

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

REPORT:	ETHICS COMMITTEE	
DATE OF DECISION	8 FEBRUARY 2023	
REPORT TITLE:	PROTOCOL FOR COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS APPOINTED OR NOMINATED TO OUTSIDE BODIES	
CORPORATE DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR:	STEPHEN LAWRENCE-ORUMWENSE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES & MONITORING OFFICER JANE WEST CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES	
LEAD OFFICER:	STEPHEN LAWRENCE-ORUMWENSE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES & MONITORING OFFICER	
LEAD MEMBER:	CLLR JASON CUMMINGS LEAD MEMBER FOR RESOURCES	
DECISION TAKER:	N/A	
AUTHORITY TO TAKE DECISION:	N/A	
KEY DECISION? [Insert Ref. Number if a Key Decision]	No	REASON: N/A
CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?	NO	
WARDS AFFECTED:	N/A	

1 SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's comments on and approval of the draft Protocol for Councillors and Officers representing the Council on Outside Bodies ("Outside Bodies Protocol").

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee should consider and agree the draft Outside Bodies Protocol attached to this Report at Appendix 1.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The adoption of the Protocol enables the Council to provide sound and basic advice and guidance to its representatives appointed or nominated to external bodies such as companies and charities. It aligns with the Council's commitment to effective good governance in the conduct of its affairs.

4 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS

- 4.1 The Council has nomination/appointment rights to a wide range of outside bodies such as community and voluntary organisations, foundations, trusts, companies, charities, boards of management, central and local authority organisations. These appointments are usually made to safeguard the Council's interests on a body funded by the Council, or where there is a statutory power or duty that requires the appointment, or to help secure any objectives of the Council in participating in the body.
- 4.2 It is important that the Council's representatives receive basic advice and guidance to help manage and navigate through the competing interest and issues arising from their roles and responsibilities.
- 4.3 Attached at Appendix 1 is the draft 'Protocol for Councillors, officers and individuals appointed or nominated by the Council to outside bodies'. The draft is based on the standard format used by a number of local authorities. As such it provides a brief overview of the key issues, the expectations when appointed to an outside body, the criteria for appointment, checklist for those appointed and a guide to the law.
- 4.4. If approved, the draft Protocol will be available to all Councillors and Officers appointed by the Council to various outside bodies.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Croydon Companies Supervision and Monitoring Panel (CCSMP), an officer group responsible for the oversight of the Council's companies, was consulted on the draft Protocol.

7. CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 7.1** The recommendation aligns with the Mayor's Business Plan 2022-26 Outcome 1 Priority 4: Ensure good governance is embedded and adopt best practice.

8. IMPLICATIONS

8.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation.

8.2 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.2.1 There are no legal implication arising from the recommendation.

8.3 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 8.3.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. The recommendations do not give arise to any equality's issues.

9 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 draft Protocol for Councillors and Officers representing the Council on Outside Bodies

10 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None