

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Co-option onto Adult Select Committee</b>
<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>Adults Select Committee</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> July 2017</b>
<b>DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>All</b>

## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1** To inform the Select Committee about the potential to co-opt individuals onto the Adults Select Committee.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** Arising from a Select Committee scrutiny inquiry of Monmouthshire's Ageing Population in 2010, the Select Committee agreed to accept representatives of Action 50+ Monmouth and Abergavenny as co-opted members of the Adults Select Committee for the term of the administration (without voting rights). In 2012, the council agreed to renew the co-option onto the Select Committee for the term of the administration.
- 2.2** The co-optees for Action 50+ Abergavenny and Monmouth have inputted a significant time commitment to the Select Committee over this period and have provided a wealth of experience and intelligence from their respective forums that has assisted elected members in their scrutiny to date.

## **3 KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1** When the new political management arrangements were introduced in 2000, it was envisaged that Scrutiny would play a significant role in engaging the public in the development of policies and services. The co-option of individuals who represent the public could benefit the Committee by providing them with greater expertise, whilst enabling the public a voice and a clear mechanism through which they can influence the work of the Council.
- 3.2** Scrutiny committees have the ability to scrutinise other public service providers in the county and to invite partnerships, health bodies and other public sector organisations to scrutiny committees to discuss services provided to Monmouthshire residents. Select Committees therefore need to be confident that they have sought the views of the public and key stakeholders in their scrutiny work and that their evidence base is sufficiently robust, which can strengthen the argument for co-option.
- 3.3** The new Select Committee is therefore being asked to consider whether they wish to co-opt individuals (without voting rights) onto the Select Committee to assist them in their scrutiny. Members may wish to consider individuals who represent stakeholder groups, community forums, relevant organisations and the voluntary sector (to sit on a full term basis) in line with the Select Committee's remit.

Appendix A provides the Terms of Reference for the Ageing Well Executive Group which comprises representatives of key organisations that deliver actions to support older people (their Programme of Intent for 2017/18 is attached as Appendix B), which may provide Members with a useful starting point for considering any co-option.

- 3.4** Alternatively, the Select Committee could choose not to formally co-opt, but to invite key stakeholders, service users and expert witnesses to scrutiny meetings on a case by case/topic by topic basis. The invitation of service users, stakeholders and relevant witnesses to scrutiny meetings is considered standard practice and therefore should be exercised regardless of the decision to formally co-opt.

## **4 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1** That Members consider whether they wish to formally co-opt individuals /representatives of organisations onto the Adults Select Committee for the term of the administration without voting rights.

## **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1** There are no significant resource implications arising from the report as co-optees would not be paid to sit on the Select Committee, however, travel costs to meetings would be paid in line with the advice of the Independent Remuneration Panel Guidance.

## **6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

- 8.1** There are no direct implications on arising specifically from this report, however, Select Committees are reminded that they have a responsibility to consider any of the above implications through their chosen scrutiny activity and that the co-option of appropriate co-optees onto the Select Committee may assist them in this regard.

## **6. CONSULTEES**

None

## **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **8. AUTHOR**

Hazel Ilett  
Scrutiny Manager

## **9. CONTACT DETAILS:**

Tel: 01633 644233  
E-mail: Hazeilett@monmouthshire.gov.uk