

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting20th December 2010

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of Outside Bodies

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet considered a report that presented the finding of the Executive Scrutiny Committee's Task and Finish Group following their review of Outside Bodies.

The topic for review was identified by Scrutiny Liaison Forum in February 2010, incorporated into the scrutiny work programme, and delegated to a Task and Finish Group by Executive Scrutiny Committee. The Group examined how appointments were made, the level of Member participation and how Members reported back. The overall aim of the review was to ensure that appointments were of benefit to the Council/outside body and to establish clear reporting back mechanisms thereby improving the quality of outcomes for both the Authority and Stockton residents.

Following consideration by Cabinet an action plan would be submitted to Executive Scrutiny Committee setting out how approved recommendations would be implemented, detailing officers responsible for action and timescales

RESOLVED that:-

1 the information requested annually from Outside Bodies and held by Democratic Services be improved and expanded to include a description of the Body, meeting frequency, time and dates/days of meetings and whether substitutes are permitted, and are categorised in to types of body, e.g. statutory, partnership, joint, community to improve understanding of the nature of the organisations

2 the further information identified above be circulated to Political Groups prior to Annual Council to assist with the consideration of whether a nomination(s) was appropriate, and if so the number of nominations, and identify the appropriate nominee(s) (to be considered at recommendations 3)

3 group secretaries be given the opportunity to meet prior to Annual Council to discuss nominations to Outside Bodies

4 appointments be made on a four year term basis, recognising however, that for various reasons decisions might be required during the 4 years to terminate the original term of office and/or agree a replacement appointment

5 the appointment process be mapped and made available to all Members

6 an area in the Members' Library section on the intranet (and internet if the information could be made available to the public) be allocated for officers to upload relevant information received from Outside Bodies, including reports, minutes, and links to the organisations websites where applicable

7 that, in addition to officers, Members be requested to provide annual feedback from the bodies they were appointed to, monitoring the activity of those bodies and the value of the appointments

8 Members be advised of the relevant officer(s) and Cabinet Member to contact with issues or concerns for each body

9. the Community Development Team and Catalyst be asked to continue to facilitate the provision of advice and assistance to community groups regarding Trustee Liability insurance issues

10. the names of the schools governing bodies, which Members are appointed to be stated on each Member's Egendera profile.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure Members' appointments to and reporting back from bodies become more efficient and effective, thereby improving the quality of outcomes for both the Authority and SBC residents

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillors Beall, Lupton, Mrs McCoy, Nelson, Mrs Womphrey, Laing, Cook and Coleman declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the item entitled Scrutiny Review of Outside Bodies as they were members of organisation(s) referred to in the report.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on 30 December 2010

Proper Officer
22 December 2010