



Report of the Chief Democratic Services Officer

West Inner Area Committee

Date: 26th June 2008

Subject: Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies

Electoral Wards Affected: Armley Bramley & Stanningley	Specific Implications For:
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/>
	Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/>
	Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/>
Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/>
	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/>

Executive Summary

This report outlines the procedures for Council appointments to outside bodies, and the Committee are requested to consider and appoint to those bodies listed at Appendix 2 to the report.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 This report outlines the Area Committee's role in relation to Elected Member Appointments to Outside Bodies and asks the Committee to :

- Agree the nominations to those organisations which fall to the Committee to make an appointment to.

2.0 Background

2.1 In April 2004 Full Council agreed that in future Elected Member appointments to Outside Bodies should be undertaken by a constituted body of Elected Members and that appointments to all outside bodies should, where appropriate, be made with due regard to proportionality within the law.

2.2 Attached at Appendix 1 is the agreed Appointment Procedure Rules¹ that have been adopted by Full Council. The procedure addresses previous concerns raised by Elected Members relating to proportionality; introduces appointment categories; and

¹ This Procedure is now incorporated into the Council's Constitution

places responsibility for appointment clearly with Elected Members both through this Committee and the Member Management Committee.

- 2.3 The **Member Management Committee** has responsibilities for Council Appointments to Outside Bodies and for exercising decision making in the following areas:
- Considering requests from all Outside Organisations seeking Elected Member representation
 - Determining the category of appointment which will govern which Committee will make the appointments
 - Making Elected Member appointments to Outside Bodies within the Strategic and Key Partnership category.
- 2.4 Full Council has agreed that due to the large number of organisations seeking Council representation, appointments within the Community and Local Engagement Category will be considered and approved by Elected Members serving on the relevant **Area Management Committee**.
- 2.5 In July 2004 the Member Management Committee met to consider allocation of appointments to each Area Committee. Attached at Appendix 2 are those that have been determined should be made by this Area Committee.
- 2.6 One of the delegated Member appointment functions which Area Committees had **previously** been asked to exercise was making Elected Member appointments to the Boards of Housing Management Arms Length Management Organisations. **However**, on the recommendation of the Executive Board, the Member Management Committee at its meeting on 22nd December 2006 resolved that in future appointments to the re-structured ALMO Boards (down from 6 to 3, with smaller numbers of Directors) would be made by the Member Management Committee itself, hence these appointments no longer appear in the schedule of appointments at Appendix 2.
- 3.0 The Appointment Procedure - Community and Local Engagement Category**
- 3.1 The Area Committee must first consider whether it is appropriate for an appointment to be of a specific office holder² either by reference, if this is available, to the constitution of the outside body concerned or in the light of any other circumstances as determined by the Area Committee. Such appointments will then be offered on this basis.
- 3.2 Nominations will then be sought for the remaining places, having regard to trying to secure an overall allocation of places which reflects the proportion of Members from each Political Group on the Area as a whole.
- 3.3 All appointments are subject to annual change unless otherwise stated in the constitution of the external organisation. Each appointment (including in-year replacements) runs for the municipal year, ending at the next Annual Council Meeting.

² For example it may be considered necessary or otherwise appropriate to appoint a specific Ward Member

- 3.4 Elected Members³ will fill all available appointments but it is recognised that Party Groups may not wish to take up vacancies which are made available to them. In such circumstances vacancies will be notified to the Area Committee and agreement sought as to whether the vacancy will be filled.
- 3.5 A vacancy occurring during the municipal year will normally be referred to the Area Committee for an appointment to be made, having regard to the principles as described above.
- 3.6 Area Management Committees may review the list of organisations to which they are asked to make appointments at any time and make recommendations to the Member Management Committee.

4.0 Appointments 2008/09

- 4.1 This year there are three appointments to be made – to ALMO West Inner Area Panel and Bramley Sure Start.

(a) West/North West Homes ALMO – West Inner Area Panel

Although the appointments to the ALMO Board of Directors are now made by the Member Management Committee (see Paragraph 2.6), the Area Committee appoints to the ALMO Area Panels.

There are four Area Panels in the West North West area which cover the following areas:-

- Outer West – Calveley and Farsley, Pudsey and Farnley and Wortley
- Inner West – Bramley and Stanningley and Armley
- Outer North West – Guiseley and Rawdon, Otley and Yeadon, Adel and Wharfedale and Horsforth
- Inner North West – Weetwood, Headingley, Kirkstall and Hyde Park and Woodhouse

Each Area Panel will work to Terms of Reference and a Code of Conduct.

Each Area Panel will consist of:

- One Board Director
- Two local Ward members
- Six Tenants

The remit of the Area Panels is wide and encompasses several service areas. Area Panels will have a number of functions, ranging from monitoring services, influencing

³ Section 249 Local Government Act 1972 states that Aldermen and Honorary Freemen may attend and take part in civic ceremonies but do not have the right to attend Council/committee meetings or receive any allowances or payments under a Members Allowance Scheme. This establishes the principle that such persons should not to be treated as Councillors, and therefore cannot be appointed to outside bodies in place of a Councillor if the request from an organisation is for a Councillor

their design and being consulted on policy changes and making recommendations on change to these to the main Board.

Each Area Panel will be responsible for a budget which will cover:

- Support for tenants groups
- Support for community groups
- Local environmental budgets
- Local Community safety budgets

These are annual appointments, and the Council's current representatives are **Councillor Jim McKenna and Councillor Neil Taggart.**

(b) Bramley Sure Start

Surestart is a national/local Government initiative aimed at giving every young child the best possible start in life. The Surestart Children's Centres concept is that providing integrated education with childcare, family support and health services are key factors in achieving good outcomes for children and parents.

The following services are offered to children under five and their families:

- Education and Childcare
- Family Support and Outreach work
- Child and Family Health Services
- Links to Job Centres and Training Providers

This is an annual appointment, and the Council's current representative is **Councillor Janet Harper.**

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Area Committee is asked to confirm the nominees to work with the Outside Bodies identified in the Schedule at Appendix 2, having regard to the Appointment Procedure Rules outlined in this report and detailed at Appendix 1.