

Report to: **Special Council**

Date: **25 July 2019**

Title: **Outside Bodies**

Portfolio Area: **Leader – Cllr Judy Pearce**

Wards Affected: **All**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken: **Immediately**

Author: **Darryl White** Role: **Senior Specialist – Democratic Services**

Contact: [darryl.white@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:darryl.white@swdevon.gov.uk) or **01803 861247**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That, for the remainder of the 2019/20 Municipal Year:**

- 1. the Council be represented on the Hope Harbour and Governance Board (South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation) Outside Bodies;**
- 2. That for the purposes of Members' Allowances, attendance at meetings of these Bodies be regarded as an Approved Duty; and**
- 3. That the Members appointed to these Outside Bodies provide regular feedback and consultation on issues affecting the Bodies concerned.**

#### **1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 On 16 May 2019, Annual Council appointed to the list of Outside Bodies for 2019/20 (Minute 15/19 refers).
- 1.2 As part of this process, Cllr Hawkins was appointed to serve on the 'Governance Board (South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust)'. However, we have since been notified that Cllr Hawkins has already been appointed by Devon County Council to serve on the Board and he is not permitted to represent both authorities on this Outside Body.
- 1.3 In addition, the Council did not appoint a representative to serve on the 'Hope Harbour' Outside Body for 2019/20. It has now become

apparent that it is a statutory requirement for the Council to appoint a representative to serve on this Body.

- 1.4 This report requests that the Council now appoints representatives to serve on these two Outside Bodies for the remainder of the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Council makes annual appointments to a large number of Outside Bodies.
- 2.2 As part of the appointed list for 2019/20, it is necessary to revisit the following Outside Bodies:
  - Governance Board (South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation); and
  - Hope Harbour.

## **3. Outcomes/outputs**

- 3.1 Since Members are appointed to represent the Outside Bodies on behalf of the Council, there is an agreed Council practice (minutes 12/03 and 27/03 refer) of reporting back on the work of the body and highlighting issues of interest to the Council. Whilst some Members adhere to this requirement, in general, feedback and consultation remains at only a moderate level.
- 3.2 Members are therefore reminded that appointments to Outside Bodies includes:
  - A commitment to provide regular feedback on issues raised at such Bodies;
  - Consultation with other Members and relevant officers on issues coming up before the Bodies; and
  - Briefing / debriefing relevant officers as soon as possible after becoming aware of issues that may be of interest to the Council.
- 3.3 These requirements will help the Council in assessing whether continued membership of those Bodies remains in line with the Council's adopted Corporate Strategy.
- 3.4 The Group Leaders and Independent Members will be invited to make their nominations to serve on these two Outside Bodies and those nominations that are received will be reported to the Special Council meeting.

## **4 Options available and consideration of risk**

- 4.1 The Council could decide that it does not wish to appoint to one (or both) of these Outside Bodies. However, such a course of action

would be in breach of the Hope Harbour Constitution and would result in the loss of a Council representative on the Governance Board (South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation);

## 5. Proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Council makes appointments to the two Outside Bodies highlighted in this report.

## 6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	The Council Constitution requires the Council to approve the list of (and appointments to) the Outside Bodies.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	Y	Attendance at meetings of Outside Bodies is already budgeted for within the Members' Allowances budget. To ensure value for money Members appointed to Outside Bodies provide regular feedback and consultation on issues affecting the Bodies concerned.
Risk	Y	In the event of any Member finding themselves in a position where interests conflict, they are strongly encouraged to seek early advice of the Council's Monitoring Officer.
Supporting Corporate Strategy	Y	Council Theme – <i>Efficient and effective</i>
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity	N	N/A
Safeguarding	N	N/A
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	N/A
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	N/A
Other implications	N	None

### Background Documents:

Council Constitution; and  
Hope Harbour Constitution