

Regulatory Committee

5 October 2021

Review of Appointments to External Organisations

Recommendation

That the Regulatory Committee agree the allocation of places on external organisations and the proposed appointments as set out in the appendix to the report.

1. Purpose of the report and context

- 1.1 This report reviews the membership of external bodies and partnerships in the light of changes in Council membership following the County Council elections held on 6 May 2021 and proposes a reallocation of seats between the political groups, in light of changes in political group sizes. The aim is to give groups a fair share of places and ensure that members are appointed to organisations which are of interest to them and to which they feel they can contribute. It should be noted that the County Council does not have a right to places on school governing bodies and that it is up to individual schools to determine whether or not to seek representation from a county councillor.
- 1.2 The process for assigning memberships was commenced late in 2020 with external organisations being contacted to establish their requirements and wishes for County Council representation. Some organisations that had previously had Council representation on their governing bodies chose not to continue with the arrangement but the majority did, however, wish to continue with their links to the Council. The following criteria was also considered in reaching a decision on whether representation might be appropriate:
 - (a) The appointment is at the request of the organisation in question, serves a strategic purpose for the Council and there is no immediate prospect of any financial relationship; or
 - (b) the appointment is for a fixed-term to help the organisation get established; or
 - (c) the County Council is a named partner in the organisation and has an agreed role in its governance
- 1.3 For organisations that fall outside these categories, Councillors and/or Officers of the Council will attend Trustee Boards of organisations in an advisory capacity where this is agreed by both parties.

- 1.4 Councillors are encouraged to act as trustees of voluntary bodies where they choose to do this and are appointed by the organisation in question. (i.e. in their personal capacity rather than as formal appointees of the Council)

2. Proposed Allocation

- 2.1 In line with other cross-party governance arrangements a degree of political proportionality has been sought. It is difficult to achieve allocations of places that reach exact proportionality across the groups. There are 36 places for allocation which, if split proportionately across the groups, (and if include the independent member) would give places as follows:

| Conservative | Labour | Liberal Democrat | Green | Independent |
|--------------|----------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| 25.78 (26) | 3.68 (4) | 3.07 (3) | 1.84 (2) | 0.61 (1) |

- 2.2 The Leaders have considered the allocation and propose the allocation set out in the appendix which would distribute places as follows:

Conservatives 29; Labour 3; Liberal Democrat 3; Green 0 and Independent 1

3. Environmental Implications

None

4. Financial Implication

Membership of external bodies may entail a certain amount of travel on behalf of the Council. This will result in some costs. It is, however, to be expected that the increased use of virtual meetings will result in those costs being lower than previously.

5. Background Papers

None

| | Name | Contact Information |
|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Report Author | Paul Williams | paulwilliamscl@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Assistant Director | Sarah Duxbury | sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Strategic Director | Rob Powell | robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Portfolio Holder | Councillor Andy Jenns | andyjenns@warwickshire.gov.uk |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|

This report was not circulated to elected members prior to publication.