

## Report to Governance and Ethics Committee

13 June 2018

Agenda Item: 11

# **REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

# **REVIEW OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

## **Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider possible options in relation to the review of outside bodies including the establishment of a cross party working group to consider and recommend options to committee.

### Information

- 2. Policy Committee has requested that Governance and Ethics Committee undertakes a review of outside bodies and recommends an on-going process of feedback and review that allows the Authority to maintain an up to date and relevant approved list of outside bodies.
- 3. A large number of elected members are nominated by the Council to sit on a wide variety of outside bodies (see Appendix A).
- 4. Whilst the Council receives regular feedback on the activities of some of these outside bodies, for example, East Midlands Council, in a large number of instances there is no feedback received. It is therefore difficult to gauge whether these bodies should remain on the approved outside bodies list, what benefit elected members gain from attendance, what benefits the outside body gains and, perhaps most importantly, it is hard for members to make connections between the work of the bodies and that of the Council.
- 5. The last cross party working group set up by the Governance and Ethics Committee to revise the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Co-opted Members was very successful and it is proposed that a similar cross party group be established to consider how the Committee could most effectively and efficiently monitor and review attendance and involvement in outside bodies.

#### **Other Options Considered**

6. Officers could prepare a process for review but it is suggested that elected members have a far better understanding of what is required from outside bodies and the issues that should be considered and reviewed.

#### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. Policy Committee requested the Governance and Ethics Committee to review the list and the appointments process.

# **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

#### **Financial Implications**

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That members agree to establish a cross party working group to consider a revised process for appointments to and the review of outside bodies.
- 2) That a report be brought back to this committee containing the recommendations of the cross party working group within the next six months.

#### Jayne Francis-Ward Monitoring Officer

#### For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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#### Constitutional Comments (SLB 31/05/2018)

10. Governance and Ethics Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

#### Financial Comments (RWK 04/06/2018)

11. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 9 of the report.

#### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

• Approved outside bodies list.

### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

• All