

**Report of: City Solicitor**

**Report to: Inner East Community Committee - Burmantofts & Richmond Hill; Gipton & Harehills; Killingbeck & Seacroft.**

**Report author: Helen Gray (0113 2474355)**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

**For decision**

## **Appointment of Co-optees to Community Committees**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report invites Members to give consideration to appointing co-optees to the Community Committee for the duration of the 2015/2016 municipal year.

### **Main issues**

2. In considering this issue, the committee is invited to have regard to the following rules associated with Community Committee co-optees:
3. Article 10 of the Constitution states that by resolution Community Committees may appoint or remove non-voting Co-opted Members who may participate in the business of the Community Committee.
4. The relevant Community Committee Procedure Rules state that:
5. Co-opted members may participate in the debate in the same way as Elected Members, but will be non-voting members of the Committee.
6. No co-opted member shall be appointed for a period beyond the next Annual Meeting of the Council.
7. With regard to participation on financial matters, in line with Section 102(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, the procedure rules state that, 'Co-optees will not ... participate in (the) business of the committee which regulates or controls the finance of the area'. This

would preclude co-optees participating on matters such as Wellbeing funding applications for example.

## **Options**

8. Previously the Inner East Community Committee received nominations for co-option from the following Community Leadership Teams or Forums:
  - Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Community Leadership Team
  - Killingbeck & Seacroft Community Leadership Team
  - Gipton Community Leadership Team
  - Harehills Forum
9. Members are invited to give consideration to the continuation of appointing co-optees to the Community Committee.
10. In doing so, Members are asked to note that, at the time of writing this report, the Community Leadership Teams have not yet met and no formal nominations have been received.
11. Should the Community Committee confirm that it wishes to continue to appoint co-optees, then it is intended that a further report will be presented to the September meeting to formally approve any nominations received for co-opted members for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year

## **Corporate considerations**

### **a. Consultation and engagement**

This report provides Community Committee Members with the opportunity to formally consider the possible appointment of co-optees to the Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

The provision of co-opted representatives on Community Committees enables representatives of the local community to engage in the Committee's decision making processes.

### **b. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

In considering the appointment of co-optees, Members may wish to give consideration to ensuring that any co-options are representative of the neighbourhoods that the Community Committee covers.

### **c. Council policies and city priorities**

Co-opted representation on Community Committees, which enables representatives of the local community to engage in the decision making process is in line with the Council's Policies and City Priorities.

### **d. Legal implications, access to information and call in**

In line with the Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules, the power to Call In a decision does not extend to those taken by Community Committees.

## **Conclusion**

12. Given the provisions within the Constitution regarding the appointment of co-opted representatives to Community Committees, the Community Committee is invited to consider the continuing appointment of co-optees for the duration of the 2015/16 municipal year.

## **Recommendations**

The Community Committee is invited to:

- a) give consideration to the continuation of appointing co-optees to the Community Committee, noting that the Community Leadership Teams have not yet met and no formal nominations have been received.
  
- b) note the intention to present a further report to the September meeting to formally approve any nominations received for co-opted members for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year, should the Community Committee support the continuing appointment of co-optees

## **Background information**

- **Not Applicable**