the BAB at its meeting on 26th July. The first ten members were made up of four members transferring from the former LEP Board, five members nominated by the sub-region's business representative organisations and the Chair of Marketing Cheshire

- 3 Alongside this, an open recruitment process has been underway to identify a nomination for Chair of the BAB and nine other members of the Board.
- 4 This paper seeks the Joint Committee's approval to appoint the Chair and the ten prospective members of the BAB identified via the open competition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Joint Committee is recommended to:

1. Confirm the appointment of the BAB Chair and members listed at Appendix 1.

Report Detail

Open Competition

- 5 The Chair of the BAB is a key role, providing leadership and direction to the BAB and being the main link between the Board and the leaders of the local authorities as a non-voting member of the Joint Committee. The role also strengthens the representation of Cheshire and Warrington's business community with other local, regional and national stakeholders, for example by taking up membership of other relevant boards and roles previously filled by the Chair of the LEP.
- 6 The nominee for Chair of the BAB has been identified via an open competition run by Sherrington Associates (a recruitment consultancy based in Chester). It has been widely advertised with the final interview being undertaken by a panel comprising the Leader of Cheshire East Council, Growth Directors from Cheshire West and Warrington and the Chief Executive of ECW.
- 7 Members of the BAB provide their own expertise, knowledge and experience (as well as those of their networks) to enable the board to consider the economic needs of Cheshire and Warrington and advise leaders and officers on how to make Cheshire and Warrington the healthiest, most sustainable, inclusive and growing place in the country.
- 8 Nominations for members of the BAB were also identified via an open competition run by Sherrington Associates. The roles were widely advertised, culminating in a set of interviews with around 25 shortlisted candidates undertaken by a range of colleagues from across the three LAs and ECW

Comments from the Business Advisory Board

- 9 The attached nominations complete the BAB

Reasons for Recommendations

- 10 The nominations listed in Appendix 1 were generated via an open competitive process.

Other Options Considered

- 11 The process agreed by the Joint Committee has been followed in order to generate the nominations to the BAB and therefore no other options were considered

Other Consultation and Engagement

- 12 A wide range of stakeholders were consulted in the preparation of proposals for the BAB and documented in previous papers to the Joint Committee, leading up to the approval of the BAB Terms of Reference at the Joint Committee meeting on 8 April 2024

Implications and Comments

Legal implications

- 13 None. The BAB is an advisory board.

Finance implications

- 14 None – any costs associated with the BAB are already incorporated into the budget of ECW.

Sustainable, inclusive, healthy & growing economy and climate implications

- 15 BAB members will advise the Joint Committee on how to achieve Cheshire and Warrington's objective of becoming the most sustainable, inclusive, healthy and growing economy in the UK. Building on the report from the Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Commission it will also provide the Joint Committee with its thoughts on C&W's response to climate change

Risk Management

- 16 No implications

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 17 The proposed nominations to the BAB are designed to produce a BAB which is fully representative of the whole of the C&W business community.

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Paul Chapman, ECW Paul.Chapman@cheshireandwarrington.com
Appendices:	Appendix 1: List of proposed appointments to the BAB
Background Papers:	None

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**PROPOSED NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE C&W BUSINESS
ADVISORY BOARD**

Chair

Steve Purdham Chair of Board, Westfield Health

Members

Jill Jones, Non-Exec Chester Race Company Limited

Gaurav Batra, Non-Executive Chair Think Energy Group (Think Hire); Chair
Bolesworth Estate

Helen Tonks, Founder & Director Hydraulics Online Ltd

Maggie Chen, Co-founder Girls in Charge Initiative

Adrian Curry, Executive Director and Chief Decarbonisation Officer EET Fuels

Yannis Locopoulis, CEO Tristone Capital Ltd

Andrea Stott, Non-Exec Director Chain and Conveyor Ltd

Annabel Turpin, Chief Executive Storyhouse

Annette McDonald, Director of Sustainability & Partnerships Tatton Estates

Paul Taylor Director, Taylor Estates (Cheshire) Limited