



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25th May 2022

OUTSIDE BODIES AND OTHER COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS.

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider the appointment of Members to sit on Outside Bodies and Non-Executive Joint Committees.

2. RECOMMENDATION

OUTSIDE BODIES

- 2.1 To appoint representatives to the Outside Bodies set out in agenda item 12;
- 2.2 To appoint representatives to the Non-Executive Joint Committees as set out below, that meet the key principles of selection.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its Annual General Meeting each year, the Council is requested to consider appointments to the following Outside Bodies as set out below:-

- Age Concern Cymru (1 representative)
- Consortium Local Authority Wales (C.L.A.W.) (1 representative)
- Cynon Valley Indoor Bowls Committee (1 representative)
- Edward Thomas Charity (4 representatives)
- Joint Council for Wales (2 representatives)
- The Alliance (3 representatives)
- Tower Site Liaison Committee (3 representatives)
- Valuation Tribunal Wales – Appointments Panel (1 representative)
- Wales Co-op Centre Board (1 representative)
- Welsh Local Government Association (5 representatives)
- Welsh Local Government Association Executive Board (1 representative and 1 substitute)

3.2 And to the following Outside Bodies where there is a vacant position:

- Board of Governors Coleg y Cymoedd (1 representative)
- Judges Hall Trust (1 representative)
- RCT Community Chest (1 representative)
- Reserve Forces & Cadets Association (1 representative)
- Trivallis (1 representative)

3.3 The Council is also requested to appoint the Councils representatives to the following non-executive Joint Committees:

- South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority(4 representatives)
- Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (NPA)(1 representative)
- South Wales Police Crime Panel (2 representatives)
- Cwm Taf Community Health Council (3 representatives)

3.4 As with all appointments to Outside Bodies, Members are expected to act in the interests of the outside body and exercise independent judgement in making decisions, in accordance with their duty of care to the body.

3.5 With regards to the appointments to the National Park Authority, [protocol](#) has been developed by the Welsh Government with the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA), the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) and the three National Park Authorities, to ensure that the most appropriate appointments are made to these roles.

3.6 Under Schedule 2 of the National Parks Authorities (Wales) Order 1995, two thirds of the members of the NPAs are appointed by Local Authorities to represent local interests and in line with the political balance of the Local Authority.

3.7 In selecting Councillors to serve as members of the NPA, the appointing Authorities are asked to '**satisfy the legal requirements associated with selection and balance the overall weight to be given to the individual principles**'.

3.8 The protocol encourages membership to the NPA as far as possible based on the following key principles:

- **Merit** –*Selection should be made based on the basis of members' abilities, broad experiences, qualities and commitment in relation to the strategic work of NPAs and with full regard to the NPA member role description (available from the relevant NPA);*
- **Equality and Diversity** –*Selection should be fully in line with the principles of equal opportunities and there should be no barriers to*

increasing the diversity of membership. It is noted there is a history of an imbalance of men compared to women on the NPAs;

- **Transparency** – *the Local Authorities should be prepared to share with key stakeholders' information on the selection process followed;*
- **Close connections to Park communities** – *in accordance with the legislation the aim should be to give priority in selection to those Councillors who have wards wholly or partly within the relevant National Park boundary. Selection of Councillors with electoral wards some distance away from the Park should be avoided where possible;*
- **Providing stability** - *Consideration should be given as to whether Members are likely to be able to fulfil the position for the electoral term to ensure consistency*

3.9 In essence, Members should be committed to the work and ethos of the National Park Authority and demonstrate relevant qualities and interests in order to fully engage with the work of the National Park Authority and for the full duration of their political term.

3.10 Where possible Members should be able to demonstrate that they are fully committed to undertake relevant personal development and training in order to effectively engage in scrutiny and contribute to the NPA meetings.

3.11 A comprehensive guide for prospective members to the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is attached at Appendix 1, and sets out information in respect of their role, commitment and remuneration.

3.12 The Local Authority is asked to consider similar merits and principles when appointing Members to the following non-executive Joint Committees:

- South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority (x4)
- South Wales Police Crime Panel (x2)
- Cwm Taf Community Health Council (x3)

3.13 It is suggested that Members are appointed on the basis of their commitment and interest in the committee and undertake the appointment for the duration of their electoral term.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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Background Papers

Freestanding Matter