

Area North Committee – 25 June 2014

11. Area North Committee Working Groups and Outside Organisations – Appointment of Members 2014/15 (Executive Decision)

Strategic Director: Mark Williams, Chief Executive
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Purpose of the Report

As the Council has entered a new municipal year, the Committee is asked to review its appointments to outside organisations and working groups within Area North, having regard to the policy on the Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors appointed to Outside Bodies, which was adopted by District Executive on 1st May 2014.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Agree the representatives to serve on the Area North Working Groups for 2014/15.
- (2) Review and appoint members to the outside organisations and groups for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix 1.

Area North Working Groups

The following table indicates the internal working groups and their members, appointed by Area North Committee for the last municipal year 2013/14. The Committee is asked to agree the representatives to the working groups for the municipal year 2014/15.

Working Group & Purpose	2013/14 Representatives	Lead Officer
Area North Marketing Working Group – to support the Area North Marketing Project (minimum of 3 members required)	Patrick Palmer Shane Pledger Pauline Clarke Sue Steele Derek Yeomans	Neighbourhood Development Officer (North - Economy) – Pauline Burr
Area North Community Safety / Neighbourhood Policing Liaison	Sue Steele	Area Development Manager (North) – Charlotte Jones

Outside Organisations and Groups

The organisations and groups to which representatives are appointed by the Area North Committee for 2014/15 are indicated in Appendix A. Members will be aware that they reviewed this list of organisations in November 2013 and made some recommendations towards the final policy on the Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors appointed to Outside Bodies, which was adopted by District Executive on 1st May 2014.

Members are now asked to review and appoint members to the outside organisations for 2014/15, having regard to the adopted policy (Appendix C).

Appendix B shows an extract of the SSDC Code of Conduct (adopted July 2012) - regarding prejudicial interests and outside bodies.

For an explanation of Observer Status – see points 10 to 12 (and point 8 of appx B) of the SSDC Policy - The Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors Appointed to Outside Bodies.

Financial Implications

None for Area North Committee. Mileage claimed by councillors (across the district) attending meetings of outside bodies to which they are appointed is approximately £1,000 per annum and is within the existing budget for councillors travelling expenses held by Democratic Services. There may be a small saving resulting from any decision to reduce the number of SSDC appointed outside bodies, however, a number of councillors do not claim any mileage for their attendance at these meetings.

Council Plan Implications

There are several of the Council's Corporate Focuses which encourage partnership working with local groups, including:-

- Work in partnership to deliver investment and development that local people value with particular emphasis on Yeovil and Chard;
- Work with partners to contribute to tackling youth unemployment;
- Work with partners to combat fuel poverty;
- Ensure, with partners, that we respond effectively to community safety concerns raised by local people and that the strategic priorities for policing and crime reduction in South Somerset reflect local needs;
- Work with and lobby partners to help communities to develop transport schemes and local solutions to reduce rural isolation and inequalities to meet existing needs of those communities.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

Full consideration to equalities was given in producing the Policy on the Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors appointed to Outside Bodies.

Background Papers

- Minute 14, Area North Committee, 22 May 2013
 - Minute 184, District Executive, 1 May 2014
 - SSDC Policy on the Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors appointed to Outside Bodies.
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