

CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Corporate Affairs Committee was held on 19 April 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor Clark (Chair), Councillors J A Jones, Mrs H Pearson and Porley.

OFFICIALS: J Bennington, C Davies, C Hogarth and R G Long.

** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this point of the meeting.

** MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Affairs Committee held on 8 February 2006 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES – LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS – APPOINTMENTS

A report of the Head of Education Policy and Resources was presented regarding vacancies for Local Authority appointed School Governors which had arisen as a result of the reconstitution of several governing bodies.

The nominations received for such vacancies were outlined in Appendix 1 of the report submitted.

ORDERED as follows:

1. That the following appointments be approved for a four-year term of office with effect from 1 June 2006: -

<u>School</u>	<u>Governor</u>
Corpus Christi R C Primary	Councillor Ferrier
North Ormesby Primary	Mrs D Dabb Mr P Wright
Ormesby	Councillor Brady Mr P Thwaites Mrs J Ways

2. That subject to the receipt of the nomination form, Dr T Foster be appointed for a four year term of office with effect from 1 June 2006 in respect of St. Augustine's R C Primary School.

3. That the following appointment be approved for a four-year term of office with effect from 1 September 2006: -

<u>School</u>	<u>Governor</u>
St Clare's R C Primary	Councillor Rogers.

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4. That an appointment to the vacancy in respect of St. David's R C School be deferred pending the receipt of nominations.

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Members' Office Manager presented a report regarding the establishment of a Member Development Working Group.

During 2004/05 an informal Member Development Working Group had been established in order to oversee matters relating to Members development. The Working Group during 2005/06 agreed that the Council should seek renewed Charter status in respect of the revised I&DeA and NEREO (North East Regional Employers Organisation) Member Development Charter. It had also been decided to pursue IIP (Investors in People) status in respect of Members, as part of the corporate IIP programme.

In order to meet the requirements of the Member Development Charter, the Member Development Working Group needed to be constituted on a more formal basis which required the adoption of terms of reference and a mechanism for the Working Group to report on its progress.

The Committee considered the following draft terms of reference: -

'The Member Development Working Group is an informal Working Group comprising Members and Officers of the Council. The Group is chaired by the Chair of the Council, who has the role of Member Development Champion.

The Member Development Working Group is responsible for: -

- 1 Developing and reviewing the Member Development Strategy
- 2 Developing, monitoring and reviewing the annual Member Development Programme
- 3 Providing strong leadership and guidance to officers in respect of all Member Development issues
- 4 Promoting best practice in respect of Member Development amongst all elected Members of the Council
- 5 Encouraging the highest level of participation by all Members in the Member Development Programme, in respect of the Strategy, and in relation to Personal Development Plans (PDPs)
- 6 Ensuring that the Council reaches and maintains the required level of skills, competence's and practices to achieve I&DeA Charter status, and IIP status in connection with elected Members.

The Member Development Working Group reports to the Standards Committee.'

As indicated above it was suggested that the Working Group report to the Council's Standards Committee, which had a statutory responsibility to oversee Member development in respect of standards, ethics and probity matters.

It was confirmed that as part of recent work undertaken by the Working Group the content of the Members Induction Programme was being examined which included

Members' responsibilities in accordance with the national Code of Conduct for Members.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That the Member Development Working Group comprise the Chair of the Council, Deputy Mayor, all Group Leaders, Members' Office Manager, Members' Resources Team Manager and Chief Executive's Office Manager.
2. That the terms of reference for the Member Development Working Group as outlined above be approved.