

Appointments to Outside Bodies

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To consider the appointment one member to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and one member to the Westlea Housing Forum.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee appoint one representative to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.**

- 2.2 **That the Committee appoint one representative to the Westlea Housing Forum.**

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is a joint committee between the 4 district councils and the County council in Wiltshire.

- 3.2 The Committee is responsible for overseeing the development of health scrutiny arrangements in the County, in response to the Health and Social Care Act. It has worked in collaboration with partner district councils in Wiltshire, health service bodies, neighbouring local authorities and national agencies.

- 3.3 The current dates for the main meetings of the Committee for 2005/06 are 29 June 05, 14 September 05, 14 December 05, 8 March 06 and are normally held during the day. The current representative is Cllr J.M. Wood.

- 3.4 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been asked since 2005/06 to appoint one representative to the Westlea Housing Forum.

- 3.5 The specified composition of NWDC's representation is as follows:

- Lead Member for Housing
- Member nominated to Westlea Board
- One other Member as nominated by Scrutiny PROVIDED THAT all three Members are not members of the same political party
- Strategic Manager for Community & Environment

- 3.6 David Ashmore from Westlea has also responded on the issue of the time commitment expected of members of the Board of Westlea as follows;

"The Board has been working hard to clarify the requirements and responsibilities of Board membership in the light of regulatory requirements and best practice. The Board has acknowledged that irrespective of the 'constituency' ('independent' , 'local authority' or 'tenant') from which Board members come there is an over riding legal responsibility for Board members to act in the sole and best interests of Westlea . Given the nature, demands and complexity of

Westlea's work , Members have determined that every Board Member is expected to spend between 7 and 10 hours a month on Westlea business to satisfy the obligations of the role and this is a requirement of all Members irrespective of their 'constituency'. “

3.7 The current representative appointed by the Committee is Cllr N.M. Phillips.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no significant financial implications.

5. Environment and Community Implications

5.1 The role of representative on outside bodies is important in establishing and maintaining effective communication regarding issues affecting the community.

6. Human Resources & Equal Opportunities Implications

6.1 There are no significant human resources implications.

7. Legal implications

8.1 There are no significant legal implications

Report Author:

Will Oulton - tel (01249) 706611 – email woulton@northwilts.gov.uk