



<b>Committee</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date</b>	04/06/2024
<b>Subject</b>	Appointments to Outside Bodies for 2024/25 (Executive)
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Caroline Topping Leader of the Council
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<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Is the report Open or Exempt?</b>	OPEN

<b>Category of Exempt Information and reason why it is <b>NOT</b> in the public interest to disclose the exempt information.</b>	Not applicable
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## Purpose/Summary

Council is asked to consider Appointments to Outside Bodies (Executive) for the 2024/25 Municipal Year, as outlined at Appendix A of this report.

## Recommendation(s)

That Cabinet approves:

1. That Councillors be appointed to those (Executive) Outside Bodies listed in Appendix A for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.
2. That the Leader of the Council be authorised to fill any outstanding vacancies left unfilled by the Cabinet.
3. That the Leader be granted delegated authority to make any necessary changes to the membership of the (Executive) Outside Bodies for the remainder of the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

## Strategic plan

How does this proposal support Our Direction 2028?

<b>Environmental Impact</b>	Delivering positive climate, nature and environmental impacts through the decisions we make and actions we take.
<b>Sustainable Housing</b>	All homes in East Suffolk are safe, suitable and sustainable, in communities where residents are proud to live.
<b>Tackling Inequalities</b>	Improving quality of life across the district by tackling financial, social and health inequalities.
<b>Thriving Economy</b>	Enabling residents to benefit from, and contribute to, a thriving economy.
<b>Our Foundations / governance of the organisation</b>	<p>Appointments to Outside Bodies may be made under the general power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 – to do anything which is likely to promote the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area, unless specifically prohibited.</p> <p>The process of Cabinet approving appointments to Outside Bodies, where the role relates to an Executive function of the Council, adheres to the requirements of the Council's Constitution.</p> <p>Details of the Council's representation on Outside Bodies are included on the Council's website.</p> <p>Members appointed to Outside Bodies will be asked to present a short report to Full Council, at least once per year, on the work of the Outside Body.</p>

## Justification for recommendations

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet appoints annually to a wide range of diverse Outside Bodies. The Cabinet considers member representation on Outside Bodies when the role relates to an Executive function carried out by the local authority; the Council considers representation on Outside Bodies where the role relates to a Non-Executive function of the local authority; and the Scrutiny Committee considers representation on Outside Bodies where the role relates to a Scrutiny function of the local authority.
- 1.2 Some appointments to Outside Bodies are made because of a statutory requirement to appoint one or more members to them. Most appointments to Outside Bodies are discretionary, taking into consideration how representation on them adds value.
- 1.3 Appointment of members to Outside Bodies provides support to the organisation concerned and enables members to fulfil their community leadership roles.
- 1.4 Members appointed to Outside Bodies are able to work with and alongside local community groups, helping to empower them in terms of addressing local issues and delivering sustainable solutions.

### 2. Introduction

- 2.1. Members were last appointed to Outside Bodies (Executive) in 2023/24 by Cabinet at its meeting in June 2023.
- 2.2. An extensive review of all the Outside Bodies appointments was undertaken during March 2024.
- 2.3. The following Outside Bodies (Executive) have been removed from the list, as they no longer meet or it has been agreed that East Suffolk Councillors will no longer be appointed to them:
  - A47 Alliance
  - Suffolk Growth Portfolio Holders

### 3. Proposal

- 3.1 Outside Bodies can gain a number of benefits from having a Council representative on them, which include:
  - To represent the interests of the Council and to promote the strategic aims of its Strategic Plan;
  - To provide knowledge, skills and expertise which may not otherwise be available;
  - To provide local accountability or democratic legitimacy through the appointment of an elected representative;
  - To ensure that good relationships can be maintained with the body;
  - To deliver a partnership project that requires the input of other organisations or community groups;
  - To protect the Council's investments or assets i.e., if the Council has provided grant funding or provides funding for service delivery;
  - To lever in external funding which is not available to the Council on its own.
- 3.2 Taking account of all information provided within the report, Cabinet Members are asked to consider the content of Appendix A.

### 4 Financial Implications

4.1 Those Councillors formally appointed to external organisations as the Council's representative are able to claim travel expenses in accordance with the Members Allowance Scheme. These costs can be met from existing resources.

## **5 Legal Implications**

5.1 Appointments to Outside Bodies may be made under the general power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 – to do anything which is likely to promote the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area, unless specifically prohibited.

5.2 The process of Cabinet approving appointments to Outside Bodies, where the role relates to an Executive function of the Council, adheres to the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

## **6 Risk Implications**

6.1 Members must consider the implications and responsibilities of being involved with Outside Bodies as they must continue to comply with the District Council's Code of Conduct when they are acting as a representative of the Council; comply with the Code of Conduct of the Outside Body they are appointed to if one exists; and declare a personal interest in any business of the District Council, as necessary.

## **7 Options**

7.1 The Council needs and wishes to engage and work with external organisations, including the Outside Bodies listed in Appendix A, to continue to deliver the priorities identified in the East Suffolk Strategic Plan.

## **8 Recommendations**

- That Councillors be appointed to those Outside Bodies listed in Appendix A for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.
- That the Leader of the Council be authorised to fill any outstanding vacancies left unfilled by Council.
- That the Leader be granted delegated authority to make any necessary changes to the membership of the Outside Bodies for the remainder of the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

## **9 Reasons for Recommendations**

9.1 To ensure that Members are appointed to Outside Bodies (Executive) for 2024/25.

## **10 Conclusions/Next Steps**

10.1 That the appointments to the Outside Bodies (Executive) be approved as per Appendix A to this report.

## Areas of consideration comments

### Section 151 Officer comments:

Those Councillors formally appointed to external organisations as the Council's representative are able to claim travel expenses in accordance with the Members' Allowance Scheme. These costs can be met from existing resources.

### Monitoring Officer comments:

Appointments to Outside Bodies may be made under the general power in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 – to do anything which is likely to promote the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area, unless specifically prohibited.

The process of Cabinet approving appointments to Outside Bodies, where the role relates to an Executive function of the Council, adheres to the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion/EQIA:

Not applicable

### Safeguarding:

Not applicable

### Crime and Disorder:

Not applicable

### Corporate Services implications:

Not applicable

### Residents and Businesses consultation/consideration:

Not applicable

## Appendices:

<b>Appendix A</b>	Proposed list of appointments to Outside Bodies (Executive) for 2024/25 <b>TO FOLLOW</b>
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## Background reference papers:

None