



Report of Senior Governance and Scrutiny Support Officer

Report to Head of Democratic Services

Date: 7th January 2021

Subject: Appointments to Outside Bodies – Groundwork Yorkshire

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- To seek approval for Elected Member appointments to be made to a new outside body – Groundwork Yorkshire.

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- The appointments adhere to the Council's Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules and are in line with Council Policies; allowing appropriate representation to work with partners and the community to contribute to our city wide priorities.

3. Resource Implications

- There are no resource or value for money implications as a result of this report.

Recommendations – The Head of Democratic Services is requested to:

- a) Note the work undertaken so far; culminating in all party agreement confirming the designation of Groundwork Yorkshire as "Strategic and Key" within the meaning of Outside Body Procedure Rule 3.1;

- b) Give approval to the appointment of Members to the three seats on Groundwork Yorkshire as set out in paragraph 3.1 c) of this report;
- c) Note the designation of and appointments to Groundwork Yorkshire will be reported to Member Management Committee in due course.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval for Elected Member appointments to be made to a new outside body – Groundwork Yorkshire.

2. Background information

- 2.1 On 21st October the Executive Board considered and supported the recommendations in a report regarding the governance arrangements for the merger of Groundwork Leeds with Groundwork Wakefield and Groundwork North Yorkshire; and Leeds City Council's future role in the new "Groundwork Yorkshire". The report set out the extensive consultation process undertaken and proposed new company membership structure; noting the merger would provide greater financial sustainability for the company, safeguard the jobs of Groundwork staff and enable Groundwork to continue to deliver programmes that benefit vulnerable people across the region.
- 2.2 The Executive Board report set out the necessary legal requirements to enable the proposed merger to proceed – namely that each existing Groundwork Board dissolve its company membership and become a company member of Groundwork Yorkshire.
- 2.3 The Executive Board report anticipated the Groundwork Yorkshire Board will be considered a **Strategic and Key Partnership** (*participation contributes to the Council's strategic functions, priorities and community leadership role*) as was the former Groundwork Leeds Board.
- 2.4 The local authority has received a request to commence the process of securing three Member appointments to the Groundwork Yorkshire Board. The three appointments sought are in line with the Groundwork Yorkshire Terms of Reference.
- 2.5 In accordance with the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rule (4.5) the City Solicitor has delegated authority to make an appointment where an organisation requires an appointment prior to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee, subject to this appointment being agreed by all Group Whips or their nominee.
- 2.6 The City Solicitor has sub delegated that authority to the Head of Democratic Services.
- 2.7 Any instances of this delegation being used are reported to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 The Group Whips have been consulted on this matter, and confirmed the following proposals:
 - a) To confirm the designation of Groundwork Yorkshire as a Strategic and Key partnership as set out in the Outside Body Procedure Rules
 - b) To note the request for three appointments and to accept the proposed split of available seats as

- Labour : 2
- Green : 1

c) To note the proposals for the following Councillor appointments

- Councillor Al Garthwaite (Labour)
- Councillor Pauleen Grahame (Labour)
- Councillor Ann Blackburn (Green)

d) To note the designation of and appointments to Groundwork Yorkshire will be reported to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee.

3.2 The appointments are required prior to the next meeting of the Member Management Committee. The Head of Democratic Services is requested to authorise the appointments as set out in paragraph 3.1 c) above.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 In accordance with Outside Body Procedure Rules 4.5 iii Group Whips have been consulted on the proposed arrangements and are supportive of them. The Members affected will be advised of these changes by the relevant Group Offices.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 There are no equality and diversity or cohesion and integration implications as a result of this report.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- The appointments adhere to the Council's Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules and are in line with Council Policies; allowing appropriate representation to work with partners and the community to contribute to our city wide priorities.

Climate Emergency

4.3.1 Since this is a factual report detailing the appointment of Councillors to Outside Bodies there are no specific climate implications.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 There are no resource or value for money implications as a result of this report.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 The Head of Democratic Services has authority to make appointments to Outside Bodies in accordance with the provisions outlined in paragraph 2 above, following the sub-delegation of such authority by the City Solicitor.

4.5.2 This report relates to a Council function and is therefore not eligible for call-in.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The appointments process outlined above is in line with the Council's Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules, Council Policies and Best Council Plan and will enable appropriate representation to be made in a timely manner.

5.2 The proposed appointments are in accordance with the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules (4.5), and will be reported to the Member Management Committee through the schedule of appointments at a future meeting.

6. **Recommendations** - The Head of Democratic Services is requested to:

- a) Note the work undertaken so far; culminating in all party agreement confirming the designation of Groundwork Yorkshire as "Strategic and Key" within the meaning of Outside Body Procedure Rule 3.1;
- b) Give approval to the appointment of Members to the three seats on Groundwork Yorkshire as set out in paragraph 3.1 c) of this report;
- c) Note the designation of and appointments to Groundwork Yorkshire will be reported to Member Management Committee in due course.

7. Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.