

Report to: **Governance Committee**

Date: **24 April 2018**

By: **Assistant Chief Executive**

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

Purpose of report: **To receive an update in relation to appointments to outside bodies**

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Governance Committee is recommended to appoint Councillor Stephen Shing as a Council representative on the Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest

1. Supporting Information

1.1 The County Council is invited to appoint Members (and in some cases non-County Councillors are eligible) to serve on a wide range of outside bodies whose role has a relationship to a function of the County Council. The appointments are a vital part of the County Council's working in partnership with voluntary bodies, statutory agencies and the public and private sectors.

1.2 The County Council appoints eight of the 15 Conservators of Ashdown Forest. The Council representatives do not have to be Councillors. Of the remaining seven, two are appointed by Wealden District Council and five are elected by the commoners. In addition, the Chairman of the County Council serves on the Board of Conservators to represent the County Council as Lord of the Manor. It is the duty of the Conservators to regulate and manage the Forest as an amenity subject to the existing rights of common, to protect the Forest from encroachments and to conserve it as a quiet and natural area of outstanding beauty. The political balance provisions apply to the County Council's appointments to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

1.3 The allocation of places to groups agreed by the County Council in May 2017 is: Conservative 5; Liberal Democrat 2; Labour 1. The Labour Group's nomination, which was agreed by the County Council, was Councillor O'Keeffe. Councillor O'Keeffe has recently resigned from the Board of Conservators due to other commitments. The Labour Group has nominated Councillor Stephen Shing to fill the vacancy on the Board.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Committee is asked to agree to the appointment of Councillor Stephen Shing as a Council representative on the Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

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Background Documents

None