

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

## **Appointments to Outside Bodies**

### **Summary**

1. At the Annual Council meeting on 21 May 2015, appointments were made to Committees, Outside and Partnership bodies together with appointments to Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the 2015/16 municipal year.
2. A number of changes to appointments were made at the following Full Council meeting on 16 July 2015. The majority of these outstanding appointments were agreed at this meeting, but since then requests have been made for changes to a number of Outside Bodies.

### **Background**

3. The Council makes appointments at its Annual Meeting, to Committees for the coming year. As the Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee has authority to deal with any changes or appointments to those Committees and bodies within year, the following changes have been put forward for consideration:

- (i) **York Central Lead Members Board**
- (ii) **York Outer Ring Road Lead Members Board**

To appoint Councillor Levene to replace Councillor Williams on the above Outside Bodies.

- (iii) **Quality Bus Partnership**

The Quality Bus Partnership (QBP) at present meets on a quarterly basis and brings together stakeholders in York's Public Transport Service, with a view to providing the best quality of bus services and facilities that can be achieved with the resources available to the partners.

When the Partnership was first set up in 2001 the membership included the Cabinet and Shadow Members for Transport together with the relevant transport officers as well as senior representatives

from the York bus operating companies. Prior to the May 2015 election, these meetings were attended by relevant transport officers from the Council, as well as by the Executive Member for Transport and a representative of the opposition (Cllr. Richardson).

Since the Partnership was established in 2001 and following recent changes in the make up of the Council, the QBP has been looking at the makeup of the body and Council engagement with the York bus operators. There is a desire to achieve better engagement between the bus operators and Members, generally.

As a result, the Partnership has agreed to invite a wider cross party representative selection of elected Councillors to attend the Partnership every 6 months, on the basis of there being no more than 2 representatives from each of the main Groups (Conservative, Liberal Democrat, Labour and Green). One of these representatives should be the Executive Member for Transport.

These sessions will, in effect, act as 'forums' for debate on the issues with elected Members. The first of these would provide an opportunity for bus operators to update members on the issues, challenges and opportunities facing the bus industry. The next would allow the bus operators to table their strategic concerns / aspirations with elected members. Additional 'ad-hoc' meetings would then be held, as required, involving elected members on an issue by issue, operator by operator basis.

In light of this new way of working, this Committee is asked to appoint appropriate elected Members to attend the Quality Bus Partnership every 6 months, as outlined above and as nominated by the main Groups on the Council.

4. These appointments has been brought to the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee for consideration as the relevant meetings of the bodies concerned are due to take place prior to the next December Council meeting.

### **Consultation**

5. The Labour Group have been consulted on the appropriate replacement for Councillor Williams outlined in this report. In respect of the changes to involvement with the Quality Bus Partnership, consultation on appropriate nominees is taking place with Groups and details of nominees will be reported at the meeting, where known.

## **Options**

6. There are no options associated with these appointments.

## **Council Plan 2015-19**

7. This report is relevant to three key priorities of the new Council Plan 2015-19 namely 'A Focus on Frontline Services, 'A Prosperous City for All' and 'A Council that Listens to Residents'. In particular, engagement with the Quality Bus Partnership will contribute to the provision of efficient and affordable transport links to enable resident and businesses to access key services and opportunities. Maintaining an appropriate decision making structure, together with appropriate nominees to outside bodies, contribute to the Council delivering its core priorities set out in the current Council Plan, effectively.

## **Implications**

8. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific appointments set out in this report:
  - Financial
  - Human Resources (HR)
  - Equalities
  - Crime and Disorder
  - Property
  - Other

## **Legal Implications**

9. The Council is statutorily obliged to make appointments to Committees, Advisory Committees, Sub-Committees and certain other prescribed bodies in accordance with the political balance rules.

## **Risk Management**

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **Recommendations**

11. Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee is asked to:
  - (i) Endorse the appointment of Councillor Levene as a replacement for Cllr Williams on the York Central and York Outer Ring Road Lead Members Boards.

- (ii) Appoint those elected Members nominated by the main Groups to attend the Quality Bus Partnership every 6 months, including the Executive Member for Transport, on the lines set out in paragraph 3(ii) above. *(Nominations to be confirmed at the meeting)*

Reason: In order to make appropriate appointments to the Council's Committees and Outside Bodies for the current municipal year.

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**Report  
Approved**



**Date** 13 November 2015

**Specialist Implications Officers**

Not applicable

**Wards Affected:** Not applicable

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers**

None

**Annexes**

None