AGENDA ITEM 6

REPORT TO THE TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY CABINET

25 OCTOBER 2019

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

GOVERNANCE AND APPOINTMENTS

SUMMARY

This report requests Cabinet ratification for the Membership, Chair and Vice Chair of the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee. The Membership of both Committees has been amended slightly due to Constitutional changes to the calculation of political balance. In addition to the above there are also changes to Statutory Officers of the Combined Authority which are necessitated from the recent organisation restructure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Combined Authority Cabinet agrees the appointments as set out in this report.

DETAIL

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1. The Membership of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee was reviewed in light of changes to political balance. The Committee membership was approved by Cabinet via correspondence once finalised.
- 2. At its meeting on 17th October 2019 the Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee nominated the following:
 - Councillor Norma Stephenson as Chair for the civic year 2019/20
 - Councillor Denise Rooney as Vice-Chair for the civic year 2019/20

Audit and Governance Committee

- 3. The Membership of the Audit & Governance Committee was reviewed in light of changes to political balance. The new Committee members are:
 - Cllr Barry Woodhouse (SBC)
 - Cllr Lauriane Povey (Substitute member SBC)

We are still awaiting nominations from Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council for both Committee member and Substitute member. These are expected to be provided in November following their Council meeting.

- Cllr TBC (RCBC)
- Cllr TBC (Substitute Member RCBC)
- 4. At its meeting on 15th October 2019 the Audit and Governance Committee nominated the following:
 - Councillor Matthew Storey as Chair for the Civic year 2019/20
 - Councillor Brenda Harrison as Vice Chair for the Civic year 2019/20
- 5. The Audit Committee are also required to nominate a representative to be on the South Tees Development Corporation Audit and Risk Committee. The Committee took the view that this position should be fulfilled by the member representing Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council. This nomination is therefore also delayed until a representative has been provided.

Statutory Officers

- 6. Due to changes in staffing within the Combined Authority it is necessary to change some of the appointed Statutory officers. Therefore:
 - Julie Prior is appointed as Data Protection Officer for the Combined Authority
 - Sharon Jones is appointed as Statutory Scrutiny Officer for the Combined Authority

LEP

7. Alby Pattinson has resigned from his position as a member of the LEP. As this reduces the overall size of the LEP Board to 20 persons, the maximum size stated by government, no replacement will be recruited at this time.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. Support for the governance of the Tees Valley Combined Authority is provided from within the Authority's core budget, as agreed by Cabinet through the annual budget process, and funded through resources devolved from central government.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The report relates to the Constitution of the Combined Authority which sets out the appropriate statutory framework.

RISK ASSESSMENT

10. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

11. Appointments are made in accordance with the Combined Authority Constitution and the processes governing each Local Authority.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

12. As reported to Cabinet previously, there is a commitment from Cabinet to achieve a 50/50 gender balance and to increase overall diversity on the LEP by 2020. Overview & Scrutiny Committee have also carried out a study into a perceived lack of diversity in gender, sexuality, disability and ethnicity in the membership of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet and Committee membership. This study is now complete and findings and recommendations from this will be presented to Cabinet in July.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

13. The items in this report have been circulated to LEP members in advance of coming forward to Cabinet.

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