

#### **S42. SCRUTINY PANEL – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

The committee had, on 25 September 2014 (ref S29), continued consideration of a report by the Chief Governance Officer which presented the scrutiny panel's recommendations in regard to elected member participation on outside organisations.

Brian Pirie provided the Committee with an overview of the report.

Members stated that some organisations contact members directly and that it is difficult to know the required commitment, benefits and pitfalls. Members stated that a checklist would be useful and protective. Brian Pirie stated that the Panel's scope was focussed on Council appointments but that support for members would be considered.

The committee discussed the process for reporting back members' participation on outside organisations, stating that reporting back was important. The committee felt reporting back should be through publication of the external organisations' minutes.

#### **Decision**

The committee agreed to recommend to the Executive that:

- 1) the following principles be adopted in regard to the appointment of elected members to outside organisations:
  - i) where there is strategic benefit to the Council in appointing to a national or regional body (such as COSLA), it would be appropriate to consider making such an appointment. However, each request should be considered on a case by case basis;
  - ii) for those organisations which fall within the Following the Public Pound regime Council does not appoint an elected member to the organisation; and
  - iii) where the organisation does not operate at a strategic level and is not funded by the Council, Council should consider each request on a case by case basis to ensure that an appointment would benefit the Council.
- 2) based on these principles, the Executive considers the recommendations in respect of current appointments, set out in appendix 5 of the report;
- 3) when appointments are made training should be available – by the organisation and/or Council to ensure that the elected members are fully able to undertake the role of Council representative; and
- 4) reporting back should take place and should be done through the inclusion of outside organisations' minutes in the minute volume.