

**To the Chair and Members of the  
COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES – SHEFFIELD CITY REGION  
COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT COMMITTEE AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE  
POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. This report seeks the Council's approval of appointments of Member representatives to fill existing vacancies on the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority's (SCRCA) Transport Committee and the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel (PCP).

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The Council is asked to:-
  - (i) appoint a replacement Conservative Councillor as a Member representative on the Transport Committee of the SCRCA; and
  - (ii) appoint Councillor John Healy as the replacement Labour Councillor to fill the current vacancy on the Police and Crime Panel.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

3. In addition to being appointed to Committees and Panels within the Council, Councillors are also appointed to external bodies such as charitable bodies, local partnerships and other organisations. This can be either as representatives of the Council, as trustees or directors in their own right. The Council also has representatives on bodies known as Joint Authorities, including the Police and Crime Panel.

**BACKGROUND**

SCRCA Transport Committee

4. At its last meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016, the Council appointed Councillor R. A. Jones to the SCRCA Transport Committee as the replacement Member representative from the Conservative Group, to join the remaining two representatives (Councillors Joe Blackham and Bill Mordue). Unfortunately the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat has determined that Councillor Jones cannot sit on both the SCRCA's Scrutiny and Transport Committees as the Scrutiny Committee holds the Transport Committee to account. It is therefore necessary for Council to appoint a different Member to serve as the Conservative Group representative on the Transport Committee.

## South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

5. The Police and Crime Panel's role is to scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner, to promote openness in the transaction of police business and also to support the PCC in the effective exercise of their functions. Following the sad passing of Councillor Alan Jones on 16 August 2016, there is a need to fill the current vacancy for one Labour Councillor on the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel. Consequently, the Labour Group is proposing to nominate Councillor John Healy to take up this position. The Council's other Member representatives on the PCP are Councillor C McGuinness and Cllr G Jones (Substitute).

### **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

6. To appoint Member representatives to the SCRCA Transport Committee and the Police and Crime Panel (recommended option).
7. To not fill the current vacancies in the Council's representation on the SCRCA Transport Committee and Police and Crime Panel (not recommended). This would not meet the political proportionality requirements that apply to both of these particular bodies or enable Doncaster to be fully represented on them.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

8. It is important that Doncaster MBC is represented on the outside bodies identified in this report to enable Doncaster to contribute towards the delivery of these bodies' functions. As set out in the body of the report, the membership of the SCRCA Transport Committee is subject to political proportionality across the 4 South Yorkshire districts and only a Conservative councillor may be appointed. Similarly, the allocation of seats on the Police and Crime Panel is based on proportionality across South Yorkshire. Currently, this equates to DMBC being entitled to appoint 2 x Labour Councillors, plus substitutes, to the Panel.

### **IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES**

9. This report has no direct impact on the Council's Key Outcomes. Indirectly, clear responsibility and effective Constitutional provisions for making appointments to Outside Bodies contributes towards the Council's outcome 'Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance', thus demonstrating that effective governance arrangements are in place.

### **RISKS & ASSUMPTIONS**

10. Appointees to outside bodies will need to act strategically and ensure issues of significance are effectively reported back to the Authority where appropriate.
11. During 2015/16 work was undertaken to review the Governance of the Council's arrangements and relationship with outside bodies and partnerships. One of the key elements of this work was to ensure that representatives appointed to Outside Bodies were clear of their roles and responsibilities. A particular risk exists where representatives may act beyond their powers or potentially commit the Council to unauthorised actions or expenditure. To

mitigate this risk training is provided for all individuals appointed to outside bodies to raise awareness and provide clarity and understanding of their roles. In addition, the Council may also provide indemnity insurance for individuals against personal liability, provided they act reasonably, and where this is not provided by the relevant partner organisation.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

12. The SCRCA was established by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The membership of the SCRCA Transport Committee is subject to political proportionality across the 4 South Yorkshire districts. Currently, this equates to Doncaster Council being entitled to nominate 3 representatives (voting members) on this body, i.e. 2 x Labour and 1 x Conservative.
13. Police and Crime Panels were established as part of the new Police governance framework introduced by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The allocation of seats on the Police and Crime Panel is based on proportionality across South Yorkshire. Currently, this equates to DMBC being entitled to appoint 2 x Labour Councillors to the Panel.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

14. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

## **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**

15. There are no specific technology implications arising from this report.

## **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

16. There are no specific equality implications associated with this report.

## **CONSULTATION**

17. Consultation has taken place with the relevant Group Leaders in respect of these appointments.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report to Council – 15th September 2016: Appointment of Conservative Councillor Representative to Sheffield City Region Combined Authority's Transport Committee.

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