

COUNCIL

25th JANUARY 2012

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES – CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, NORTH EAST JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND BACK ON THE MAP LIMITED

Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider appointments to the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee, the North East Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Back on the Map Limited.

2.0 CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Council has received notice from the Director of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Spirituality, Formation and Education Service that the Service wishes to change its Roman Catholic Diocese representative on the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee. The Service has requested that the Council consider appointing Ms Ann Blakey to replace the current representative on the Committee, Mr Malcolm Frank.
- 2.2 The Council is therefore requested to consider appointing Ms Ann Blakey as the co-opted representative of the Roman Catholic Diocese on the Committee in place of Mr Malcolm Frank.

3.0 NORTH EAST JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 3.1 A Joint Regional Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been established with support from the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS).
- 3.2 The Committee is established in accordance with section 244 and 245 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (“NHS Act 2006”) and regulations and guidance, between Darlington Borough Council, Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Council, Newcastle upon Tyne City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, South Tyneside Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Sunderland City Council (“the constituent authorities”) to scrutinise issues around the planning, provision and operation of health services in and across the North-East region, comprising for these purposes the areas covered by all the constituent authorities.

3.3 The North East Region Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee aims to scrutinise:

- (a) NHS organisations which cover, commission or provide services across the North East region, including and not limited to, for example, NHS North East, local primary care trusts, foundation trusts, acute trusts, mental health trusts and specialised commissioning groups,
- (b) services commissioned and / or provided to patients living and working across the North East region, and
- (c) specific health issues which span across the North East region.

Individual authorities reserve the right to undertake scrutiny of any relevant NHS organisations with regard to matters relating specifically to their local population.

3.4 The Joint Committee is made up of 12 Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee members comprising 1 member appointed by each of the constituent authorities. In accordance with section 21(9) of the Local Government Act 2000, Executive members may not be members of an overview and scrutiny committee. Members of the constituent local authorities who are Non-Executive Directors of the NHS cannot be members of the Joint Committee. A constituent authority may appoint a substitute to attend in the place of the named member on the Joint Committee. The substitute shall have voting rights in place of the absent member.

3.5 The governance arrangements for the Joint Committee include that "individual authorities will reserve the right to undertake scrutiny of any relevant NHS organisations with regard to matters relating specifically to their local population". However, the Health and Social Bill currently under consideration by Parliament proposes that regulations 'may' provide that, where the remit of a joint overview and scrutiny committee includes a particular function, that the individual local authority may not discharge that function. In the event that such regulations proceed, the Council would withdraw from the Joint Committee arrangement.

4.0 Back on the Map

4.1 The Council has been advised that Back on the Map Limited (the former New Deal for Communities programme) is now a Charity, with Limited Company status and a wholly-owned Trading Company. The Objects of the Company are the promotion for the public benefit of urban regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation in the area of benefit.

4.2 The Charity Board is made up of 11 local residents and non-resident business people who contribute expertise and local knowledge on a number of issues. A request has now been made on behalf of the Charity Board for the Council to consider appointing Councillor Michael Mordey to act as a member of the Board.

5.0 Recommendations:

5.1 The Council is accordingly recommended to consider:

- (i) appointing Ms Ann Blakey as the co-opted representative of the Roman Catholic Diocese on the Committee in place of Mr Malcolm Frank,
- (ii) subject to the progress of the Health and Social Care Bill and the proviso set out in paragraph 3.3 of this report, nominating the Chair of Health & Well-Being Scrutiny Committee as the Council's representative on the North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2011/12, and
- (iii) appointing Councillor Michael Mordey to the Board of Back on the Map Limited.