To the Chair and Members of the COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES: POLICE & CRIME PANEL, THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to agree changes to the Council’s representative’s on the Police and Crime Panel (PCP), the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), Black Drain Internal Drainage Board and Doncaster East Drainage Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2 i. That Council approve:
   a) The appointment of Councillor John McHale to replace the Mayor on the Police and Crime Panel
   b) The appointment of Councillor Joe Blackham as the substitute for Councillor McHale on the Police and Crime Panel
   c) The appointment of Patricia Schofield to replace Councillor Doreen Woodhouse as the Conservative representative on the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
   d) A replacement representative for Mark Houlbrook on the Black Drain Internal Drainage Board.
   e) That these appointments take immediate effect and be subject to review at Annual Council in June 2014.


BACKGROUND

3. At the Annual Council meeting held on 24th May 2013 appointments were made to a number of outside bodies for the forthcoming municipal year. A number of requests have subsequently been made by political groups to review the appointments made to the PCP and the SACRE to ensure the Council can continue to be adequately represented on these outside bodies. Due to recent resignations on the Black Drain Internal Drainage Board and Doncaster East Drainage Board, Council is required to make appointments to these outside bodies to ensure it maintains full representation.
Police and Crime Panel (PCP)

4. The PCP is a scrutiny body made up of elected Members across South Yorkshire, its key role is to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to account for the setting and delivery of policing priorities within South Yorkshire and in holding the Chief Constable to account. The appointments to this Panel need to take account of political balance across South Yorkshire. The regulations also provide for the elected Mayor of an area that is served by the PCC to be offered a seat on the PCP. At the meeting on 24th May 2014, Mayor Ros Jones was appointed to the Committee with Councillor Glyn Jones appointed as her named substitute. The Conservative representative was Councillor Patricia Bartlett and Councillor Jonathon Wood was the Conservative Group’s named substitute.

5. A request has now been made by the Labour Group to review the current arrangements and Councillor John McHale has subsequently been nominated as the Mayor’s representative on this outside body and Councillor Joe Blackham is proposed as his substitute. This proposal is in keeping with the requirements of political balance and also ensures that those Members appointed have the right skills set and experience to participate in these meetings as Councillor John McHale is a former member of the South Yorkshire Police Authority.

Standing Advisory Council For Religious Education (SACRE)

6. In May 2013 Council appointed Councillor Doreen Woodhouse as the Conservative representative on the SACRE. The role of the SACRE is to advise the local authority on matters related to an agreed RE syllabus and collective worship in the majority of maintained schools. The Conservative Group has requested that this appointment be reviewed and requested that Council support the appointment of Councillor Patricia Schofield as their replacement for Councillor Woodhouse on this outside body.

7. This appointment would ensure the requirement for political balance is maintained i.e. 3 Labour representatives (Councillors Susan Bolton, Sue Knowles and Kevin Rodgers) and one Conservative Member.

Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)

8. IDBs were established to help manage water levels within an area and have an important role in managing flood risk. They are funded through rates paid by local land owners and the local authority paying a special levy, this represents the largest proportion of the IDB funding. Much of their work involves maintenance of rivers, adopted water courses, pumping stations and other infrastructure. IDBs also provide advice on planning applications to ensure new developments do not have an adverse impact on local drainage or access to watercourses.
9. Although it is not essential that all representatives are current DMBC Councillors, it is important that appointees support the Council’s aims and objectives. The Council may consider appointing representation from other major local stakeholders that could or would be impacted and/or involved in the delivery of the function of Land Drainage or can bring some level of expertise.

Black Drain Internal Drainage Board (BDIDB)

10. The Council has 10 places on this outside body although it only appointed to 9 of these at Council on 24th May leaving one vacancy. The Council has recently been notified that Mark Houlbrook who was appointed by Council on 24th May 2014 as a representative on the BDIDB has recently resigned. Council is therefore asked to appoint a representative to fill this vacancy with immediate effect. Appointments to the BDIDB are made on an Annual basis at Annual Council and current representation is as follows: Cllr J. Blackham, Cllr L. Curran, Mr. A. Allott, Mr. J. Bloor, Mr. G. Derx, Mr. K. Knight, Mr. M. Oldknow, Mr. D. Oldroyd and one vacancy.

Doncaster East Drainage Board (DEDB)

11. At its meeting on 26th September 2013 Council appointed 13 representatives to DEDB for the period 1st November 2013 to 31st October 2016 (subject to annual review). One of the Council’s representatives, Stuart Widdowson has recently resigned and Council is required to appoint a replacement to this position. Mr Widdowson also represented the Coal Authority who own and maintain a number of pumping stations in the area. Current representatives on this outside body include:
   Mr. J. Bloor, Mrs. R. Chapman, Councillor Linda Curran, Mr. L. Garrett (DMBC Officer), Mr. J. Hoare, Mr. L. Hunt, Mr. K. Knight, Councillor Chris McGuinness, Councillor Hilary McNamee, Mr. R. Mitchell, Mr. M. Oldknow and Councillor Sue Wilkinson and one vacancy.

12. Group Leaders have been informed of these vacancies and the following individuals have been nominated by the Labour Group: Doncaster East Drainage Board – Jeremy Crooks (Coal Authority) Black Drain Internal Drainage Board – Richard Ward (DMBC officer).

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

13. The option not to support these changes could weaken the Council’s position by not ensuring effective representation on these outside bodies.

REASON FOR RECOMMEND OPTION

14. The recommendations put forward seek to ensure the Council continues to be effectively represented on these outside bodies. The nominations have been made in consultation with the relevant group leaders.
IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY PRIORITIES

15. Representatives on the PCP support the delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioners priorities for reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and improving community safety, this supports the delivery of priority themes 2, 3 and 5. The SACRE supports priority 1 by providing a syllabus for schools to teach RE. The role of SACRE can also support and promote community cohesion thereby supporting priority 3. IDBs help manage water levels and support effective flood management within the borough.

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<tr>
<th>Council Plan Priority Theme 2013/14</th>
<th>Implications of this initiative</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Doncaster’s economy develops and thrives, underpinned by effective education and skill</td>
<td>SACRE – see above</td>
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<td>2. Children are safe</td>
<td>PCP – see above</td>
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<td>3. Stronger families and stronger communities</td>
<td>PCP and SACRE – see above</td>
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<td>4. Modernised and sustainable Adult Social Care Services with increased choice and control</td>
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| 5. Effective arrangements are in place to deliver a clean, safe and attractive local environment | PCPC - see above  
IDB’s see above |
| 6. The Council is operating effectively, with change embedded and sustained with robust plans in place to operate within future resource allocations. |                                  |

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

16. Representatives appointed to these outside bodies will need to act strategically and ensure issues of significance are effectively reported back to Council and Ward Members where appropriate.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

17. There are no specific legal requirements associated with this report. The proposals for appointments to the Police and Crime Panel are consistent with Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

18. If the Council (a Charging Authority) are to appoint members to Internal Drainage Boards, it must do so in compliance with Part II of Schedule 1 to the Land Drainage Act 1991. The Charging Authority shall have regard to the desirability of appointing a person who has knowledge or experience of some matter relevant to the functions of the Board and has shown capacity in such a matter.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. There are no specific financial implications in respect of the appointments to the SACRE or IDB’s. In accordance with the South Yorkshire Scheme any Member of the Police and Crime Panel is entitled to an allowance of £920 per annum, this is funded by the Home Office and administered by Rotherham Council who host the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel. It is proposed that this allowance will be reviewed during the forthcoming year.

CONSULTATION

20. The relevant group leaders have been consulted in respect of these proposals.

BACKGROUND PAPERS


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