Somerset County Council

County Council

- 25 May 2022

Report of the Monitoring Officer – Appointments to internal, partnership and outside bodies

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1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out decisions that are required at the Council's Annual General Meeting (AGM) regarding the appointment of members to internal, partnerships and outside bodies for 2022/23 (up until the next Annual General Meeting).

Note – an updated **Appendix 1** with names of members will be published prior to the meeting.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Council is asked to :

- 1. approve the appointment of members to internal, partnerships and outside bodies for 2022/2023 as set out at Appendix 1
- 2. appoint Councillor XXXXX as the Armed Forces Member Champion

3. Background

3 Democratic Arrangements

3.1. The Council has a schedule of internal, partnerships and outside bodies to which it is responsible for making appointments. These include national, regional, countywide and local bodies and partnerships. In some cases, these are strategic organisations where Members can shape and influence better outcomes for Somerset's communities and policy affecting Somerset. In others, the role of the appointed Member is important in promoting the relationship with the Council. The schedule identifies the number of places that the Council can appoint to in each case. The schedule and proposed appointments are set out at **Appendix 1**.

3.2 Further work will be undertaken by the new Constitution & Governance Committee during 2022 to review the Council's role and membership in these various bodies. This review will be reported to the next Annual General Meeting in 2023.

4. Consultations

4.1 Following the election on 5 May, there has been limited time prior to publication of the agenda on 17 May, to have meaningful discussions with all political groups on the proposals set out in this report. All political group leaders and members will receive the proposals and have an opportunity to consider and debate these ahead of and at the AGM.

5. Financial and Legal Implications

5.1 No special responsibility allowances are payable by the Council for appointment to these bodies.

6. Impact Assessment

6.1 The Council's duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 is to have "due regard" to the matters set out in relation to equalities when considering and making decisions on the provision of services. There are no direct impacts of these recommendations on the provision of services. There are no direct impacts on sustainability, health and safety, community safety or privacy aspects as a result of this proposal.