

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Summary

1. Following the Westfield By-Election, a number of changes within Groups and the number of Independent Members, an Extraordinary meeting of Council was held on 23 October 2014. The meeting was held in order to review the allocation of seats, appointments to the Council structure and outside bodies for the remainder of the municipal year, in accordance with the political balance requirements under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Background

2. The Council makes appointments at its Annual Meeting, to Committees for the coming year and following the above Extraordinary meeting a number of additional changes and appointments have now been requested. 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 and additions are now put forward for consideration:

3. **Audit & Governance Committee**

Subsequent to last week's Council meeting, a request has been made for Councillor Brooks to replace Councillor Potter as Vice-Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee. The Labour Group intend to move a proposal to retain Councillor Potter as Vice Chair of the Committee.

4. **Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

We have also been advised that Councillor Fitzpatrick will be replacing Councillor Reid as Vice-Chair of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. **Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber)**

A vacancy has arisen on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) following the resignation of Councillor Funnell as the City of York Council representative. Councillor Doughty has been nominated for this vacancy, with Councillor Funnell as substitute.

6. **NewCo Shareholders Group**

The creation of NewCo as a company follows a report to City of York Council in November 2013 in which Cabinet members agreed to develop a new approach to delivering marketing, culture, tourism and business development for York and its economic area.

NewCo will act independently from the Council, though it will be wholly owned by the Council. There will shortly be a paper to Cabinet containing the business plan with the financial model and the company will be set up after that point.

The nominations below relate to the shareholder committee and not the board of NewCo. There is a separate process for the set up of the NewCo board and identifying and appointing Directors.

The shareholder committee is a body that represents the council's interests as the sole shareholder. The Shareholder Committee provides a simple mechanism with which the Shareholder, in this case the Council, can engage with the Board of NewCo. It provides a forum to influence the NewCo Board of Directors on the direction of the company, scrutiny of the affairs of the company, appointment of new Directors and Directors pay packages in order to maintain an element of control over the business without affecting the operational management of the company.

To ensure wide cross party representation on the Committee, it is suggested that the representation of political parties be 2 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Conservative and 1 Green.

The nominations by each of the parties, above, are as follows:

NewCo Stakeholder Committee (5)			
Party	Composition	Membership	Status
Labour	(2)	Cllr Crisp	
		Cllr Williams	
			Substitute
Conservative	(1)	Cllr Steward	
			Substitute
Liberal Democrat	(1)	Cllr Hyman	
			Substitute
Green	(1)	Cllr Taylor	
			Substitute

A chief officer will also be represented on the Shareholder Committee. It is recommended that this be the Director of Customer and Business Support Services. The Chair of the NewCo Board will also form part of the Committee.

In addition, a request has been made for the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism to Chair the Shareholder Committee.

7. **York Central Lead Members**

The York Central Lead Members (YCLM) will provide a steer to the strategic direction of travel for CYC involvement in the development and delivery of the York Central site and Station Gateway projects (collectively, the York Central Programme).

The YCLM will fit within a wider strategic context, which culminates in governance terms in a joint CYC-Network Rail York Central Partnership Programme Board (YCPPB). This latter joint board has been set up as the partnership decision-making body for the site and station projects.

An officer working group has been established to steer the Council's contribution to the project with relevant teams represented. This is chaired by the Director of City & Environmental Services, who also co-chairs the joint project board with Network Rail.

The area with which 'York Central' is concerned comprises the brownfield 'teardrop' site to the north and west of the rail station in the city centre, as well as the proposals to redevelop the Station Gateway.

Representing the largest brownfield regeneration opportunity in the city, with 35ha of developable land, the development of the York Central site is a vital project for the future of York; the Station Gateway offers a complementary opportunity to work with Network Rail to encourage and grow modal interchange at this key hub for North Yorkshire, East Riding and the Leeds City Region.

Whilst efforts have been made in previous years to redevelop the site, these attempts have met with some difficulty, hindered in particular by the constraints posed in accessing the site, and the cost of the enabling infrastructure required to overcome these. Over recent years, however, considerable progress has been made in overcoming these constraints - including the rationalisation of Network Rail's operations across the site, facilitated by important land purchases such as the Thrall Works which allows rail uses to be supported elsewhere, and the return of leasehold interests within the site to Network Rail greatly assisting in the land assembly process and allowing development plots to be readily brought forward.

The first step toward redevelopment has already been taken, with the recent opening of the Rail Operating & Workforce Development Centres by Network Rail. This has put a new, high quality facility on the site, demonstrating a long term commitment to the site.

Strong Council leadership and involvement has also strengthened the redevelopment case; in particular the commitment to fund a crucial new bridge link and access road in to the site from Holgate Road in the south, allowing a maximum quantum of development on the site, securing a viable scheme, and to unlock a new western entrance to York Railway Station, offering wider benefits to the city.

Taking into account all these dimensions and the significant progress now being made, it is important for a York Central Leaders Group to emerge reflecting a wide representation and dynamic. Members are asked to consider an appropriate composition at this meeting and whether that should include representation from all parties and Ward Members for instance.

The Combined Opposition Groups have indicated that they will propose the following composition and membership at the meeting:

6 cross-party places:

- 1 x Conservative Group – Councillor Steward
- 1 x Liberal Democrat Group – Councillor Aspden
- 1 x Green Group – Councillor D’Agorne
- 1 x Labour Independent – Councillor King
- 1 x Independent – Councillor Watson

8. **City of York Council Trading Company Shareholder Board**

A request has been made for a change in the Council’s membership on the City of York Council Trading Company Shareholder Board. The Council’s present representation on the Board consists of 3 Labour members (Councillors Alexander, McIlveen and Semlyen).

The combined Opposition Groups will be proposing to amend the composition, to provide cross party representation, with 1 Labour, 1 Conservative (Councillor Healey) and 1 Liberal/Democrat Member (Councillor Cuthbertson).

When set up in October 2011, the membership of this Board was originally delegated to the Councillor Leader but has subsequently been confirmed and re-appointed to by Council. As a result, the Leader may wish to nominate himself as Labour nominee and Chair.

9. **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Investment Committee**

At the Extraordinary Council meeting on 23 October 2014, Councillor Levene was appointed to this Committee, in his capacity as Cabinet Member for Transport. Since then, a request has been received from the combined Opposition Groups to replace Councillor Levene with Councillor Healey on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority’s Investment Committee.

10. **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Audit & Governance Committee.**

At the Extraordinary Council meeting on 23 October 2014, Councillor McIlveen was appointed to this Committee. Since then, a request has been received from the combined Opposition Groups to replace Councillor McIlveen with Councillor Waller on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority’s Audit and Governance Committee.

11. **Police and Crime Panel**

At the Council meeting held on 23 October, it was noted that two nominations were required for the Police and Crime Panel. The first nomination was Councillor Warters (Ind); the second Labour nomination was to be confirmed. We have now had confirmation that the Labour appointment will be Councillor Fitzpatrick.

Consultation

12. In accordance with the usual process for gathering nominations to available places, the relevant Groups and individuals have been consulted, as appropriate, and provided with the necessary information.

Options

13. The Committee has the option either to approve or propose alternatives to the nominations proposed in this report.

Council Plan 2011-15

14. Establishing an appropriate decision making and scrutiny structure and appointees to that, contributes to the Council delivering its core priorities set out in the Council Plan, effectively.

Implications

15. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matters before Members:

- Financial
- Human Resources (HR)
- Equalities
- Crime and Disorder
- Property
- Other

Legal Implications

16. 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, where applicable.

Proportionality does not strictly apply to the 'outside bodies' under reconsideration for appointment of representatives at this meeting.

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee is asked to consider and agree the following appointments and nominations as set out in paragraphs 3 to 11 above for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year:

- (i) To consider the request for Councillor Brooks to replace Councillor Potter as Vice-Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee.
- (ii) To appoint Councillor Fitzpatrick to replace Councillor Reid as Vice-Chair of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (iii) To agree to the appointment of Councillor Doughty to fill the vacancy on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) with Councillor Funnell as the substitute representative.
- (iv) To consider the nominations, set out in paragraph 6 to the NewCo Shareholders Committee, including the request for the Cabinet Member to Chair the Committee.
- (v) To consider appointments to the York Central Lead Members Group referred to at paragraph 7 of the report.
- (vi) To consider changes to membership of the City of York Council Trading Company, as referred to at paragraph 8 of the report.
- (vii) To consider the request for a revised nomination to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Investment Committee.

- (viii) To consider the request for a revised nomination to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee.
- (ix) To confirm the nomination of Councillor Fitzpatrick as the Labour member of the Police and Crime Panel.

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**



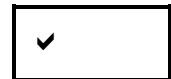
Date 3 November 2014

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