

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
3 FEBRUARY 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Leader and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Housing, Economic Development and Business Engagement	
Contact Officer(s):	Philip McCourt, Interim Head of Legal and Governance Services	01733 452576

APPOINTMENT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYERS PANEL

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM :	Deadline date :
<p>The Employment Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accept the Appointment Opportunity to the Local Government Employers Panel; 2. Agree to place the appointment in the Strategic and Executive – Regional category on the appointments list; and 3. Appoint Councillor Walsh, Committee member and Cabinet member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Public Health, to the Panel. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Employment Committee is recommended to accept an appointment opportunity and agree the category it is allocated to in the list of external organisations.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Employment Committee to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 2.3.1.5 (c) of Part 3 of the constitution – To consider, and recommend appropriate actions where necessary in response to, executive proposals relating to other executive human resources matters.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Employment Committee is asked to agree to accept the appointment opportunity for the Local Government Employer’s Panel (LGEP) that is managed by the East of England Local Government Association (EELGA).
- 4.2 The Panel covers the local authorities within the East of England region.
- 4.3 The role of the Local Government Employers Panel reflects at a supra-council level the terms of reference of this Committee, which includes as an objective and power of the assembly:

“The regulation of relations between member authorities as employers and workers or trade unions and to represent the interests of member authorities as employers and carry out other regional responsibilities on behalf of local government”

4.4 It is for this reason that the appointment of a member on behalf of Peterborough City Council falls to be made by the Committee.

4.5 The full terms of reference for the Panel is attached to this report and the terms of reference for the Panel is attached to this report. Further information on the EELGA is on its website at <http://www.eelga.gov.uk/>.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation has been carried out internally within the council.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

6.1 It is anticipated that the Employment Committee will agree to accept the appointment opportunity, agree to its categorisation as a Strategic and Executive appointment and agree to the appointment of Councillor Walsh to the Panel.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 In accordance with paragraph 2.3.1.5 of Part 3 Section 2 of the council’s constitution, the Employment Committee is required to determine whether or not to accept any new appointment opportunities and to determine which category they should be placed.

7.2 Participation on the Panel will contribute to the council’s strategic functions and priorities and assist the council in fulfilling its executive responsibilities as an employer. The appointment will further ensure that the city council is represented at a regional level and is able to have its voice heard on matters relating to employment and skills issues.

7.3 It is recommended that the relevant member to represent the Council is the member of the Committee who is also a Cabinet Member (it is a legal requirement that the Employment Committee must contain at least one member of the Cabinet). Appointing the member of the Committee who is also the relevant Cabinet member will allow for a fuller representation of the views of the Council across the portfolio and also to report back on strategic issues to relevant bodies.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 Not to accept the appointment – this would mean that Peterborough does not contribute or share in negotiations or advice from across the region.

8.2 Place in a different category – The Strategic and Executive category is the most suitable as the organisation is relevant to employment issues across the region.

8.3 Put forward a different Member to be appointed – in her Executive role as Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Public Health Councillor Walsh has the employer cross-over considerations as part of her portfolio or responsibilities. The presumption also exists that seats in the strategic and executive category will be allocated to the political administration.

9. IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no financial implications to this decision.

9.2 The legal implications are noted in paragraph 7.1 of this report.

10. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 - Local Government Employers Panel – Terms of Reference;
- Appendix 2 - Local Government Employers Panel 2013-14 Membership and
- Appendix 3 – The Context and Role of the Local Government Employers Panel.

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