

**ANNUAL COUNCIL
23 MAY 2024**

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER BODIES FOR 2024/25

REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

COUNCIL PRIORITY: PEOPLE FIRST / SUSTAINABILITY / A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present a list setting out the nomination of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25.

NB If a Member is nominated to or is on an outside body, they have an Interest under the Code of Conduct, they must comply with the Code requirements Section 17, Appendix B – Constitution [[page click here](#)]. If unclear, seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or Deputy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the list of nominations of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25, as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved.
- 2.2 That Political Group Leaders notify the Democratic Services Manager of nominations to the remaining vacancies or any changes to the existing representatives on outside organisations.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To comply with the provisions of Standing Order 4.8.1(b)(iv) and (v) of the Council's Constitution.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1 The Leaders of the Political Groups have been consulted regarding the nomination of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25.

6. FORWARD PLAN

- 6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 Standing Order 4.8.1(b)(iv) of the Council's Constitution states that at the Annual Meeting, the Council will

“receive nominations of Councillors to serve on each Committee and outside body”.

- 7.2 Standing Order 4.8.1(b)(v) states that at the Annual Meeting, the Council will also

“make appointments to those Committees and nominations to outside bodies, except where nomination to those bodies has been delegated by the Council or is exercisable by the Cabinet”.

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 A review of Outside Body appointments was carried out between February – March 2024. Both outside organisations and the appointed Members were surveyed. The survey assisted to ascertain whether the outside bodies were still active as well as the value in appointments to Outside Bodies. The response rate for organisations was 31 out of 49 (63%) and 8 out of 30 Members appointed to bodies (26%).

- 8.2 Group Leaders have been asked to consider the nominations as approved for 2023/24 and propose any alterations they felt necessary for 2024/2025, having given regard to 8.3 – 8.5 below.

- 8.3 A number of organisations raised issues with their representatives not attending meetings or being unresponsive to correspondence. Whilst this is taken into account, the Council will continue to appoint to these organisations until a further, more in-depth, review can take place.

- 8.4 A number of organisations noted that the Member representative was of value to the organisations, through offering support and advice on how to improve the services.

- 8.5 A further review will take place in the 24/25 Civic Year and will be a more comprehensive review of all organisations to which the Council appoints representatives. This review will also look at further opportunities for the Council to appoint to other organisations in the district.

8.6 Appendix A to the report sets out the nomination of representatives to Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The legal and constitutional requirements are set out in the main body of this report.

9.2 It is a constitutional requirement to review the appointments to outside organisations at the Annual Meeting.

9.3 Appointments are made by the Council in the interests of openness and transparency.

9.4 Members are required to include any appointments to Outside Organisations or Bodies on their Register of Interests within 28 days of the appointment.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered. Each year the Council undertakes a review of outside bodies, including whether Members are insured or indemnity provided by the outside body. This is a relevant consideration when nominating any Member to an external organisation.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

12.2 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report. However, equalities implications from the individual recommendations will continue to be considered and assessed during the decision-making process.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to this report as it not a procurement.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no human resource implications.

16. APPENDICES

16.1 Appendix A – Nomination of Representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25. *(A more comprehensive Appendix A will be circulated as a supplement when appointments are available).*

17. CONTACT OFFICERS

Author

17.1 James Lovegrove, Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager
James.Lovegrove@north-herts.gov.uk

Contributors

17.2 Melanie Stimpson, Democratic Services Manager
melanie.stimpson@north-herts.gov.uk

17.3 Jeanette Thompson, Service Director: Legal and Community
Jeanette.Thompson@north-herts.gov.uk

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

18.1 None.