

**ANNUAL COUNCIL**

Wednesday, 17 May 2017

**APPOINTMENTS OF WORKING GROUPS FOR 2017/18 (REP1470)****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To consider the continuation and membership of Working Groups for the 2017 / 18 municipal year.

Is the report Open or Exempt?	Open
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All Wards in the District
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<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Leader of the Council
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<b>Supporting Officer:</b>	Hilary Slater Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal & Democratic Services (015394) 444336 <a href="mailto:hilary.slater@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">hilary.slater@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a>
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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Council appoints to a number of Working Groups each year as part of its corporate governance framework in support of the democratic process and decision-making arrangements.
- 1.2 Details of the proposed Working Groups for 2017 / 18 are outlined on Appendix A (to be circulated at the Council Meeting on 17 May 2017).
- 1.3 The Working Groups have clear terms of reference outlining their roles, responsibilities and reporting mechanisms, thereby increasing openness and transparency and making the best use of resources.
- 1.4 Where specific postholder nominations are required, these are outlined on the Appendix.

## **2 FINANCIAL AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 Appointment to Working Groups enables more in-depth consideration to be given to specific issues.
- 2.2 Members appointed to Working Groups are able to claim expenses in accordance with the Members' Allowance Scheme and these costs can be accommodated within existing resources.
- 2.3 Reviewing Councillor representation on Working Groups ensures that they are still relevant and fit for purpose and allows back bench Councillors to concentrate on their community leadership roles within their own Wards.

## **3 CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 Consultation will be undertaken with the relevant Political Group Leaders, the Independent Members and with the Green Party Member, seeking nominations for the Working Group positions.
- 3.2 The Lowestoft Community Governance Review Councillor Working Group is no longer required and has been removed from the list.
- 3.3 The Cabinet Member for Customers & Communities, with responsibility for Member Development, is to be added as a standing member of the Member Development Steering Group, with immediate effect, as this is relevant to their portfolio.

## **4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 Working Groups are set up to examine specific issues in-depth prior to recommendations being put forward to the relevant decision-making body. Should the Council decide not to appoint to the Working Groups, then the opportunity for more in-depth consideration of issues could be lost.

## **5 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 To ensure that Members are appointed to Working Groups for the 2017 / 18 municipal year.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the membership of Working Groups be appointed for the 2017/18 municipal year, as supplied by Political Group Leaders and in consultation with the Independent Members and the Green Party Member.

**APPENDICES**

<b>Appendix A</b>	Schedule of Working Groups Nominations for 2017/18 <b>(To be circulated at the meeting)</b>
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**BACKGROUND PAPERS** - None