

**Report To:** Cabinet

**Date of Meeting:** 18 July 2017

**Lead Member / Officer:** Councillor Hugh Evans  
Gary Williams, Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

**Report Author:** Karen A. Evans, Democratic Services Officer

**Title:** **Appointments of Members to Outside Bodies**

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**1. What is the report about?**

Reviewing and confirming the appointments of members to outside bodies.

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

Following the local government elections and formation of the new Council there is a need to review and confirm the appointments of county councillors onto external organisations (outside bodies).

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Cabinet considers the appointment of members to the outside bodies shown in Appendix 1.

**4. Report details**

- 4.1 The Council traditionally receives requests from a variety of outside bodies (i.e. organisations or groups external to the County Council) for the appointment of county councillors to contribute to their work.
- 4.2 Following the May elections and the formation of the new Council it is appropriate for the Council to consider requests and the views of its own members and confirm a number of appointments outlined in the appended list.
- 4.3 Appointments to external organisations are delegated to appropriate Lead Members under the Council's Constitution, but due to the number of appointments that are required across a broad range of portfolio areas, the Cabinet is asked to approve these appointments through a collective decision.
- 4.4 The results of the consultations with members, officers and the outside bodies indicated that further information is required before appointments to some outside bodies are confirmed. It is therefore anticipated that a small number of further appointments to outside bodies will be requested from the relevant lead members in the near future.

## **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

The appointments are made to range of organisations whose work may complement the Council's own aims and activities and to its corporate priorities.

## **6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

6.1 Members appointed to an outside body may – if the organisation in question does not have its own scheme of remuneration - be eligible to claim travel and subsistence expenses from the Council for attending meetings of the outside body (see Schedule 2 of the Members' Scheme of Allowances in the Council's Constitution for details).

6.2 A small number of outside bodies may charge a membership fee.

## **7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

A Well-being Impact Assessment is not required for appointing county councillors to external organisations.

## **8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

All members and the Senior Leadership Team have been consulted on the pre-election list of outside bodies for views on the merits of appointing councillors to individual organisations. Members have been consulted for expressions of interest in being appointed to the outside bodies.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

Costs in connection with this matter will need to be contained within the overall budget for members' expenses. Consideration should be given as to whether any fees attached to membership of an organisation provide value for money to the council.

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

10.1 It is important that Members of the Council are involved in the governance of appropriate outside bodies whose work relates closely to the Council's own work or impacts upon local communities. In this case if appropriate appointments are not made, there is a risk that the interests of the Council and the residents of Denbighshire may not be properly reflected in the activities of the external organisations.

10.2 However, appointing Council members to outside bodies is expected to increase the workload on those members and potentially decrease the time members have available to attend to the Council's meetings and activities. Appointments may also incur the Council costs in remunerating members for travel and subsistence expenses incurred in the service of some outside bodies.

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

As outlined under Section 13 of the Council's Constitution the appointment of members to outside bodies is a Cabinet function that may be undertaken by individual Cabinet

members for appointments to external organisations that lie within their Cabinet portfolios. Owing to the number and spread of organisations covered in this report Cabinet is requested to make a collective decision.