

To: Cabinet
Date: 12 July 2023
Report of: Head of Law and Governance
Title of Report: Appointments to Outside Bodies 2023/24

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To agree appointments to Outside Bodies for the 2023/24 Council Year
Key decision:	No
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Susan Brown, Leader - Inclusive Economy and Partnerships
Corporate Priority:	Support Thriving Communities
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2020-24
Recommendations: That Cabinet resolves to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve appointments to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations as shown in Appendices 1A – 1D and note the appointments to partnerships as detailed in Appendix 1E; 2. Note the guidance for appointees as detailed in Appendix 2; and 3. Delegate authority to the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, and where appropriate with other group leaders, to make any changes to appointments to Outside Bodies as may be required during the course of the Council year 2023/24. 	

Appendices	
Appendix 1A - E	List of nominations to charities, trusts, community associations, other organisations and strategic partnerships for 2023/24 (with 2022/23 appointments listed for reference)
Appendix 2	Guidance Note for Members appointed to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations.

Introduction

1. The Council currently has representatives on a total of 55 outside bodies (17 community associations, 20 other organisations, 8 trusts and 10 charities). These are detailed in Appendices 1A – 1D. Many Council 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 as an observer. Councillors who have been appointed to charities and trusts generally serve as Trustees on those bodies.

2. The Council also has representatives on several strategic partnerships (see Appendix 1E for details) these appointments are either made by the individual partnership or determined by virtue of a councillor's position as a portfolio holder on the City Council's Cabinet.
3. 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 is attached at Appendix 2.
4. The list of Outside Bodies and the appointment of representatives to those organisations is a decision for the Leader of the Council, who chooses to seek Cabinet agreement to the nominations. This is done annually in June or July.
5. Proposed changes to individual nominations or to the list of outside bodies will be reported to the Cabinet as required during the year. Since 2017 the authority to approve any change to the representation on an individual organisation has been delegated to the Head of Law and Governance in consultation with the Leader of the Council, and where appropriate with other group leaders. This delegation is restated annually to provide for good governance and clear decision making.
6. In 2019 Cabinet endorsed the Leader's preferred approach, based on custom and practice, that nominations for Council representatives to Outside Bodies should be drawn from the cohort of serving councillors; and that existing representatives who were no longer serving councillors should be permitted to serve out their terms of office should they wish to do so.

Categories for appointments to outside bodies

7. The list of organisations to which the Council makes appointments has evolved over time. The justification for the inclusion of many of the organisations on the list is self-evident but in some cases the reasons for the Council to continue to appoint to an organisation is less obvious.
8. To address this the following categories are used to provide some rigour to the decision making underpinning the Council appointments to Outside Bodies:

A.	Appointments to organisations that have a significant impact on the achievement of any of the Council's corporate policy objectives and service priorities and/or organisations who receive funding from the Council
B.	Appointments to organisations with established historical links to the local community, the city of Oxford or the City Council on which representation is desirable and should be maintained as a matter of local goodwill and for as long as nominations are forthcoming from members
C.	Appointments which will allow the Council to influence policy at a national or regional level
D.	Appointments which are a statutory requirement and/or to a partnership

Proposed appointments and changes to representation in 2023/24

- Appendices 1A – 1D set out the proposed nominations to charities, trusts, community associations and other organisations for 2023/24.
- The Leader of the Council has proposed the following specific changes to the list of organisations for 2023/24:

Outside Body	Decision
Regal Area Community Centre Association	No reappointment; remove from list of Outside Bodies.
Rose Hill Community Association	No reappointment; remove from list of Outside Bodies.
NABAEMC (National Association of Black Asian and Ethnic Minority Councillors (UK)	No reappointment; remove from list of Outside Bodies.
Association Public Service Excellence (APSE)	No reappointment; remove from list of Outside Bodies.

Legal and Financial issues

- Representation on outside organisations presents legal implications for the Council if the roles and responsibilities of those involved are not fully defined. Council representatives are provided with detailed written guidance on their roles and responsibilities (Appendix 2).
- The appointments proposed in this report have no direct financial implications for the Council.

Level of risk

- Representation on outside organisations should result in benefit to both the Council and the organisation concerned. There is a risk that such benefit may be lost to either or both parties if representation is withdrawn or inadequately resourced or briefed.

Equalities impact

- An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. The Council seeks to appoint nominees that represent as far as possible the diverse nature of the Outside Bodies and the communities that they serve.

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