

Report to: External Organisations Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17th January, 2008

Report of: Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Report No:

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Report Title: Appointments Made By Council to Outside Bodies

Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to present to Members 2 questionnaires in respect of appointments made by Council to outside bodies..

Decision:

The Scrutiny Committee is requested to:-

- (i) note and comment on the report; and
- (ii) authorise the circulation of the questionnaires.

Background Doc(s):

Summary:

The report places before Members, 2 questionnaires aimed at obtaining information which would inform the final report to Committee in relation to the Council making appointments to outside bodies.

Introduction

At its meeting on 8th November, 2007, the Committee requested that the Director of Legal and Democratic Services contact the Council's representatives on outside bodies seeking information on their viewpoint as to the frequency and usefulness of the body to which they are appointed and whether the Council should continue to nominate to it.

The purpose of this report is to place before Members 2 questionnaires which would provide detailed information and inform the final report to Committee on this matter.

Questionnaires

In seeking to deliver the Committee's resolution, consideration was given to the most appropriate mechanisms which would both provide the information required and would be relatively straightforward to administer.

In this regard, it was decided to produce two questionnaires. One questionnaire would be sent to the Council's representatives on the various outside bodies in line with the resolution of the Committee on 8th November, 2007.

The second questionnaire would be sent to the organisations themselves. The purpose of doing this is to obtain the organisations perspective of the role and value of having the Council represented on it and to ask whether the organisation would suffer any detrimental effect should the Council withdraw its nominee(s).

A suggested list of organisations who would be contacted is attached to this report.

Subject to the recommendation below, the questionnaires would be distributed following the meeting with responses requested by early February, 2008.

Recommendation

The Committee is requested to comment on the composition of the questionnaires and, if in agreement, to approve their use with a report on responses being made to the next meeting.