

Title of report: Appointment of Cabinet Members to the Shareholder Committee

Meeting: Cabinet

Meeting date: Thursday 26 January 2023

Report by: Cabinet member finance, corporate services and planning;

Classification

Open

Decision type

Non-key

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

Cabinet approved the setting up a Shareholder Committee at its meeting on 12th January 2023. This report seeks Cabinet nominations of 4 named members of Cabinet to serve on the Shareholder Committee.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- a) **Cabinet nominates 4 named members of Cabinet to serve on the Shareholder Committee**

Alternative options

1. Cabinet could decide not to nominate members to the Shareholder Committee, but that would mean that the Shareholder Committee would be unable to operate and Cabinet's decision at its meeting on 12th January 2023 could not be implemented. This is therefore not recommended.

Key considerations

2. Cabinet at its meeting on 12th January 2023 agreed the setting up of a Shareholder Committee as part of the Council's governance arrangements for the management of companies and the discharge of the Council's role as Shareholder of various companies.
3. Cabinet did not make any nominations to that Shareholder Committee at its 12th January 2023 meeting and nominations are now being sought to enable the Shareholder Committee to commence its work.
4. A fully operating Shareholder Committee will make clear governance improvements to the way the Council manages its various interests in entities and is regarded as best practice.

Community impact

5. The Council's County Plan 2020 to 2024, identifies the need for the Council to use its resources wisely for the benefit of the Communities it supports. Structured, open and transparent management of the Council's shareholder responsibility will support the management of risk, best practice and value for money.

Environmental Impact

6. This is a decision on back office functions and process and will have minimal direct environmental impacts.

Equality duty

7. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
8. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this is a decision on back office functions, we do not believe that it will have an impact on our equality duty.

Resource implications

9. There are no resource implications arising directly from this report that were not considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 12th January 2023.

Legal implications

10. Ensuring that the Committee can operate will enable the Council as shareholder to exercise strategic control over the direction of relevant companies is important and will enhance good governance in a structured, open and transparent way.

Risk management

11. Approving the recommendations in this report will reduce and mitigate risks to the Council. The Shareholder Committee will further mitigate risk by ensuring that the Council's management of its shareholder obligations is structured, open and transparent. Furthermore this area will be subject to Scrutiny in the normal way which will better manage risk.

Consultees

12. Cabinet

Appendices

None

Background papers

None