

AGENDA ITEM

Audit Committee

DATE: 22nd DECEMBER 2009

Review of Members and Outside Bodies

Paul Slocombe - Director Of Resources
Richard Long – Director of Legal Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the members of the committee on the results of the review of members and outside bodies .

BACKGROUND

2. An initial review was undertaken in 2008/2009 of the representation of members on outside bodies using the Members register. The responses received as part of the review were assessed using a similar matrix to the one used to evaluate the Council's strategic partnerships. The criteria used to review the external bodies was:
 1. Statutory -Is the Council required by law to be represented?
 2. Written Agreement - Does the external bodies constitution require Council representation AND was the Council party to the agreement on the Constitution?
 3. Relationship to the Corporate Priorities - Is the bodies success critical to the achievement of Corporate Priorities?
 4. Support - Does the Council directly contribute money/resources?
 5. Statutory or Regulatory Context - Are decisions taken that are binding on the Council?
 6. Risk - Are there consequences for the Council of failures by the body?
 7. Risk - Does the body contribute to the management of the Council's risks?
 8. Statutory or Regulatory Context - Does the representative have voting rights?

3. A schedule of findings from the review was presented to the committee on the 27th May 2009 as part of the report on the Corporate Governance Statement. The schedule was also presented to the Corporate Affairs Committee on the 3rd June 2009. Members considered the findings of the initial review and recommended that:
 - Officers continue the review using the outside bodies matrix during 2009/2010 and the results reported to the Corporate Affairs Committee for a decision.
 - An evaluation of whether there were any barriers to the effectiveness of partnerships and outside bodies would be included in future reviews.
4. The review has now been completed and the results analysed by officers from Strategic Resources and Democratic Services using the approved criteria including any barriers to effectiveness. A full schedule of findings from the review is shown in Appendix A.
5. The findings from the initial review to continue, withdraw or the outside body had ceased existence were all confirmed at the final review stage. The outside bodies labeled as “ review” in the initial review now have recommendations on whether to continue, withdraw, or to seek members views:

Age Concern	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Withdraw
Cleveland College of Art and Design Governing Body	The outside body does not meet the criteria to justify continued attendance but the current member wants to continue.	Member Views
Home Start Teesside Management Committee	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Withdraw
Langridge Crescent Initiative Centre Management Committee	The outside body does not meet the criteria to justify continued attendance but the body wants to continue representation.	Member Views
Levick Trust	Important to the Council and Social Care	Continue
Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Withdraw
North Ormesby Pavilion Management Committee	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Withdraw
St Mary's Centre Management Committee	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Withdraw
St Mary's College Governing Body	During the initial review the college governing body arrangements were being changed. The college have now requested continued support from members.	Continue
Stainsacre Hall Steering Group	No response from the body but there is a long history of involvement and support from members	Continue
Staying Put Advisory Committee	No member support to continue and no response from the body	Member Views
Tees Health NHS Continuing Care Review Panels	Key to provision of Social Care	Continue
Tees Valley Environmental Protection Group	Representation required by constitution	Continue

Teesside Environmental Trust Ltd	No response from the body or members but environmental issues are high on the governments agenda.	Member Views
Tennis World	No response from the body but there is a long history of involvement and support from the Council	Continue
Unity City Academy Trust Board	Representation required by constitution	Continue
Captain Cook Birthplace Trust	Council act as secretariate to trust	Continue
Cleveland Show Society Committee	No response from the body but the Council has provided financial suuport in the past.	Continue
Community Ventures (Middlesbrough) Ltd	Representation required by constitution	Continue
Dorman Museum & Art Gallery Trust	Established to attract grant funding for the museum. Inactive recently.	Member Views
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UK	Multi local authority across teesside	Continue
Federation of British Cremation Authorities – Executive Committee	Does not meet the criteria but the current representative has been involved for a number of years.	Member Views
Joint Emergency Planning Committee	Multi local authority across teesside	Continue
King’s Academy Trust Board	Representation required by constitution	Continue
LGIU (Local Government Information Unit)	Representation required by constitution	Continue
Macmillan Academy Governing Body	Representation required by constitution	Continue
Middlesbrough Holiday Fund	Local Charity	Continue
Nunthorpe & Marton Playing Fields Association – Management Committee	No response from the body or members but representation is required by consitution (co-opted)	Continue
Partnerschaft Association	Oberhausen Town Twinning	Continue
River Tees Port Health Authority Joint Board	Joint body - representation is required by consitution	Continue
School Admissions Forum	Representation required by constitution	Continue
South Tees Youth Justice Forum	Representation required by constitution	Continue
Tees and District Society for the Blind	No response from the body or members	Member Views
Tees Valley Arts Board	Council provides partial funding for cultural, tourism & education programmes	Continue
Teesside Ability Support Centre	Body welcomes representation but the council representative has been unable to attend as meetings clashed with surgeries.	Continue

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. None.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. It is recommended that Members:

- a) Consider the results of final stage of the review.
- b) Note those outside bodies that have ceased operating;
- c) Note the recommendations to continue the future attendance to outside bodies
- c) Note the recommendations to withdraw attendance to outside bodies
- c) Provide guidance on the future attendance to those outside bodies where "Member Views" are requested.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Annual Governance Statement 2008/2009 report to Audit Committee 27th May 2009
- Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework and guidance

AUTHOR

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