

Council

7 March 2018

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Report of the Head of Law and Governance

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that appointments be made in respect of various Committees and outside bodies and also to inform Council of appointments made by Councillor H. Trueman to a number of bodies established under joint arrangements.

2 Appointments

- 2.1 Following the by-election in Pallion ward and the election of Councillor M. Haswell, it is necessary to review the allocation of seats on those Council committees and subcommittees to which the requirements of political balance apply and also to appoint Councillor Haswell to the West Area Committee.
- 2.2 The principles of political balance are summarised as follows, in descending order of priority.
- (a) Where some or all of the members of an authority have formed into two or more political groups, then seats on any committee or sub-committee may not be allocated to only one political group.
 - (b) The majority group must have the majority of seats on each committee or sub committee.
 - (c) Subject to (a) and (b), each political group shall have the same proportion of the total number of committee seats as its proportion of seats on the Council.
 - (d) Subject to (a), (b) and (c) each political group shall have the same proportion of seats on each committee and sub committee as its proportion of seats on the Council.
- 2.3 Council is requested to consider the following proposals to reflect changes to the political composition, to fill current vacancies and, subject to the election of Councillor H. Trueman as Leader of the Council, to make or confirm the appointment of Councillor Trueman to external bodies in his capacity of Leader:-

Human Resources Committee – to replace one Majority Group Councillor with one Minority Opposition Councillor. (As there is a current Majority Group vacancy, there is no need to nominate a Majority Group member to be removed from the Committee).

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee – to replace one Majority Group Councillor with one Minority Opposition Councillor.

Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee – to replace one Majority Group Councillor with one Minority Opposition Councillor.

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee – to replace one Majority Group Councillor with one Minority Opposition Councillor.

Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel – to replace one Minority Opposition Group Councillor with one Majority Opposition Councillor.

Appeals Committee – to replace one Majority Opposition Councillor with one Majority Group Councillor and also appoint an additional Majority Group Councillor to fill the current vacancy on the Committee.

West Area Committee – to appoint Councillor Haswell.

Port Board – to appoint the Leader.

Health and Wellbeing Board – to note that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council is a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

ANEC Limited – to appoint the Leader.

ANEC Limited: Leaders' and Elected Mayor's Group – to appoint the Leader.

ANEC Limited: Resources Task and Finish Group – to appoint the Leader.

Newcastle Airport Local Authority Holding Company Limited – to appoint the Leader

North East Combined Authority: North East Leadership Board – to appoint the Leader and Substitute – Deputy Leader

North East Local Enterprise Board – To appoint the Leader.

Northumbria Police and Crime Panel – to appoint the Leader and Deputy Leader.

2.4 Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillor T. Wright has given notice of his resignation from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority with effect from 10 March 2018 and it is therefore necessary to appoint a majority group member to the Fire Authority.

2.5 **Gentoo**

There are currently three councillors nominated to the Board of Gentoo Group Limited, namely Councillors Curran, Stewart and Tye. In accordance with the Regulation of Social Housing (Influence of Local Authorities) (England) Regulations 2017, with effect from the “appointed day” i.e. 15 May 2018, the local authority membership must not exceed 24% of the Board membership. As there are currently eleven members of the Board (with a maximum of twelve) it is necessary for the Council to nominate a member to be removed from the Board. The Regulations require the Council to nominate the member to be removed and if it fails to do so before the 15 May, the non-Council members of the Board must select the person to be removed.

As Annual Council does not meet until after the 15 May, it is proposed that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, be authorised to nominate the member to be removed from the Gentoo Group Board, following the local elections in May.

3 Representatives on Bodies established under Joint Arrangements

- 3.1 To note the appointments made to the undermentioned Bodies by Councillor H. Trueman, as Deputy Leader of the Council, whilst undertaking the duties and responsibilities of the Leader:-

Economic Development and Regeneration Advisory Board to the North East Combined Authority – Councillor H. Trueman

Transport for North East Committee (TNEC) – the appointment of Councillor H. Trueman as the Substitute Member on the Committee

Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub Committee (TWSC) – the appointment of Councillor H Trueman as the Substitute Member on the Committee

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 The Council is recommended to:

- (i) consider appointments to the Committees and outside bodies detailed in paragraph 2.3;
- (ii) appoint Councillor C. English to the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority with effect from 11 March 2018 in place of Councillor T Wright;
- (iii) authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to nominate a member to be removed from the board of Gentoo Group Limited, following the local elections in May 2018; and
- (iv) note the appointments made by the Councillor H. Trueman which are set out in paragraph 3.1 above.

