



REPORT TO:	South Holland District Council
DATE:	Wednesday, 17 May 2023
SUBJECT:	Appointment of Councillors to Outside Bodies, appointment of Member Champions and appointment of members as Directors/Shareholder Representatives to the Boards of PSPS, Welland Homes and South Holland Homes
PURPOSE:	To consider: 1) the benefits of making appointments to outside bodies that are now due and to make such appointments as deemed appropriate for the period 2023 – 2027; 2) appointing Member Champions; and 3) appointing members as Directors/Shareholder Representatives to PSPS, Welland Homes and South Holland Homes
KEY DECISION:	No
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Communications
REPORT OF:	Assistant Director – Governance (Monitoring Officer)
REPORT AUTHOR:	Samantha Bradley, Christine Morgan
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	N/A
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider making appointments to Outside Bodies for the period 2023 –27, as well as appointing Member Champions, and making appointments to PSPS, Welland Homes and South Holland Homes.

Appointments are made to a number of Outside Bodies for various reasons, for instance following an invitation from the Outside Body; in accordance with statute or regulations; or to enable the authority to be represented on national forums and groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To make appointments to outside bodies for the period 2023-2027 where deemed appropriate (as set out at Appendix B);
2. To appoint Member Champions; and
3. To appoint Directors to the Boards of PSPS, Welland Homes and South Holland Homes, and Shareholder Representatives as detailed.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To ensure South Holland District Council has representation on outside bodies, which are deemed appropriate for appointment.

To ensure the Council has representation and therefore a voice on appropriate Outside Bodies throughout the District. Councillors appointed also have the opportunity to update full Council meetings on the work of each Outside Body.

To ensure that positions that have become vacant on the Boards of PSPS, Welland Homes and South Holland Homes, and Shareholder Representative positions are filled.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- a) That appointments are made to all outside bodies, Member Champion and Company positions as set out in Appendix B.
- b) That Councillors do not appoint to any outside bodies, Member Champion roles or Companies.
- c) That Councillors appoint only to certain outside bodies, Member Champion positions and Companies.

1. REPORT

- 1.1** The Council currently appoints representatives to over 20 organisations. Appointments are made to these outside bodies for various reasons, for instance following an invitation by the outside body; in accordance with statute or regulations; or to enable the authority to be represented on national forums and groups.
- 1.2** The Council's Constitution, which sets out how the Council Operates, provides that appointments to outside bodies will be made at the annual meeting of the Council. The exception to this is when such appointments have been delegated by the Council or where appointments are exercisable only by the Cabinet and in some instances, should an appointment need to be added or altered during the municipal year, this would be done at an ordinary meeting of Full Council.
- 1.3** Although no appointments have actually been delegated by the Council, the Cabinet does have responsibility for functions which relate to the aims of various outside bodies to which representatives are appointed. The Council's previous practice had not been to appoint representatives based upon political group representation, and it is more practical for full Council to consider appointments

1.4 Attached at Appendix A are details about each outside body, Appendix B shows the proposed nominations for the outside bodies. Included within these appendices are nominations received from each group; Conservative and Independent.

2.0 INSURANCE

2.1 Details are held on public and employers' liability insurance for each organisation, members are asked to note the following:

- Where the Council's representative is an advisor or observer only, the role does not include a decision-making function so any risk is minimal.
- Where the Council's representative serves in an executive capacity it is suggested that the appropriate indemnity insurance should amount to £5,000,000 public liability and £5,000,000 employers' liability, the latter being, in any case, a statutory requirement where the organisation is a company;
- Where the outside organisation is controlled or influenced by one or more local authorities, the individuals serving on the body could look to the authority(ies) for indemnity.

2.2 Since March 1999 it has been the policy of the Council to appoint or reappoint representatives to outside bodies only in certain circumstances, namely;

- In the capacity of an advisor or observer only;
- In an executive capacity where the organisation can produce evidence of adequate insurance to indemnify such representatives.
- If the organisation is controlled or influenced by the Council; and
- If the organisation was established by two or more local authorities for the discharge of their functions.

The law does however now allow the Council to insure its members on outside bodies and our corporate insurance does include suitable provisions.

2.3 In the case of appointments in the capacity of a Company Director, the Council ensures that suitable insurance and indemnities are in place.

3.0 REPLACEMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS AND SHAREHOLDER REPRESENTATIVES AT PSPS, WELLAND HOMES AND SOUTH HOLLAND HOMES

3.1 Following the District Election on 4 May 2023, the following Councillors were not re-elected, and the positions detailed below and at Appendix B need to be filled:

- Councillor Grocock – PSPS (Director)
- Councillor Coupland – PSPS (Shareholder Representative)

- Councillor Coupland – South Holland Homes (Director)
- Councillor Drury – South Holland Homes (Director)

- Councillor Grocock – South Holland Homes (Shareholder Representative)
- Councillor Coupland – Welland Homes (Director)
- Councillor Seymour – Welland Homes (Director)
- Councillor Grocock – Welland Homes (Shareholder Representative)

4.0 EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

4.1 The expected benefits of appointments are that they ensure the Council has representation and therefore, a voice on appropriate outside bodies throughout the district. Councillors appointed also have the opportunity to update full Council meetings on the work of each outside body.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

In preparing this report, the report author has considered the likely implications of the decision - particularly in terms of Climate Change and Environmental; Constitutional & Legal; Contracts; Corporate Priorities; Crime & Disorder; Data Protection; Equality & Diversity/Human Rights; Financial; Health & Wellbeing; Reputation; Risk Management; Safeguarding; Staffing; Stakeholders/Consultation/Timescales; Where the report author considers that there may be implications under one or more of these headings, these are identified below.

5.1 Climate Change and Environmental

5.1.1 Councillors are expected to travel to meetings of outside bodies, which can have an impact on the individual's carbon footprint. There may be an expectation that Councillors print copies of paperwork for meetings.

5.2 Constitutional & Legal

5.2.1 Full Council has the authority to appoint, nominate or remove representatives to outside bodies. The Cabinet may also make appointments.

5.3 Corporate Priorities

5.3.1 Having representatives appointed to outside bodies ensures that the district is well represented at each organisation. Councillors can, where appropriate, ensure that South Holland's priorities are voiced, (the priorities are detailed within the Corporate Plan) and help to achieve common goals.

5.4 Financial

5.4.1 Travel and subsistence allowances are payable in respect of attendance at meetings of all outside bodies and budget provision has been made for this. Details are set out in the Scheme of Payments of Members' Allowances, at Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

5.5 Health & Wellbeing

5.5.1 A number of the outside bodies to which appointments are made have a direct impact on the health and/or wellbeing of individuals.

5.6 Stakeholders / Constitution / Timescales

5.6.1 All outside bodies listed within the Schedule at Appendix A are stakeholders

6.0 ACRONYMS

6.1 None

APPENDICES	
Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -	
APPENDIX A	Outside Bodies information
APPENDIX B	Schedule of Outside Body nominations, Member Champion nominations and Director/Shareholder Representative nominations

BACKGROUND PAPERS
No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT
A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

REPORT APPROVAL	
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