

From: Joel Cook – Democratic Services Manager  
To: Selection and Member Service Committee – 7 May 2026  
Subject: Outside Bodies: Appointments  
Status: Unrestricted

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## **1. Introduction**

- a) This report provides an update on the current position regarding appointments to Outside Bodies, building on decisions and updates provided at the meetings which took place in Autumn 2025 and March 2026.
- b) Selection and Member Services Committee is charged with making appointments to specific Outside Bodies on behalf of the County Council. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 political proportionality principles do not apply to these appointments in most cases, 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.
- c) The Committee has previously been supplied with the Outside Body Protocol – this sets out the framework for Outside Body appointments and the Committee's role. A copy of the protocol is appended for reference.
- d) The Protocol and this Committee's powers of appointment do not extend to the appointments made by the Leader.

## **2. Appointments Update**

- a) At the previous meeting in 2025, the Committee agreed to delegate authority to Officers to make appointments where the requisite number of Members expressed an interest. At the meeting in March 2026, it was confirmed that expressions of interest had been sought but more time was required to fill all vacancies and to resolve any situations where there were more expressions of interest than positions on particular Outside Bodies.
- b) Following the meeting in March, Democratic Services wrote to all Members seeking expressions of interest for those Outside Body opportunities yet to be filled. The deadline for expressions of interest was Monday 27 April.
- c) At the time of writing, expressions of interest have been received for all bar one Outside Body. Officers are undertaking the necessary checks and review work to process the interests and make the arrangements for confirming appointments.
- d) Where viable, appointments are being made under the agreed Delegation from this Committee, and a full list of confirmed appointments will be shared in advance of the meeting on 7 May. Due to the nature of the various Outside Bodies, Democratic

Services will liaise with the relevant Members to ensure the requirements of the appointment are fully understood and to advise of any potential conflicts of interest.

- e) In the relatively small number of cases where multiple expressions of interest have been received for individual appointments, Democratic Services will be engaging with Group Leaders in advance of the upcoming Committee meeting to resolve these. Where this is managed through the engagement phase, the appointments will be confirmed and reported to the Committee. Resolution of this will take account of the point 1b of this report, noting the convention to seek to make appointments on a broadly proportionate basis where possible.
- f) In the event it is not possible to resolve any outstanding appointments, the Committee will be asked to determine the appointment. Relevant papers for any necessary decision on this element will be provided in advance of the meeting if required.

### **3. Recommendation**

The Selection and Member Services Committee is asked to:

- Note the update on appointments
- Determine the approach for any outstanding appointments if required

### **4. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Outside Bodies Protocol.

*Appendices to follow:*

- Appointments progressing
- Appointments outstanding

### **5. Background Documents**

None.

### **6. Report Author and Relevant Director**

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