

SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

Report of the Monitoring Officer

26th July 2022

Report Title: Appointment of Co-optees

Purpose of Report	To advise on the appointment of co-optees to the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee and to seek authority to enter into co-option agreements.
Recommendation	Members agree that following receipt of a signed co-option agreement and on the terms identified in paragraph 8, the following representatives be co-opted to the CJC: (a) Mr Steven Wilks, Provost of Swansea University (b) Mr Medwin Hughes, Vice Chancellor of University of Wales, Trinity St David (c) Ms Maria Battle, Chair of Hywel Dda University Health Board (d) Ms Emma Woolett, Chair of Swansea Bay University Health Board
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Finance Officer	N/A
Legal Officer	Craig Griffiths

Background:

1. The Corporate Joint Committees Statutory Guidance references that in order to fulfil their responsibilities and duties effectively, CJsCs will need to, and be expected to, actively involve others in their work. It will be important that each CJC creates an inclusive and collaborative culture to

ensure a wider perspective and approach to its work. Each CJC will wish to give thought to how this can best be achieved taking into account its own unique circumstances.

Co-option

2. The Corporate Joint Committee Regulations 2021 establishing CJsCs provide the flexibility for them to engage and involve others in their work through co-option (see Regulation 9 of the Establishment Regulations). Who is co-opted and how they are co-opted (the terms of the co-option) will be for the CJC to decide.
3. The benefits of co-opting to the CJC are:
 - (a) to strengthen the breadth of experience and skills available to the CJC
 - (b) to enable local input or to provide for local representation
 - (c) to provide specialist expertise on specific issues.
4. CJsCs will want to give thought to the type and range of organisations they wish to be represented by co-opted members, based on the skills and experience that will be beneficial and relevant to its work – for example representatives of:
 - (a) Further and Higher Education Institutions
 - (b) Third sector representatives
 - (c) Business or Sector specific organisation.
5. There are no restrictions on who can be co-opted, how long they are co-opted for, the purpose for which they are co-opted or if they are co-opted with or without voting rights (but see voting arrangements) – this is left entirely to the CJC to decide.
6. A CJC will however be required to set out such matters in written notice to the co-opted member (see Regulation 9(2) of the CJC Establishment Regulations). When co-opting members a CJC might wish to consider (amongst other things):
 - (a) the purpose for which co-opted members are co-opted, for example which function or functions;
 - (b) the ‘term of co-option’, (how long they are co-opted for) for example a fixed period, renewed annually or indefinitely until the co-option is terminated;
 - (c) whether co-opted members are to be co-opted with or without voting rights

- (d) If co-opted members are to have voting rights if those rights are for one, some or all functions, and / or on the governance and administrative arrangements of a CJC
 - (e) whether co-opted members are co-opted onto the CJC itself or onto one of its sub-committees, or both.
7. Accordingly, following receipt of a signed co-option agreement, the following representatives will be appointed to the CJC
 - (a) Mr Steven Wilks, Provost of Swansea University
 - (b) Mr Medwin Hughes, Vice Chancellor of University of Wales, Trinity St David
 - (c) Ms Maria Battle, Chair of Hywel Dda University Health Board
 - (d) Ms Emma Woolett, Chair of Swansea Bay University Health Board
 8. The terms of reference for the appointment are:
 - (a) Appointment for all functions of the CJC
 - (b) Appointment on a non-voting basis
 - (c) Renewed annually
 - (d) Co-option to the CJC only
 - (e) Compliance with the Member Code of Conduct for CJC Members.

Financial Impacts:

9. Appointed advisors and co-optees would be non-remunerated posts but would be able to claim expenses such as travelling expenses, which are within the CJC budget but it is anticipated that the majority of such meetings will take place virtually.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

10. The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

11. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

Workforce Impacts:

12. There are no impacts associated with the workforce.

Legal Impacts:

13. The Corporate Joint Committees Statutory Guidance references that in order to fulfil their responsibilities and duties effectively, CJC's will need to, and be expected to, actively involve others in their work. It will be important that each CJC creates an inclusive and collaborative culture to ensure a wider perspective and approach to its work. Each CJC will wish to give thought to how this can best be achieved taking into account its own unique circumstances.

Risk Management Impacts:

14. Failure to ensure a diverse and representative group of co-optees would mean the CJC will not be able to consider the range of views such organisations could bring to the functions the CJC are required to undertake.

Consultation:

15. There is no requirement for external consultation on this report.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

16. To ensure the CJC can actively involve others in their work programme.

Implementation of Decision:

17. This decision is to be implemented immediately

Appendices:

18. None

List of Background Papers:

19. None