

# Economic Development Sub-Committee

Item No.....

<b>Report title:</b>	<b>Appointments to internal and external bodies</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>14 July 2016</b>
<b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b>	<b>Anne Gibson, Executive Director of Resources</b>
<b>Strategic impact</b>	
<p>Appointments to Outside Bodies are made for a number of reasons, not least that they add value in terms of contributing towards the Council's priorities and strategic objectives. The Council also makes appointments to a number of member level internal bodies such as Boards, Panels, and Steering Groups.</p> <p>Responsibility for appointing to internal and external bodies lies with the Service Committees. The same applies to the positions of Member Champion.</p>	

## **Executive summary**

In the September 2014 cycle, Service Committees undertook a fundamental review of the Outside Bodies to which the Council appoints. The views of members who have served on these bodies together with those bodies themselves and Chief Officers were sought and reported back to Committees.

Set out in the appendix to this report are the outside and internal appointments relevant to this Committee together with the current membership.

## **Recommendation**

- **That Members review and where appropriate make appointments to those external bodies, internal bodies and Champions position as set out in Appendix A.**

## **1. Proposal**

### **Outside Bodies**

1.1 In the September 2014 cycle, all organisations and the current member representatives were invited to provide feedback on the value to the Council and the organisation of continued representation and to make a recommendation to that effect. In addition, Chief Officers were consulted.

1.2 Organisations were asked a number of questions about the role of the Councillor representative. Councillor representatives were asked questions such as how the body aligned with the Council's priorities and challenges and what the benefits are to the people of Norfolk from continued representation. Finally, both

were asked whether they supported continued representation. Committees considered this information and made decisions on appointments. The appendix to this report sets out the outside bodies under the remit of this Committee. Members will note that the current representative is shown against the relevant body. Members are asked to review Appendix A and decide whether to continue to make an appointment, and if so, to agree who the member should be.

## **Internal bodies**

1.3 Set out in Appendix A are the internal bodies that come under the remit of this Committee. There is no requirement for there to be strict political balance as the bodies concerned do not have any executive authority. The current appointments are not made on the basis of strict political proportionality, so the Committee may, if it wishes to retain a particular body, change the political makeup. The members shown in the appendix are those currently serving on the body.

## **2. Evidence**

2.1 The views of the Councillor representative, the organisation and Chief Officer were reported to the Committee when it undertook its fundamental review of appointments in 2014.

## **3. Financial Implications**

The decisions members make will have a small financial implication for the members allowances budget, as attendance at an internal or external body is an approved duty under the scheme, for which members may claim travel expenses.

## **4. Issues, risks and innovation**

4.1 There are no other relevant implications to be considered by members.

## **5. Background**

5.1 The Council makes appointments to a significant number of internal bodies and external bodies. Under the Committee system, responsibility for these bodies lies with the Service Committees.

5.2 There is no requirement for a member of an internal body to be appointed from the “parent committee”. In certain categories of outside bodies it will be most appropriate for the local member to be appointed; in others, Committees will wish to have the flexibility to appoint the most appropriate member regardless of their division or committee membership. In this way a “whole Council” approach can be taken to appointments.

**Background Papers** – There are no background papers relevant to the preparation of this report

## **Officer Contact**

If you have any questions about matters contained or want to see copies of any assessments, e.g. equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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**Economic Development Sub-Committee Outside Bodies**

**2015/16 Appointments shown**

1. Agri-Tech (Eastern) Programme Board (1)

Jonathan Childs

This body makes decisions on the eastern Agri-Tech Growth Initiative Programme Board about which projects to fund from this specific Regional Growth Funded scheme.

2. BID (Norwich Business Improvement District) (1)

George Nobbs (Richard Bearman sub)

The Norwich BID is run for local businesses by local businesses. It aims to make a clear positive impact on the vitality of the City centre and the business within it.

3. Norwich Airport Consultative Committee (1)

Shelagh Gurney, (Sub David Collis)

These meetings are a DfT requirement to enable aerodrome operators and communities in the vicinity of the airport to discuss operational and business matters affecting their interests.

4. Norwich Airport Board (Non-Executive Director) (1)

George Nobbs (Sub Mike Sands).

5. Norfolk Rail Group (4)

Colleen Walker  
Andrew Boswell  
Tim East  
Michael Chenery

To consider strategic rail policy issues and respond to such issues as they arise, and lobby and pursue rail policy objectives on a continuing basis between Norfolk Rail Policy Group meetings.

6. Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1)

John Timewell

Norfolk Chamber of Commerce is an independent, not-for-profit Company that aims to support its membership be more successful and to improve the Norfolk economy. public/private economic development partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk.

7. Greater Thetford Development Board (1)

Denis Crawford

8. New Anglia Skills Board for Norfolk and Suffolk (1 plus 1Substitute)

Colleen Walker

A sub group of the LEP Board which is tasked with steering the implementation of the Greater Norwich/ Greater Ipswich City Deals and the Strategic Economic Plan. Membership consists of representatives of the Further Education sector and training providers with employers. Both Norfolk and Suffolk County councils are represented and can nominate a substitute.

9. Great Yarmouth Town Centre Partnership Company (Gt. Yarmouth) Ltd (1)

Jonathan Childs

The Partnership meets and discusses all relevant issues concerning the Town Centre.

10. Hethel Innovation Ltd (2)

Stuart Clancy  
John Timewell

Runs Hethel Engineering Centre and provides innovation-led business support to businesses in Norfolk/East of England.

11. Great Yarmouth Port Authority (1)

Patrick Hacon (to May 2016)

The Great Yarmouth Port Authority is the parent body of the Outer Harbour. It is a Trust Port deriving its income from Pilotage Charges on commercial shipping entering the port.

12. Eastport – Community and Marine Liaison Committee (1)

Jonathan Childs

To exchange information, ideas and proposals for discussion between the constituent interest groups and the Port's CEO and Harbour Master, thus improving co-ordination and understanding between the different port users

and interest groups within Great Yarmouth with relevance to the operations of the Port.

13. Great Yarmouth Development Company - Area Board (1)

Colleen Walker

The Norfolk Development Company was established to promote economic development on behalf of the local authorities of Norfolk, with an initial emphasis on physical regeneration and development. The company provides a structure for joint ventures which enables new projects to be agreed and implemented more quickly. Individual companies can be established – the first to do so was the Great Yarmouth Development Company, a 50-50 partnership between the County Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council. The agreement states the representative should be the lead member for Economic Development

14. Local Transport Body (LEP sub Group) (1)

Colleen Walker

15. Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association (1)

Ian Mackie

The objectives of the Association are to promote, through the Royal Norfolk Show and other events, the image, understanding and prosperity of agriculture and the countryside.

16. The Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex China Partnership (1)

George Nobbs

Colleen Walker (sub)

The Partnership consists of the three leaders of the authorities, who have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop the Partnership with Jiangsu Province. They meet quarterly to oversee the progress of the Partnership.

**Member Champions**

Apprenticeships – Colleen Walker

County Farms – Ian Mackie

Rail – Michael Chenery

**For information only, below is a list of the Member Working Groups reporting to this Committee:-**

- County Farms
- Scottow Enterprise Park (see separate paper on the agenda about this Working Group)