

By: Ben Watts, General Counsel

To: Selection and Member Services Committee –2 September 2021

Subject: Appointments to Outside Bodies

Summary: To make appointments and nominations on behalf of the Council of representatives to serve on various outside bodies.

1. Introduction

(1) The Committee is charged with making appointments to outside bodies on behalf of the County Council. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 political proportionality principles do not apply to these appointments, but in recent years it has been the County Council's convention that appointments should be shared between the political groups on, so far as possible, a proportional basis.

(2) Two tables have been produced listing outside bodies to which the County Council makes appointments as **Appendices** to this report. The names given are the appointments made by the Committee on 1 July 2021 (in bold) together with either the vacancies for County-wide bodies and the names of the representatives on local bodies before the May elections.

- (a) County-wide bodies (**Appendix 1**)
- (b) local bodies (**Appendix 2**)

(3) In addition, there are various appointments which are made by the Leader of the Council. These will be reported to the Committee in due course.

(4) In my role of Monitoring Officer, I expressed the view that in the light of the provisions of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 KCC there were issues to consider before progressing with appointing someone who was not a Member of KCC. However, there was no issue with appointing a Member as one of the two KCC representatives on the Rochester Bridge Trust. Mrs Sarah Hohler was duly appointed as this representative at the previous meeting. I undertook to consider further the matter of appointing a non-Member as the other KCC representative. The Trust has kindly provided me with a copy of its articles and I will provide an update at the meeting.

(5) The Duke of York Royal Military School has written to Kent County Council, pointing out that it has not been represented on its Governing Body for the past four years. The School has indicated that if KCC is unable to identify a representative from its elected membership, it would be willing to assist by suggesting a possible representative who is not a Member of the Council.

2. Cranbrook School Trust

(1) The Cranbrook School Trust has informed the County Council that Mr Sean Holden (Local Member) has resigned from the Cranbrook School Trust. They have asked that, in the event that KCC is unable to nominate a replacement, it would agree to the amendment of the Trust's articles by removing the provision for KCC to appoint a representative, This would enable the School to undertake its own search for a Trustee. Should KCC be unable to identify a representative, I will report in greater detail on this request to the next meeting of this Committee.

3. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- (a) consider and make appointments and nominations on behalf of the Council of representatives to serve on various outside bodies as set out in **Appendices 1 and 2,**
- (b) note that the appointments made by the Leader will be reported in due course.

4. Background Documents

None

5. Report Author and Relevant Director:

Ben Watts,
Director of Law and Governance
03000 416814
benjamin.watts@kent.gov.uk

Andrew Tait
Democratic Services
03000 416749
andrew.tait@kent.gov.uk