

## Rother District Council

**Report to:** Council

**Date:** 20 May 2024

**Title:** Appointments of Representatives to Outside Bodies

**Report of:** Lorna Ford, Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:** Appointments be made to the Outside Bodies attached at Appendices 1 and 2 and to remind Members of the need to report annually on the Outside Bodies to which they are appointed.

### Officer

**Recommendation(s):** It be **RESOLVED:** That:

- 1) appointments be made to the Outside Bodies attached at Appendices 1 and 2 for a term of three years, expiring in May 2027 and attendance be designated as an approved duty; and
- 2) Members be reminded of the need to report annually via the Members' Bulletin on the Outside Bodies to which they are appointed.

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### Introduction

1. Full Council has retained the responsibility for approving the list of Outside Bodies to which formal appointments are made and making such appointments at the Annual Council Meeting (ACM) or as otherwise required.

### Appointments Required

2. Attached at Appendix 1 is a list of Outside Bodies to which the Council is required to make an appointment for the 2024/25 civic year. It also shows the name(s) of the current representatives that were appointed for the last municipal year.
3. In order to reduce bureaucracy in future years it is proposed that appointments to Outside Bodies are made for the 4-year term of office following the ordinary elections. To this end it is recommended that all appointments made at this meeting are to the end of the current term of office, i.e. May 2027.

### Reserved Appointments / Appointments not required

4. There are a number of appointments which are reserved for Members holding a certain position within the Council, for example the Portfolio Holder for Housing will be the Council's representative on the Sussex Regional Residents Panel.
5. Those that are reserved in this way are listed at Appendix 2; these appointments are therefore not open for appointment and/or nomination but are shown for information and completeness following the appointment of Cabinet Members and allocation of portfolios confirmed by the Leader at the

ACM. Substitutes, where appropriate, have also been confirmed by the Leader of the Council. Where an appointment is reserved for the Leader of the Council, in practice, this will mean the Leader of the Council or a named replacement in his place.

6. Attached at Appendix 3 is a list of the Outside Bodies that do not require an appointment to be made this year, as these appointments are of a longer duration – this is therefore for information only.

### Considerations

7. In considering each appointment, Members will need to take account of the following:
  - the benefit to the authority that continued membership provides; and
  - the views of the previous Member representative, if available.
8. To aid the Council's deliberations, Member representatives have been asked to submit comments in support or otherwise of the Outside Bodies to which they were previously appointed. Five Members have responded, and their comments are attached at Appendix 4 for consideration. Any comments received subsequent to the publication of this report will be circulated at the meeting.
9. Where the Council has appointed non-Councillors as its representatives to certain Outside Bodies, it is confirmed that all are happy to continue to represent the Council in their appointments if that is Members' decision.
10. Members are requested to consider each Outside Body that requires an appointment and appoint thereto. In the light of any evidence given by the previous representative, either on the night or in writing, the Council may also wish to agree to the removal of any Outside Body from the current list.

### Removals from the List

11. Since appointments to Outside Bodies were made in May 2023, Connecting Hastings and Rother Together was removed from the Council's list of approved Outside Bodies on 1 July 2023, due to cessation of the project on 30 June 2023. This was approved at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2023.

### Additions to the List

12. **Bexhill Maritime:** In July 2023, full Council agreed to the appointment of a representative to Bexhill Maritime, an organisation made up of residents from the local community who have been working on a project to create a Maritime Coastal Environment Centre at the far end of the Bexhill-on-Sea promenade, since 2019.
13. **Rural Services Network:** In July 2023, full Council agreed to the appointment of a representative and substitute to the Rural Services Network, a membership organisation (to which Rother District Council is currently a member of) that exists as the national champion for rural services. The organisation campaigns on behalf of its membership for fair funding for rural

areas and works to share best practice and network across its wide membership.

14. **Bexhill Festival of Music:** In February 2024, full Council agreed to the appointment of a representative to Bexhill Festival of Music, founded in 2007 to further Bexhill's identity as a cultural destination, celebrate the rich talent of its community, engage education as a core element, bring world class performers, increase local and regional tourism and strengthen the economic impact within the town.

### **Reports on Outside Bodies**

15. It has previously been agreed that Members appointed to Outside Bodies are required to produce an annual report (published in the Members' Bulletin) to keep all other Councillors informed of the work of the Outside Body or Bodies to which they had been appointed. Appendix 5 lists the reports that have been received from the Council's representatives over the last municipal year. While it is noted only a few reports have been received from the appointed representatives during the last year, it is acknowledged that in some cases this is due to the fact that the Outside Body has not met or the Council's representative has been unable to attend any meetings.
16. A template for reports and timetable will be circulated after the meeting to those Members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies for reports to be submitted for inclusion in the Members' Bulletin.

### **Corporate Plan and Climate Strategy / Action Plan**

17. Not applicable.

### **Financial Implications**

18. There are no Financial Implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Legal Implications**

19. There are no Legal Implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Human Resources Implications**

20. There are no Human Resource implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Human Rights**

21. There are no Human Rights implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Crime and Disorder**

22. There are no Crime and Disorder implications for the proposals within this report.

## Environmental

23. There are no Environmental Implications for the proposals within this report.

## Risk Management

24. Failure to appoint representatives to Outside Bodies may result in the loss of conduit between the Council and the respective external organisations.

## GDPR / Data Protection

25. There are no GDPR / Data Protection implications for the proposals within this report.

## Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion

26. There are no Equalities, Diversity, Inclusion Implications for the proposals within this report.

## Socio Economic Duty

27. There are no implications for the Council under its' Socio Economic Duty for the proposals within this report.

## Exempt from publication

28. This report is not confidential.

## Conclusion

29. Members are requested to consider each Outside Body that requires an appointment and appoint thereto in order to maintain conduit between the Council and the respective external organisations.

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Appendices:	1 Appointments Required 2024/25 2 Reserved Appointments 2024/25 3 No Appointments Required 4 Members' Comments 5 Members' Reports
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None

## APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

OUTSIDE BODY	DETAILS OF APPOINTMENTS IN 2023/24	APPOINTMENT REQUIRED FOR 2024/25 (PROPOSED NOMINEE/S IN BOLD)
Battle Abbey Liaison Group (formerly the Battle Abbey Advisory Group)	Councillor Cook	One appointment required <b>Propose Cook</b>
Bexhill Maritime	Councillor Timpe	One appointment required <b>Propose Timpe</b>
Combe Valley Community Interest Company	Councillor Pearce	One appointment required <b>Propose Pearce</b>
Dungeness Power Station Site Stakeholders Group	Councillor McGurk (Substitute: Councillor Osborne)	One appointment and one substitute appointment required <b>Propose McGurk Sub: Osborne</b>
East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board  (Must not be the same as the East Sussex Heath Overview and Scrutiny Committee)	Councillor Killeen	One appointment required <b>Propose Killeen</b>
Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Ltd (SeaSpace)	Councillor Bayliss	One appointment required <b>Propose Bayliss</b>
Hastings and Rother Furniture Service (SLA)	Councillor Coupar	One appointment required <b>Propose Coupar</b>
Local Government Association – Coastal Issues Special Interest Group	Councillor Mier (Substitute: Councillor Osborne)	One appointment and one substitute appointment required <b>Propose Mier Sub: Osborne</b>
Pevensey and Cuckmere Water Level Management Board	Councillor Thomas	One appointment required <b>Propose Thomas</b>
Romney Marshes Area Internal Drainage Board	Councillors Creaser, Mier, Osborne, Prochak, Mr Hoggart, Mr Lovejoy and Mr Oliver	Seven appointments required <b>Propose Creaser, Mier, Osborne, Prochak, Mr Hoggart, Mr Lovejoy</b>

OUTSIDE BODY	DETAILS OF APPOINTMENTS IN 2023/24	APPOINTMENT REQUIRED FOR 2024/25 (PROPOSED NOMINEE/S IN BOLD)
		<b>and Mr Oliver</b>
Romney Marsh Partnership	Mr Harris	One appointment required <b>Propose Mr Harris</b>
Rural Rother Trust	Chair of Council – Councillor Cook (R), Vice-Chair of Council – Councillor Thomas (R), and Councillors Ganly, Mrs Kirby-Green, Mier and Prochak.	Five appointments required Chair of Council <b>(R)</b> , Vice-Chair of Council <b>(R)</b> , <b>and Propose Councillors Mrs Cook, Ganly, Mrs Kirby-Green, Mier and Prochak.</b>
Rural Services Network	Councillor Oliver (Substitute: Councillor Prochak)	One appointment and one substitute appointment required <b>Propose Oliver Sub: Prochak</b>
Rye Chamber of Commerce	Councillor Bayliss	One appointment required <b>Propose Bayliss</b>
Rye Harbour Nature Reserve Management Committee (SLA)	Mr Harris and Mr Lloyd (Substitute: Mr Hoggart)	Two appointments and one substitute appointment required <b>Propose Mr Harris, Mr Lloyd Sub: Mr Hoggart</b>
Rye Partnership	Councillor Bayliss	One appointment required <b>Propose Bayliss</b>
Safer Rother Partnership (4-year appointment)	Councillor Stanger (Substitute: none appointed)	One substitute required <b>Propose</b>
Team East Sussex (TES)	Councillor Bayliss	One appointment required <b>Propose Bayliss</b>

**(SLA)** = Voluntary Sector Service Levels Agreements

## RESERVED APPOINTMENTS (R)

OUTSIDE BODY	REPRESENTATIVE(S) APPOINTED IN 2023/24	CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS 2024/25
1066 Country Member Liaison Group (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, Tourism & Joint Waste Contract – Councillor Timpe	
A21 Reference Group (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Licensing, Community Safety, Climate Strategy and Joint Waste Contract and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillors Field and Osborne	
Action in Rural Sussex (SLA) (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Licensing, Community Safety, Climate Strategy and Joint Waste Contract – Councillor Field (Substitute: Councillor Prochak)	
De La Warr Pavilion (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, Tourism & Joint Waste Contract and Deputy Leader of the Council – Councillors Timpe and Prochak (Field temp from 15 December)	
District Councils' Network (DCN) (R)	Leader of the Council – Councillor Oliver	
East Sussex Strategic Partnership (R)	Deputy Leader of the Council – Councillor Prochak (Oliver temp from 19 December) (Substitute: Councillor Oliver)	Sub:
Hastings and Rother Task Force (R)	Leader of the Council - Councillor Oliver (Substitute: Councillor Prochak)	
High Weald AONB Forum / Joint Advisory Committee (R)	Chair of the Planning Committee – Councillor Drayson	Chair of Planning Committee
Local Government Association (R)	Leader of the Council – Councillor Oliver	

Rother Local Strategic Partnership (R)	Deputy Leader of the Council – Councillor Prochak (Field temp from 19 December)	
South East Employers (R)	Chair of HR Committee – Councillor Oliver (Substitute: Vice-Chair of HR Committee - Councillor Coleman)	Chair of HR Committee (Sub: Vice-Chair of HR Committee)
Sussex Regional Residents Panel (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing – Councillor McCourt	
Tourism South East (R)	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, Tourism & Joint Waste Contract – Councillor Timpe (Substitute: Councillor Creaser)	Sub: Creaser

**(SLA)** = Voluntary Sector Service Levels Agreements

\*subject to appointment as Committee Chair / Vice-Chair.



## NO APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

OUTSIDE BODY	REPRESENTATIVE(S) APPOINTED IN 2023/24	APPOINTMENT REQUIRED FOR 2024/25
Battle Area Sports Centre Management Committee (4-year appointment)	Councillors Cook and Pearce (Substitutes: Burton and Prochak)	None required
Bexhill Festival of Music (4-year appointment)	Councillor Timpe	None required
Bexhill Museum Limited (formerly Society of Bexhill Museums) (SLA) (4-year appointment, SLA renewed for 1-year)	Councillor Thomas (Substitute: Councillor Gray)	None required
Citizens Advice 1066 (SLA) (4-year appointment)	Councillor Gray (Substitute: Councillor Timpe)	None required
East Sussex Energy, Infrastructure & Development Ltd	None	Pending appointment
East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  (A Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and not the same as East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board)	Councillor Coupar (Substitute Councillor McGurk)	None required
Harbour of Rye Advisory Committee (3-year appointment)	Councillors McGurk & Osborne	None required
Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC) (SLA) (4-year appointment)	Councillor Coleman (Substitute: Councillor Mier)	None required
Hastings and Rother Mediation Service (SLA) (4-year appointment)	Councillor Thomas (Substitute: Councillor Coupar)	None required
Police and Crime Commissioner Panel (4-year appointment)	Councillor Drayson (Substitute: Councillors Bayliss & Jeeawon)	None required
Rother Voluntary Action (4-year appointment)	Councillor Cook (Substitute: Councillor Delany)	None required

Rye Sports Centre Advisory Committee (4-year appointment)	Councillors Creaser & McGurk	None required
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## MEMBERS' COMMENTS

### **Battle Area Sports Centre Management Committee: Councillor Chas Pearce**

I believe this Outside Body is beneficial to Rother residents and I will continue to support it.

### **Combe Valley Community Interest Company: Councillor Chas Pearce**

I believe this Outside Body is beneficial to Rother residents and I will continue to support it.

### **East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board: Councillor Killeen**

It is important that we continue to work in partnership with the ES H&W Board. We have significant joint ventures and strategic drivers. It is a very relevant external body.

### **Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC): Councillor Coleman**

HARC provide an essential service for Rother residents as the primary benefits advice and representation organisation in the area. Rother's investment in this service pays back dividends in the benefits to residents who use the service. It should continue as an Outside Body.

### **Citizens Advice 1066: Councillor Gray**

I am happy to remain their representative and support the good work they provide.

## MEMBERS' REPORTS

<b>OUTSIDE BODY / MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>Members' Bulletin Edition</b>
Rother Voluntary Action / Councillor Mrs Cook	October 2023
Hastings Advice and Representation Centre / Councillor Coleman	January 2024