

REPORT TO: Cabinet
LEAD OFFICER: Executive Director

3 October 2018

Brexit Advisory Group – Terms of Reference

Purpose

1. This report invites Cabinet to approve the terms of reference of the Brexit Advisory Group following consideration by the Group at its meeting held on 19 September 2018.
2. This is not a key decision.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that:
 - (a) Cabinet approve the terms of reference of the Brexit Advisory Group, as set out at Appendix A.
 - (b) Cambridge City Council be invited to appoint three representatives to serve as co-opted members of the Advisory Group.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. To enable Cabinet to approve the terms of reference of the Advisory Group and the co-optation of non-members of the Council as required by Rule 4 of the Executive Procedure Rules.

Background

5. At its meeting held on 26 July 2018, Cabinet agreed to set up an Advisory Group to review and report on the potential impacts of Brexit on South Cambridgeshire and to recommend actions to mitigate those impacts where relevant and appropriate.
6. This report now updates Cabinet on the membership and proposed terms of reference following the first meeting on 19 September 2018.

Considerations

7. Cabinet approved the establishment of the Brexit Advisory Group at its meeting held on 26 July 2018. In so doing, it agreed that the Advisory Group should comprise 5 Liberal Democrats; 2 Conservative and 1 Labour or Independent Member, together with the Leader as an additional Member. The Chief Executive was authorised, after consultation with the Leader, to appoint Members on the basis of nominations from Group Leaders.
8. The following Members have been nominated to serve upon the Group:-

Councillors Philip Allen, Ruth Betson, Dr. Martin Cahn, Nigel Cathcart, Sue Ellington, Peter Fane, Geoff Harvey and Peter McDonald, together with Councillor Bridget Smith as Leader.

9. Given the close relationship between the economies of South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City, it was also suggested that the Advisory Group consider whether an invitation should be extended to Cambridge City Council Members to become co-opted members of the Group. In that context, Cabinet was advised that Cambridge City Council at its Council meeting held on 19 July 2019 had passed a motion in support of the City Council participating in the work of the Advisory Group to assess the impact of Brexit on our shared economy. Cabinet accordingly agreed to request the Advisory Group to consider the involvement of City Council Members in its work.
10. The first meeting of the Advisory Group was held on 19 September 2018. Councillor Geoff Harvey was elected as Chairman of the Advisory Group.
11. The terms of reference of the Advisory Group were discussed and these are now attached at Appendix A for the approval of Cabinet.
12. The terms of reference that the Advisory Group recommend that three Members of Cambridge City Council should be co-opted to serve on the Group. Cabinet is requested to endorse this proposal in order that Cambridge City can now be formally invited to appoint 3 Councillors to serve as co-opted members of the Advisory Group.

Options

13. Cabinet could make amendments to the proposed terms of reference and the proposal for co-option of non-council members.

Implications

14. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk management, equality and diversity, climate change, community safety and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered: -

Financial

15. As indicated in the previous report, there are resource implications in providing support to the advisory Group. Professional officer support will be needed to advise the Group, together with secretariat support services.

Effect on Strategic Aims

Aim (c) – Connected Communities

16. The above strategic aim provides that the Council's approach to growth will sustain prosperity. Areas of focus to support the aim include supporting existing businesses and working with local small and medium-sized enterprises to help them grow and expand and to enable South Cambridgeshire to continue to be a key location for new business investment. The Brexit Advisory Group will support the aim by enabling a review of the impacts of the UK exiting the EU on businesses and the local economy and considering actions the Council can take to mitigate those impacts.

Background Papers

Where [the Local Authorities \(Executive Arrangements\) \(Meetings and Access to Information\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) require documents to be open to inspection by members of the public, they must be available for inspection: -

- (a) at all reasonable hours at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council;
- (b) on the Council's website; and
- (c) in the case of documents to be available for inspection pursuant to regulation 15, on payment of a reasonable fee required by the Council by the person seeking to inspect the documents at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

None

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