

To: City Executive Board
Date: 20 June 2017
Report of: Acting Head of Law and Governance
Title of Report: Appointments to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations 2017/18

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To agree appointments to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations for the 2017/18 Council Year.
Key decision:	No
Executive Board Member:	Cllr Bob Price, Executive Board Member for Corporate Strategy and Economic Development
Corporate Priority:	None
Policy Framework:	None
Recommendations: That the City Executive Board resolves to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve appointments to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations as shown in Appendix 1; 2. Note the guidance for appointees as detailed in Appendix 2; 3. Agree to remove Oxford in Bloom, the Oxford Advisory Hub and Headington Action from the list of charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations. 	

Appendices	
Appendix 1	List of nominations to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations for 2017/18 (with 2016/17 appointments listed for reference).
Appendix 2	Guidance Note for Members appointed to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations.
Appendix 3	Council grants awarded to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations for 2017/18.
Appendix 4	Risk Register

Introduction

1. The Council currently has representatives on a total of 58 outside bodies (23 organisations, 19 community associations, 9 charities and 7 trusts). These are detailed at Appendix 1. Of the 45 individual representatives 39 are current members of the City Council. Most of Council's representatives sit on the committee of the organisation to which they have been appointed, with many acting in a non-voting advisory role or simply being invited to attend meetings. All the charity representatives are trustees of the respective charities.
2. Guidance to assist Council representatives on these organisations is provided upon appointment. This ensures that all appointees understand their role and responsibilities in representing the Council on the organisation. A copy of the guidance, revised in 2016, is attached at Appendix 2.
3. The appointment of representatives to these Outside Bodies is in the gift of the Leader of the Council, who chooses to seek Executive Board agreement to his nominations.
4. On occasions a change in representation is required during the year. Such in-year appointments are delegated to the Head of Law and Governance in consultation with the Leader of the Council, and where appropriate with other group leaders.
5. The Council also has representatives on 10 partnerships (see Appendix 1 for details) but the Leader of the Council may only make nominations to 3 of these partnerships. In the case of the remaining 7 partnerships the appointments are either made by the individual partnership or determined by virtue of a councillor's position as a member of the City Council's Executive Board.

Review of Council representation 2016

6. In the summer of 2016 the Committee & Member Services Team conducted a thorough review of the Council's association with the 9 charities and 7 trusts. The purpose of the review was to renew and refresh contact with the organisations to ensure that the relationship with the Council was still relevant and update administrative details as appropriate.
7. As a result of that review the following changes were made during the year:
 - **St Aldates Parochial Charity:** at the request of the charity - representation was reduced to 1
 - **Alice Smith Trust and Sarah Nowell Educational Organisation:** at the request of the charity – representation was reduced to 1 (Mr Bryan Keen is now appointed directly by the organisation)
 - **City of Oxford Charity** – Cllr Curran replaced Cllr Coulter
 - **Non Ecclesiastical Charities of St Mary's Magdalen** – Council may appoint up to 2 reps but has only appointed 1 in recent years as the Charity has indicated that currently this is a more appropriate level of support
 - **EMBS Community College** – Cllr Azad replaced Cllr Lloyd-Shogbesan
 - **Fusion** – Cllr Simm replaced Cllr Coulter

8. A similar review will take place in the summer of 2017 focussing on the Council's links with general organisations and community associations.

Annual Review - feedback from Councillors and Outside Bodies 2016/17

9. All Council representatives were asked to comment on the organisations' contribution to the local community and the Council's corporate objectives and whether they felt it was valuable having Council representation on that organisation. 35 of the representatives returned feedback forms.
10. As in previous years each organisation was invited to comment on the contribution made by the Council's representative, although historically response rates have been low. This year 18 organisations returned the form, the majority coming from the trusts and charities where direct contact had been renewed as a result of the review exercise undertaken in the summer of 2016. It is hoped that a further initiative to re-establish contact in the summer of 2017 will lead to a higher response rate next year.
11. All of the feedback forms were reviewed by the Leader of the Council and used to inform his recommendations on future appointments.
12. Where any concerns were raised, for example non-attendance at meetings, these have been addressed by the Leader of the Council with the representative or organisation concerned and the outcomes are reflected in the recommendations on future appointments.

Proposed changes to representation in 2017/18

13. Appendix 1 sets out the proposed nominations to the individual organisations for 2017/18.
14. Following consideration of the feedback from councillors and organisations the Leader of the Council has proposed the following specific changes to the list of organisations for 2017/18:

Outside Body	Decision
Oxford in Bloom	Remove from list as no requirement for a Council representative. The competition element of the Oxford in Bloom will be replaced with entry into the RHS Thames & Chiltern competition under their expanding 'It's Your Neighbourhood' campaign which supports community groups in cleaning up and greening up their immediate local environment.
Oxford Advisory Hub	Remove from list as no requirement for a Council representative.
Headington Action	Remove from list. Headington Action revised its constitution in 2017 as a result Oxford City Council can no longer make appointments to this organisation. In future the elected ward councillors for the Headington area (Barton & Sandhills, Churchill, Headington, Headington Hill & Northway, Lye Valley, Quarry & Risinghurst) will be appointed as Trustees by the organisation.

Grants awarded to organisations in 2017/18

15. In 2017/18, the Council has agreed to award grants totalling £824,243 to 13 of the charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations to which it appoints representatives. See Appendix 3 for details.

Legal and Financial issues

16. This report has no legal or financial implications for the Council.

Level of risk

17. A risk register is attached at Appendix 4.

Equalities impact

18. An Equalities Impact Assessment is not necessary for this report.

Report author	Catherine Phythian
Job title	Committee & Member Services Officer
Service area or department	Committee and Member Services
Telephone	01865 252402
e-mail	cphythian@oxford.gov.uk

Background Papers: None