
Subject:	APPOINTMENT OF PROJECT ADVISORY GROUPS 2024/25
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet – 13 May 2024
Report of:	Louise May, Strategic Director (Corporate and Regulatory)
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Kevin Mills, Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Non-Key
Classification:	Unrestricted

Purpose of the report: For Cabinet to:

- (a) Approve the membership of the following Project Advisory Groups (PAGs) for 2024/25: (1) Dover Beacon and Dover Town Regeneration (2) Tides; (3) Homelessness; and (4) Investment Advisory.
-

- Recommendation:**
1. That Cabinet appoints a Dover Beacon and Dover Town Regeneration Project Advisory Group for the Council Year 2024/25 on the basis outlined at Appendix A of the report.
 2. That Cabinet appoints a Tides Project Advisory Group for the Council Year 2024/25 on the basis outlined at Appendix B of the report.
 3. That Cabinet appoints a Homelessness Project Advisory Group for the Council Year 2024/25 on the basis outlined at Appendix C of the report.
 4. That Cabinet appoints an Investment Advisory Group for the Council Year 2024/25 on the basis outlined at Appendix D of the report.
-

1. **Summary**

1.1 The Cabinet annually appoints Members and, in some cases, external representatives, to serve on the Council's Project Advisory Groups (PAGs). There are four PAGs to which Members need to be appointed.

2. On the advice of the Head of Planning and Development, it is not proposed to appoint a Local Plan PAG as no further meetings will be required. When the time comes, the Draft Local Plan will go through Cabinet and then to Council for adoption.

3. **Introduction and Background**

3.1 The Council's Constitution advises that, unless agreed otherwise by the Leader of the Council/Cabinet, Advisory Groups shall:

- (a) comprise 5 members including the Leader or appropriate Portfolio Holder who shall chair the Group;
- (b) be appointed, as far as possible, in accordance with the rules on political balance; and
- (c) include a relevant ward member.

3.2 The purpose of Advisory Groups is:

- (a) To provide a forum for consultation with other members of Council before particular issues are determined by the executive;
- (b) To advise the Leader or Cabinet/Portfolio Holder on any matter which concerns a project or relevant function/activity to be determined by the Leader/executive;
- (c) To assist and support the Leader or Cabinet/Portfolio Holder with regard to background information or preliminary work or research in connection with a project or function/activity to be determined by the Leader/executive.

4. **Identification of Options**

4.1 Option 1 - To appoint all four PAGs based on the proposed memberships set out in Appendices A to D.

4.2 Option 2 – To change the composition and/or membership of some or all of the PAGs.

4.3 Option 3 – Not to appoint Members to some or any of the PAGs.

5. **Evaluation of Options**

5.1 Option 1 is the recommended option.

6. **Resource Implications**

6.1 With the exception of the Dover Beacon and Dover Town Regeneration PAG, PAG meetings are normally (but not always) held on Teams as they are not subject to the same legislation as other committees which requires Members to attend meetings in person. There are therefore minimal resource implications arising from Member travel claims for attending the offices.

7. **Climate Change Implications**

7.1 Aside from Members travelling to some PAG meetings by car (where meetings are not held on Teams), there are no climate change implications.

8. **Corporate Implications**

- 8.1 Comment from the Section 151 Officer: Accountancy has been consulted on the report and has no further comments to add.
- 8.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: 'The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make'.
- 8.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report, seeking to appoint four PAGs based on the proposed memberships set out in Appendices A to D, does not specifically highlight any equality implications. In discharging their duties, Members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>

9. **Appendices**

Appendix A – Proposed Membership of the Dover Beacon and Dover Town Regeneration Project Advisory Group

Appendix B – Proposed Membership of the Tides PAG

Appendix C – Proposed Membership of the Homelessness PAG

Appendix D – Proposed Membership of the Investment Advisory Group

Background Papers

Democratic Services' files

Contact Officer: Kate Batty-Smith, Democratic Services Officer – 01304 872303

Appendix A

APPOINTMENT OF DOVER BEACON AND DOVER TOWN REGENERATION PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP

Councillor K Mills (Leader of the Council) – Chairman

Portfolio Holder for Community and Corporate Property – Vice-Chairman

Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance, Climate Change and Environment

Mayor of Dover

Three (non-voting) tenant representatives (to be invited to meetings where the Dover Beacon Project is due to be considered)

Group Nominations

Labour Group: **4 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 - Councillors E A Biggs, P M Brivio, S Hill and G Cowan)

Conservative Group: **4 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 – T J Bartlett, M Bates, D G Beaney and O C de R Richardson)

Appendix B

APPOINTMENT OF TIDES PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP

Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance, Climate Change and Environment –
Chairman

Portfolio Holder for Community and Corporate Property – Vice-Chairman

Group Nominations

Labour Group: **2 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 -
Councillors S B Blair and J P Loffman)

Conservative Group: **1 Member - *To be advised*** (Current Member 2023/24 –
Councillor O C de R Richardson)

Appendix C

APPOINTMENT OF HOMELESSNESS PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP

Portfolio Holder for Housing, Skills and Education – Chairman

Group Nominations

Labour Group: **2 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 - Councillors M J Nee and H M Williams)

Conservative Group: **2 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 – Councillors D R Friend and S C Manion)

Appendix D

APPOINTMENT OF INVESTMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance, Climate Change and Environment –
Chairman

Chairman of Governance Committee – Vice-Chairman

Group Nominations

Labour Group: **1 Member - *To be advised*** (Current Member 2023/24 - Councillor E A Biggs)

Conservative Group: **2 Members - *To be advised*** (Current Members 2023/24 –
Councillors T J Bartlett and C A Vinson)