

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

6 June 2022

Nominations and Appointments to Boards 2022/23

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
<i>Reason why exempt:</i>	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Governance
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Not a Key Decision

Director Approving Submission of the Report:
Steve Davenport, Principal Solicitor/Monitoring Officer

Report Author(s):
Christine Marriott, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
christine.marriott@southyorkshire-ca-gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report:

- Informs the MCA Board of the second rotational Member appointments, required to ensure the Authority has a majority of constituent Members.
- Seeks approval of the elected member nominations for the Audit and Standards Committee.
- Seeks approval of the appointments of independent members for the Audit and Standards Committee.
- Seeks approval of the elected member nominations to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Seeks approval of the appointment of Mayor Coppard to the Transport for the North Board and subsequently the Rail North Committee.
- Seeks approval of Cllr Chris Read as substitute member for the Transport for the North Board.
- Seeks endorsement of the nomination of two members from Sheffield, Barnsley or Doncaster to the Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

Appointments to these committees will ensure that the MCA and partner Boards can function effectively and make decisions that have a positive impact on the South Yorkshire communities.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Note the appointment of second rotational Member appointments, required to ensure the Authority has a majority of constituent Members.
- Approve the elected member nominations for the Audit and Standards Committee.
- Approve the continuing appointment of the existing two independent members for the Audit and Standards Committee pending a new recruitment process.
- Approve the elected member nominations to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Approve the appointment of Mayor Oliver Coppard to the Transport for the North Board.
- Approve Cllr Chris Read as substitute member for the Transport for the North Board.
- Endorse seeking two Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee members from Sheffield, Barnsley or Doncaster.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

n/a

1. Background

1.1 Appointments to MCA boards and committees are made on an annual basis in line with the MCA Constitution.

1.2 Rotational Members:

As required by primary legislation, which dictates that constituent member authorities must have a voting majority on the Mayoral Combined Authority, the Authority has agreed to appoint two second rotational Member appointments to meet this requirement.

The principle of appointing rotational Members will be adhered to until there is any amendment to the primary legislation Rotational Members do not attend Authority meetings unless directed.

For 2022/23 the rotational members will be appointed from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and Sheffield City Council.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Audit, Standards and Risk Committee

The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 prescribes a number of matters determining how the Combined Authority must make arrangements for an Audit Committee including the need for political proportionality and the appointment of at least one independent person. At present there are two Independent Persons appointed whose initial term is expiring, it is proposed to extend their appointments until the new recruitment process is complete, with an aim to have the process complete in the Autumn.

The Authority must appoint such a number of members of each of the constituent councils to an Audit Committee, so that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect, so far as reasonably practicable, the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together. In previous years the MCA has sought nominations for 10 Members. In general attendance has been poor and with a legal quoracy level of 2/3rds most meetings proceed without being quorate. This is a reputational issue for the MCA and could result in audit issues. One proposal to assist with quoracy for 2022/23 is to have a smaller committee with Members who are more able to commit to attending. The alternative proposal for consideration is to seek nominations for 4 Members, one from each Authority and 4 substitutes. This will still allow political balance and is hoped to improve attendance and quoracy. This can be changed if it proves unsuccessful.

Nominations, received by the time of publishing, for the Audit and Standards Committee are included in the appendix. Depending which option for the size of the Committee is agreed upon then further nominations will be sought. A Chair will be appointed by the Committee following receipt of all nominations.

2.2 **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

As determined by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009; The Cities and Local Devolution Act 2016 and The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017 (SI 67) a number of matters are prescribed in respect of the membership and chairing arrangements of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Member Composition

The Combined Authority must appoint such a number of members of each of the constituent councils to an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, so that the members of the committee, taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable, the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together. Non-Labour Member appointees are sought initially from the districts with the largest political minorities.

Chairing arrangements

The Chair of the Committee will be a councillor from a different political party to the Mayor.

Nominations, received by the time of publishing, for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the possible candidates for Chair are set out in the appendix.

2.3 **Thematic Boards:**

As described in the Authority's constitution, each thematic board comprises:

- one Leader, who is the portfolio lead, from an MCA constituent Local Authority
- a nominated elected member representative for each of the constituent Local Authorities
- a lead Chief Executive from a constituent Local Authority
- two private sector LEP Board members, one of whom will co-Chair the Board
- the MCA Head of Paid Service (or their nominated representative)

In the case of the Transport and Environment Board the Director General of the PTE is also a member.

Nominations, received at time of publishing, for the elected member representative for each of the thematic boards are set out in the appendix.

2.4 Appointments to outside bodies – Transport for the North

TfN requires each constitute authority to confirm the MCA's nominations by the 27 July 2021.

This report seeks approved to appoint Mayor Oliver Coppard to the TfN Board and formally re-appoint Cllr Read as the substitute member. Through this appointment Mayor Coppard and Cllr Read will also represent the Combined Authority on the Rail North Committee.

2.5 The role of the appointed Members acting as the TfN Board is specified in the TfN constitution as:

- Collectively be the ultimate policy makers of TfN
- Bring the views of their communities into TfN's decision making process
- Maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics
- In carrying out the business of TfN, will observe the Code of Conduct for members adopted by their appointing Authority

2.6 In addition, the combined authority is entitled to appoint a member and substitute member to TfN scrutiny committee. Should the MCA wish to appoint such members nominations are sought. The only restriction is that the members cannot be the members appointed to the TfN Board above, they can be any member of the constituent authority.

3. Consultation on Proposal

3.1 The MCA Executive Team has consulted with Local Authorities regarding the appointments required.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

4.1 Nominations will come into effect immediately.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with the appointments other than the agreed allowance made to independent members of the Audit and Standards Committee.

6. Legal Implications and Advice

6.1 The membership requirements of all Boards and Committees is determined by the Constitution and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (and regulations made there under).

7. Human Resources Implications and Advice

7.1 There are no human resources implications relating to these appointments.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

8.1 The composition of the boards is determined by the nominations made by Local Authorities.

9. Climate Change Implications and Advice

9.1 An Impact Assessment is not required for this activity.

10. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

10.1 There are no information and communication technology implications relating to this activity.

11. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

11.1 There are no communications and marketing implications relating to this activity.

List of Appendices Included

A Nominations from Local Authorities – an updated appendix will be provided when additional nominations are received

Background Papers

MCA Constitution