

SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

Report of the Monitoring Officer

6th June 2023

Report Title: Granting of co-opted member status to the Chair of Regional Learning and Skills Partnership

Purpose of Report	To seek authority to agree co-option status for the Chair of the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership
Recommendation	Members agree that co-option (non-voting) status be granted to the Chair of the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership to the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee and the Economic Well Being – regional economic development Sub-Committee subject to the completion of a co-option agreement.
Report Author	Craig Griffiths
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, Corporate Joint Committees will need to, and be expected to, actively involve others in their work. It will be important that each Corporate Joint Committee creates an inclusive and collaborative culture to ensure a wider perspective and approach to its work. Each Corporate Joint Committee will wish to give thought to how this can best be achieved taking into account its own unique circumstances.

Co-option

2. The Regional Learning and Skills Partnership for South West Wales is one of 4 regional partnerships in Wales working to drive investment in skills by developing responses based upon local and regional need. We work across the counties of Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, and Swansea taking close consideration of the priorities of the Swansea Bay City Region, the Haven Waterway Enterprise Zone and Port Talbot Enterprise Zone. A primarily employer led partnership they strive to work across the region bridging the gap between education and regeneration in the hope of creating a strong and vibrant economy underpinned by innovation, growth and a capable workforce. Given the significant overlap between the economic regeneration work of the South West Wales Corporate Joint

Committee it is important that that the two entities work in co-operation with each other.

3. It would accordingly be proposed that co-opted (non-voting) status be granted to the Chair of Regional Learning and Skills Partnership (currently Mr Ed Morgan) to the CJC. This would be subject to the signing of the appropriate co-option agreement that has been approved by the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee.
4. It would also be proposed that, subject to entering into the agreed co-option agreement, co-opted (non-voting) status be granted to the Chair of the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership to Economic Well Being – regional economic development Sub-Committee.

Financial Impacts:

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

Integrated Impact Assessment:

6. The Corporate Joint Committee 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.
7. 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:

8. There are no impacts associated with the workforce.

Legal Impacts:

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

Risk Management Impacts:

10. Failure to ensure a diverse and representative group of co-optees would mean the Corporate Joint Committee will not be able to consider the range of views Regional Skills and Partnership could bring to the functions the Corporate Joint Committee are required to undertake.

Consultation:

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

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

12. To ensure the Corporate Joint Committee can actively involve others in their work programme.

Implementation of Decision:

13. This decision is to be implemented following the three day call in period.

Appendices:

14. None

List of Background Papers:

15. None