

Council – 21 July, 2016

Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall Board Ltd – Appointment of Representatives

1. Summary

This report informs the Council of vacancies on the Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall Board (VIEW). It provides detail on potential changes in future in relation to the membership of the VIEW Board.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Council considers the options as detailed in paragraph 3.6 within the body of the report and nominates elected members to the VIEW Board for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

3. Report detail

- 3.1 VIEW was set up in partnership between Walsall Council and WHG and is an exempt charity and registered society under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. It uses funding financed by VAT repayments to boost learning opportunities and help build vibrant communities who can play an active role in regeneration in Walsall.
- 3.2 The Board comprises members appointed by WHG, Walsall Council and independent members. The Council currently nominates 5 Board Members to the VIEW Board. This includes 3 elected members nominated by Council and 2 senior officers nominated by the Chief Executive.
- 3.3 A letter has been received from WHG (annexed) advising that the VIEW Board has agreed to:-
- Adopt the National Federation Code of Governance; and
 - Reduce the number of VIEW Board Members from 15 to 12.
- 3.4 To implement the changes, WHG seek to amend the Stock Transfer Agreement 2003, by way of a deed of variation. This will be subject to a further report to Council on 19 September, 2016.
- 3.5 If Council agrees to the proposals at its meeting in September, 2016 the number of Board Members nominated by the Council would be reduced from 5 to 4. Similarly, the number of Board Members appointed by WHG and the VIEW Board would also be reduced from 5 to 4.

3.6 Council is asked to consider the following options in light of the information received from WHG:-

Option 1 – Nominate 3 Elected Members and retain 2 officer appointments (*status quo*). Noting that should the proposed changes be approved in September, 2016 a decision will be required on whether to ask a Member or Officer to step down.

Total Council Appointments: 5 (3 x Members and 2 x Officers)

Option 2 – Reduce the number of Member representatives by nominating 2 Elected Members and holding 1 Member place vacant, pending the outcome of the proposed changes, and retain two officer appointments.

Total Council Appointments: 4 (2 x Members and 2 x Officers);

Option 3 - Reduce the number of senior officers by nominating 3 Elected Members and asking 1 senior officer to step down should the proposed changes be approved in September, 2016.

Total Council Appointments: 4 (3 x Members and 1 x Officer).

Background papers

WHG Letter dated 12 May, 2016

Cabinet Report and Minutes – 2 March, 2005

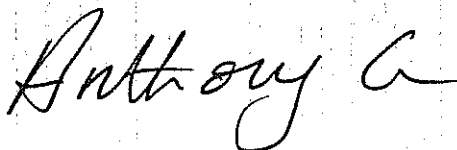
Author

Neil Picken

Senior Democratic Services Officer

☎ 654369

✉ neil.picken@walsall.gov.uk



Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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