

Cabinet	Ref No: CAB04 (20/21)
26 May 2020	Key Decision: No
Appointments to Outside Bodies	Part I
Report by Director of Law and Assurance	Electoral Divisions: All
Summary	
<p>Outside bodies are external organisations, including formal or informal partnerships to which the County Council is a party, which have requested that the County Council appoints an Elected Member or a representative to them or to which the Council expects to make appointments. Following the recent changes to the Cabinet, Cabinet is asked to review the Outside Bodies list to ensure it is fit for purpose and to consider the appointments to those Outside Bodies (Appendix 1).</p>	
West Sussex Plan: Policy Impact and Context	
<p>This proposal relates to appointments of Councillors to outside bodies. The aims and objectives of these Outside Bodies, as outlined in section 2 of the report, align with the priorities within the West Sussex Plan</p>	
Financial Impact	
None.	
Recommendations	
<p>That Cabinet approves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The appointment of Cllr Jacky Pendleton to the Littlehampton Harbour Board for the remainder of the County Council term (May 2021). 2) The appointment of Cllr Kevin Boram to the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee for the remainder of the County Council term (May 2021). 3) The addition of the Rural Services Network to the County Council's Outside Bodies list. 4) The appointment of Cllr Janet Duncton to the Rural Services Network for the remainder of the County Council term (May 2021). 	

Proposal

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 Outside bodies are external organisations and partnerships which have requested that the County Council appoints an Elected Member or a representative to them. Participation in outside bodies:
- Contributes to the County Council's strategic functions, priorities or community leadership roles.
 - Supports partnership and joint working.
 - Enables Members to gain and share knowledge and expertise.

- 1.2 The criteria for appointments to outside bodies as set out in the Constitution are:
- That the interests of the County Council can be assisted by the making of the appointment or renewal of the appointment.
 - That the Councillor is able to devote the time needed to meet the expectations of the external body and the Council.
 - That, where the external body has a geographical limit to its functions, whether the Councillor's Division falls within or close to that area should be taken into consideration.
 - That the Councillor has the knowledge, skills or interest in the work of the organisation that may be required.
 - That the Councillor is prepared to provide such information on his or her participation in the work of the outside body as may be required.
- 1.3 All Councillors are eligible to be appointed as representatives of the County Council on outside bodies. Councillors appointed to outside bodies must respond to all reasonable requests for information about the work of the outside body and their participation in it.

2. Proposal Details

- 2.1 The Cabinet is responsible for making Councillor appointments to outside bodies which precept on the County Council. Following the election in May 2017 the Cabinet made appointments to those outside bodies (Decision references [CAB01 \(17/18\)](#) (http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/ds/edd/cab/cab01_17-18record.pdf) and [CAB03 \(17/18\)](#). (http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/ds/edd/cab/cab03_17-18record.pdf))
- 2.2 A vacancy has arisen on the Littlehampton Harbour Board. The Board is an independent statutory body that is responsible for the management of Littlehampton Harbour as a Trust Port. It is proposed that Cabinet appoints Cllr Jacky Pendleton to the Littlehampton Harbour Board for the remainder of the County Council term (to May 2021).
- 2.3 The Rural Services Network is the national champion for rural services, helping to ensure people in rural areas have a strong voice and maintaining the social and economic viability of rural communities. It is proposed that Cabinet add the Rural Services Network to the County Council's Outside Bodies list and appoints Cllr Janet Dunton to the Rural Services Network for the remainder of the County Council term (May 2021).
- 2.4 A vacancy has arisen on the Environment Agency Southern Regional Flood Coastal Committee. The Committee was established by the Environment Agency under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to ensure coherent plans are in place to identify, communicate and manage flood and coastal erosion risks and encourage investment in these areas across the Southern region. It is proposed that Cabinet appoints Cllr Kevin Boram to the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee for the remainder of the County Council term (to May 2021).

Factors taken into account

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The Cabinet reviewed the list of outside bodies in October 2019 to ensure that the County Council continues to appoint to bodies that are relevant to the County Council and which are consistent with its priorities.

4. Financial (Revenue and Capital) and Resource Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial or resource implications.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6. Risk Assessment Implications and Mitigations

- 6.1. Councillors must consider the implications and responsibilities of being involved with outside bodies as they must:
- Continue to comply with the County Council's Code of Conduct when they are acting as a representative of the Council.
 - Comply with the code of conduct of the outside body they are appointed to if one exists.
 - Declare a personal interest in any business of the County Council where it relates to a body they are appointed to by the County Council.
- 6.2 All Councillors are recommended to make sure that when they take up their appointment with the outside body they have access to the key documents regulating the organisation such as its constitution or terms of reference to ensure they are aware of what the body can and cannot do, and receive a briefing on the body or their role within it if necessary.
- 6.3 There is a risk that appointments will not be made to all of the outside bodies which could hinder the County Council in furthering its interests and priorities, and not develop the external facing role of Members.

7. Other Options Considered (and Reasons for not proposing)

- 7.1 The Cabinet may choose not to appoint to an outside body but should consider whether there are any implications arising for the County Council by not making an appointment.

8. Equality and Human Rights Assessment

- 8.1 This assessment is not required as the decision concerns appointments to outside bodies.

9. Social Value and Sustainability Assessment

- 9.1 Not applicable.

10. Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessment

10.1 None.

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Appendix 1 – Proposed Changes to the List of Outside Bodies

Background papers

None