



Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance)

General Purposes Committee

Date: 8th February 2010

Subject: Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules – Proposed Amendment

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity
Community Cohesion
Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 This report proposes that the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules be amended in order that it would be a requirement that all group whips or their nominee agree an appointment prior to the use of the delegated authority.

2.0 Background Information – Current Processes

- 2.1 The Appointment to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules currently provide the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) with delegated authority to make an appointment to an outside body in certain circumstances subject to those decisions being reported to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee.
- 2.2 The circumstances in which the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) can use the delegated authority are as follows;
- (i) where an appointment has been agreed by the Member Management Committee as a Whips nominee and the appropriate group whip subsequently submits a nomination;
 - (ii) where a group Whip wishes to replace a Member previously approved by the Member Management Committee with another Member of the same group; and/or
 - (iii) where an organisation requires an appointment prior to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee, subject to this appointment being agreed by all members of the Member Management Committee.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 With regard to (i) and (ii) above this delegated authority is regularly used and subsequently reported to Member Management Committee as required by the Procedure Rules and there are no proposals to make any amendments at this time.
- 3.2 With respect to (iii) above, whilst this route has only rarely been used, such instances that do arise are often in relation to appointments which are required at short notice. The requirement to seek agreement from all members of the Member Management Committee in these instances has proven difficult.
- 3.3 It is therefore proposed that the requirement to consult all members of the Member Management Committee be amended to provide for consultation only with the relevant Group Whip or their nominee. This would facilitate a lesser number of members having to agree an appointment to an outside body. Member Management Committee has been consulted on this proposal and the committee is supportive of it.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 to this report presents an amended version of the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules with a proposed amendment to 4.6 (iii). General Purposes Committee is invited to consider whether the Procedure Rule revision, as attached to this report, should be recommended to Council.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The Appointment to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules are contained in part 4 of the Constitution, amendments these rules are the responsibility of Full Council. The Constitution provides that where approval of Full Council is required for changes to documents contained within Parts 3 to 5 of the Constitution then these will only be approved following consideration of the proposal by General Purposes Committee

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal or resource implications arising from this report.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1 General Purposes Committee is invited to consider whether the Procedure Rule revision, as attached to this report, should be recommended to Council.

Background Documents

Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules