

## APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC

Report of the Head of Legal Services.

(1) The City Council is asked to consider the following appointments –

	<b>Committees and Other Bodies</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Appointments 2013/14</b>
(a)	Fostering Panel*	One councillor. Councillor Stark has resigned from the panel.	
(b)	Board of Four Greens Community Trust CIC*	Two councillors. New appointments.	
(c)	Board of Trustees of the Plymouth Drake Foundation – The Community Charity*	Two councillors New appointments.	

\*Further details on the organisations and the appointments are set out below.

(2) The City Council is asked to note the following changes notified to the Head of Legal Services –

	<b>Committee, Outside Body etc</b>	<b>Membership</b>
(d)	Planning Committee	Councillor Sam Davey to replace Councillor Wheeler
(e)	Co-operative Scrutiny Board	Councillor Parker Delaz Ajete to replace Councillor Jon Taylor
(f)	Caring Plymouth Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Mrs Nelder to replace Councillor Jon Taylor
(g)	Working Plymouth Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Jarvis to replace Councillor Mrs Nelder
(h)	Transformation Advisory Group	Councillor Sam Davey to replace Councillor Lowry

Councillors are reminded that they should update their Register of Interest to take account of any changes to their membership of Outside Bodies.

### **(a) Fostering Panel**

The Fostering Panel currently meets fortnightly on Wednesdays in the Council House. On occasions it may be cancelled if there are not sufficient cases, but equally sometimes there is a need to convene an extra panel if workload increases and to avoid delay for children. The duration of the panel varies from a half day to a full day. The panel mainly considers applications from prospective foster carers, the first annual review of foster carers and matches of foster carers with specific children who are to be placed with them on a long-term/permanent basis. It also reviews the continuing suitability of foster carers after concerns or allegations, and on occasions considers whether a foster carer's approval should be terminated.

An elected member who joins panel is subject to the same requirements as all panel members. We would not require them to attend every panel and a monthly commitment would be reasonable. The amount of reading can be quite demanding and generally this is sent out at least a week in advance. Some of the material may be quite distressing given the experiences of children which lead to them being removed from birth parents e.g. serious neglect, emotional, physical and sexual abuse, backgrounds of parental alcohol and drug abuse and domestic violence.

The administrator stresses that attendance at the panel must be seen as a priority since it must have at least five members present to be quorate and sending apologies at short notice may mean that the whole of the panel has to be cancelled.

The Council is asked to appoint one councillor to the Fostering Panel, following the resignation of Councillor Stark.

### **(b) Four Greens Community Trust CIC**

Cabinet minute 59 on 21 October 2014 approved the transfer of the Whitleigh Care Home premises to the Four Greens Community Trust, the new Community and Economic Development Trust, initially on a 35 year lease.

The trust has now been registered as a Community Interest Company (CIC) and Cabinet asked the City Council to nominate two councillors as directors to sit on the Board.

### **(c) Plymouth Drake Foundation – The Community Charity**

The Plymouth Drake Foundation was established in its current charity role in 2007. It is distinct from other not for profit and voluntary organisations in Plymouth on its objectives of raising funds from corporate and private donors and distributing them solely for the purposes of developing Plymouth communities now and forever.

It is a community-owned financial institution to promote local philanthropy. The principal focus is developing and managing a community endowment fund, the income from which will be used to support the development of Plymouth's communities.

The City Council is asked to appoint two councillors as trustees to sit on the Board.