



Report of the Chief Democratic Services Officer

Member Management Committee

Date: 16th December 2009

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

Executive Summary

- 1 At its last meeting Member Management Committee requested that a report be brought to the next meeting in respect of the current rules whereby all members of this Committee are required to agree certain proposed appointments to outside bodies prior to the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) using her delegated authority.
- 2 This report seeks to offer an alternative approach to this potentially restrictive requirement and inform Members that any proposals to amend the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rule would require consideration at the General Purposes Committee who would make recommendations to Council.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks to offer an alternative approach to the current rules whereby all members of this Committee are required to agree certain proposed appointments to outside bodies prior to the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) using her delegated authority.
- 1.2 The report proposes that the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules be amended in order that it would be a requirement that all group whips agree an appointment prior to the use of the delegated authority..

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 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 between meetings of this Committee and subsequently reported to Members, officers are not aware of any issues with the use of these elements of the Procedure Rules and do not propose that any amendments should be made at this time.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 to this report is an amended version of the Appointment to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules with a proposed amendment to 4.6 (iii) that would facilitate a lesser number of members having to agree an appointment to an outside body.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

- 4.1 An amendment to the Appointment to Outside Body Procedure Rules would require a constitutional amendment and any recommendations of this Committee would need to be considered by the General Purposes Committee who will make a recommendation to Council.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Members are asked to recommend to the General Purposes Committee that Council amend the Appointments to Outside Body Procedure Rules 4.6(iii) as detailed in Appendix 1.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appointment to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules