

Birmingham City Council

Report to Cabinet Committee – Group Company Governance

18 March 2021



Subject: Company Update
Report of: Rebecca Hellard, Interim Chief Finance Officer
Relevant Cabinet Member: Councillor Brigid Jones
Relevant O &S Chair(s): Councillor Sir Albert Bore
Report author: Alison Jarrett

Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference:		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :		

1 Executive Summary

This report provides Members with an update on the annual process for appointments of members and officers to council interests including companies, charities and trusts.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet Committee Group Company Governance (CC-GCG) receives the report to Cabinet on Annual Appointments prior to Cabinet decision on 29th June 2021.
- 2.2 CC-GCG considers which matters in regard to the Annual Appointments it wishes to recommend for approval by Cabinet.
- 2.3 Officers are instructed to consult on recommendation 2.2 and report outcome to the May meeting of CC-GCG.

3 Background

- 3.1 An annual report to Cabinet sets out the council's external interests, companies, charities and trusts and recommends appointments from both elected members, external representatives and officers to the boards and committees of these interests. This report for 2020/21 was presented to Cabinet in September 2020 dealing only with essential changes in appointments rather than the full list as a result of the impact of covid measures on the appointments process, although pertinent amendments to companies registered at Companies House were reported to this committee.
- 3.2 At its own meeting in September, CC-GCG considered its role in the annual appointments process and a change to the standard content and format of the annual appointments schedule was approved. The schedule of appointments is presented in this revised format today.
- 3.3 The annual appointments schedules have recently been circulated among member groups in preparation for a report to Cabinet in June 2021 where the appointments will be approved. CC-GCG will have the opportunity at its meeting in May 2021 to review the nominations and to ask any questions or seek clarification on the governance and process of appointments.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

- 4.1 This report provides introduction to Members on the 2021/22 annual appointments process and an opportunity to consider the governance surrounding the approvals. The draft cabinet report and developed appointments list will be provided to the May meeting of this committee.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The Chair of the Committee has been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 Risk Management

- 6.1 This report sets out information on external organisations associated with the Council.

7 Compliance Issues:

- 7.1 **How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?**

a) The Council provides services to community through a number of different vehicles. This report provides information on the council representation on entities associated with the Council through which service delivery is being provided.

7.2 Legal Implications

a) The Council's Section 151 Officer has a duty to ensure the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, requires the Council to have effective arrangements for the

management of risk.

7.3 Financial Implications

- a) There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The council does need to have a robust governance structure surrounding its group company entities and representation with those entities is an integral part of that oversight.

7.4 Procurement Implications

- a) There are no procurement implications directly arising from this report.

7.5 Human Resources Implications

- a) There are no human resources implications directly arising from this report. The future report on nominations will be presented to CC-GCG and Cabinet, highlighting the HR implications of those decisions.

7.6 Public Sector Equality Duty

- a) There are no equality duty or equality analysis issues relating to the proposals set out in this report.

8 Background Documents

CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting

9 Appendices

Appendix C – Annual Appointments