

COUNCIL

24 NOVEMBER 2010

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES – THE NORTH EASTERN FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY, THE GREAT EPPLETON WIND FARM PANEL AND THE SUNDERLAND FUTURES PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Report of the Head of Law and Governance

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider nominations to seats on the North Eastern Fisheries and Conservation Authority, the Great Eppleton Wind Farm Panel and the Sunderland Futures Partnership Board.

2.0 The North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

2.1 The Council has been formally notified that following the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 the North Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee will cease to exist on 31st March 2011. The Council is currently represented on the Committee by Councillor R Bell. From 1st April 2011 the Committee will be replaced by the new North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and Sunderland will be entitled to appoint one representative to the new Authority. The Council is, accordingly, invited to confirm Councillor R Bell as its nominated representative on the North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.

3.0 The Great Eppleton Wind Farm Panel

3.1 The Council has been invited to nominate a member to sit on the newly formed Great Eppleton Wind Farm Panel. E.ON, an energy corporation based in Germany, has established the Great Eppleton Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund for an area of benefit within a three mile radius of the Great Eppleton Wind Farm. The Life of the fund will be for approximately 20 years. E.ON have appointed the County Durham Community Foundation to manage the fund and a panel is being established to oversee this.

3.2 The panel will consist of three Councillors representing Hetton, Copt Hill and Murton, three residents and up to two local stakeholders plus one E.ON representative. The panel will be chaired by a County Durham Community Foundation Board Member. In relation to the two Sunderland wards Hetton Town Council has been asked to nominate one representative with the City

Council nominating a representative for the Copt Hill area. The Council is accordingly invited to nominate Councillor Robert Heron to represent the Copt Hill area on the Great Eppleton Wind Farm Panel.

4.0 The Sunderland Futures Partnership Board

4.1 Sunderland Futures is a unique and nationally recognised partnership of Secondary and Special schools that jointly fund two applied learning centres for use by all 14-16 year old students in Sunderland. The centres, based in Harraton and Pallion, have outstanding industry standard facilities which include advanced engineering workshops, industrial kitchens, hairdressing salons, an aircraft section and motor vehicle workshop. A new conference facility opened in September 2010 will allow 14-16 year olds to interact with a real working environment and Sunderland University Business Graduates in the development and marketing of the conference centre and the extension of use of the other facilities within the two centres. The Partnership delivers 14-19 learning provision across the City.

4.2 A Partnership Agreement has been drawn up which states that a Partnership Board should be established to develop the strategic over- view and direction of Sunderland Futures. The organisation would welcome Council representation on this Board to ensure that the interests of all stakeholders are represented. The Council is accordingly invited to consider nominating the Portfolio Holder for Children and Learning City, Councillor Pat Smith, as the Council's representative on Sunderland Futures Partnership Board

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Council is now recommended to:

- (i) confirm Councillor R Bell as the Council's nominated representative on the new North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority,
- (ii) nominate Councillor Robert Heron to represent the Copt Hill area on the Great Eppleton Wind Farm Panel, and
- (iii) nominate the Portfolio Holder for Children and Learning City, Councillor Pat Smith, as the Council's representative on Sunderland Futures Partnership Board.