

OPEN

Economy and Growth Committee

3 June 2025

Appointments to Member Advisory Groups

Report of: Acting Governance, Compliance and Monitoring Officer

Report Reference No: EG/17/25-26

Ward(s) Affected: No specific Ward

For Decision

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Economy and Growth Committee to agree its appointments to the Handforth Garden Village Member Advisory Group and the Farms Policy Member Advisory Group.
- 2 This report contributes to the Council's objective of being an effective and enabling organisation - effective and responsive governance, compliance and evidence-based decision making.

Executive Summary

- 3 The Economy and Growth Committee has previously established two Member Advisory Groups to undertake detailed work in development of the Handforth Garden Village project and the revision of the Farms Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee re-appoints the Handforth Garden Village Member Advisory Group and the Farms Policy Member Advisory Group, and five members drawn from the Economy and Growth Committee on a 2:2:1 political basis be appointed to each Working Group.

Background

Handforth Garden Village Member Advisory Group

- 4 At its meeting on 19 September 2023, the Committee received a report on the Handforth Garden Village which recommended the establishment of Member Advisory Group to advise officers on activity associated with the development of the Handforth Garden Village.

The membership was on a 2 conservative: 2 labour :1 independent basis and with the following members appointed:

Cllr David Brown	Cllr Nick Mannion	Cllr Mark Goldsmith
Cllr Patrick Redstone	Cllr Fiona Wilson	

- 5 It is recommended that the Handforth Garden Village Member Advisory Group be re-appointed. Since the appointments were made in September 2023, the membership of the Economy and Growth Committee has changes and therefore appointments need to reflect the present membership of the Economy and Growth Committee.

Farms Policy Member Advisory Group

- 6 At its meeting on 19 September 2023, the Committee received a report on the Farms policy which recommended the establishment of Member Advisory Group to receive evidence and consider the options and advise on the setting of any recommendations with the objective that a revised policy be brought forward for adoption.

The membership was on a 2 Conservative: 2 Labour: 1 independent basis and with the following membership:

Cllrs Janet Clowes	Cllr Anna Burton	Cllr Garnet Marshall
Cllr Alision Heler	Cllr Brian Drake	

- 7 It is recommended that the Farms Policy Member Advisory Group be re-appointed for the current municipal year. Since the appointments were made in September 2023, the membership of the Economy and Growth Committee has changes and therefore appointments need to reflect the present membership of the Economy and Growth Committee.

Consultation and Engagement

- 10 There has been consultation with the Groups and the need to appoint to various bodies in accordance with the rules of political proportionality where these apply and in accordance with the agreed terms of reference of each body.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 11 In accordance with the Constitution, the Committee is responsible for the appointment of the bodies referred to in this report.

Other Options Considered

12

Option	Impact	Risk
Do nothing	Not appointing to these bodies would negatively affect the Council's ability to make effective decisions in an open and transparent manner.	Failure to comply with the Council's Constitution could leave the Council open to legal challenge.

Implications and Comments

Monitoring Officer/Legal

- 13 The appointment to working groups allows members to engage, understand and consider complex issues outside of a formal committee but retaining the assurance that the Member Advisory Groups will report back to the Committee when necessary for decisions.

Section 151 Officer/Finance

- 14 There are no financial implications that require an amendment to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

Policy

- 15 There are no direct policy implications.

An effective and enabling Council

Effective and responsive governance, compliance and evidence-based decision making

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 16 There are no direct equality, diversity and inclusion implications.

Human Resources

17 There are no direct human resources implications.

Risk Management

18 Failure to comply with legislation and the Council's Constitution could leave the Council open to legal challenge.

Rural Communities

19 There are no direct implications for rural communities.

Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

20 There are no direct implications for children and young people.

Public Health

21 There are no direct implications for public health.

Climate Change

22 There are no direct implications for climate change.

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Rachel Graves rachel.graves@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Appendices:	None
Background Papers:	Agenda and Minutes Economy and Growth Committee 12th Sep 2023