
Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 27 February 2014

Subject: Mersey Forest Steering Group – Change in Council’s Appointed Representative

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To seek approval to the proposed change in the Council’s representation on the Mersey Forest Steering Group for the remainder of the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

Recommendation

That Councillor Lappin be appointed as the Council’s representative on the Mersey Forest Steering Group for the remainder of the 2013/14 Municipal Year in place of Councillor Hardy.

How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Children and Young People		√	
6	Creating Safe Communities		√	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

Reasons for the Recommendations:

The Cabinet has delegated powers to approve the Council’s representatives to serve on Outside Bodies.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs None.

(B) Capital Costs None.

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal Cabinet has the authority to appoint representatives to outside bodies where the appointment is a Cabinet function or has been delegated by the Council	
Human Resources	
Equality	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery:

To enable the Council to have representation on the Outside Body.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no financial implications. (FD 2810/14)

The Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD2116/14) has been consulted and has no comments on the report

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting.

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Background Papers:
None

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 23 May 2013, the Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking the appointment of representatives on Outside Bodies for the 2013/14 Council Year. The Cabinet approved the appointment of various representatives, including that of Councillor Hardy to serve on the Mersey Forest Steering Group
- 1.2 The Mersey Forest is the largest of England's 12 Community Forests. It is an environmental regeneration initiative creating woodlands and involving people across the full 465 square miles of its nine composite local authorities in Merseyside and North Cheshire. These local authorities combine with Natural England, the Forestry Commission, United Utilities and a central Forest Team to make up The Merseyside Forest Partnership.
- 1.3 The Mersey Forest Steering Group holds three meetings held per year, approximately every four months
- 1.4 It is recommended that Councillor Lappin be appointed as the Council's representative on Mersey Forest Steering Group for the remainder of the current Municipal Year in place of Councillor Hardy.
- 1.5 Both Councillors Lappin and Hardy have been consulted on this matter and are happy with the proposed change.
- 1.6 The Cabinet at its meeting to be held in June 2014 will determine the Council's representation on Outside Bodies for the 2014/15 Council Year.