

Appointments to Committees and Other Council Bodies

Special Committee

Date 23rd June 2011

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Wards Affected

All

Purpose

- To reduce the number of members on the Equalities Advisory Forum, to appoint deputies for the Fostering and Adoption Panel, and to appoint a representative to the Viridor Credits Environmental Company Steering Group to advise on distribution of Landfill Communities Fund monies.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to:

- Remove Councillor Peter Heaton-Jones from membership of the Equalities Advisory Forum;
- Appoint Councillor Fionuala Foley as a deputy to Councillor Ray Fisher on the Swindon Fostering Panel and Councillor Ray Fisher as a Deputy to Councillor Foley on the Swindon Adoption Panel;
- To appoint Councillor Andrew Bennett as the Council's representative on the steering group being formed by Viridor Credits Environmental Company.

1 Reasons

- 1.1 Five Members were appointed to the Equalities Advisory Forum at the Annual Council Meeting on 20th May 2011. However, it has been agreed between the political groups represented on that body that a Council representation of four members would be adequate as was the case for the Municipal Year 2010/11.
- 1.2 The Leader of the Council has requested that the Borough's representatives on the Fostering and Adoption Panels have deputies as these panels will be changing their structure in the future to require a larger membership to ensure more timely decision-making.
- 1.3 An invitation was sent to the Council's representative on the Wiltshire and Swindon Rural Regeneration Partnership seeking Council representation on a steering group to distribute Landfill Communities Fund monies.

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2 Detail

- 2.1 The Council's Conservative Group has indicated that it wishes to withdraw Councillor Peter Heaton-Jones from the Equalities Advisory Forum to allow the Council's representation on the Forum to remain at four Members.
- 2.2 The Conservative Group has also indicated that Councillor Fionuala Foley will be the representative on the Swindon Adoption Panel with Councillor Fisher as her deputy and Councillor Ray Fisher will be the representative on the Swindon Fostering Panel with Councillor Foley as his deputy.
- 2.3 In April 2011 an invitation was received via Councillor Andrew Bennett and the Wiltshire and Swindon Rural Regeneration Partnership to seek a Council representative to serve on a decision-making steering group that will have access to Landfill Tax Credits. These funds are distributed by Viridor Credits.
- 2.4 The Council's Conservative Group proposes that Councillor Andrew Bennett be nominated to serve on this steering group.

Alternative Options

- No alternative options are proposed.

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- There are no financial or procurement implications. All costs will be met from existing budgets.

Legal/Human Rights Implications

- Legal and Human Rights considerations have been taken fully into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations of this report are compatible with convention rights.

Links to Corporate Plans and Policies

- The delivery of effective, accountable and transparent decision-making by the Council directly links to those parts of the Corporate Plan relating to the "Role of the Council" and "Transforming the Organisation".

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Consultees / Appendices

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and the Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.

Background Papers

- Annual Council Minutes 2011 - Constitution 2011/12.
- Letter from Viridor Credits dated April 2011 to Cllr Andrew Bennett