

Agenda Item IMD33

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD: 2016/33

TITLE	In-Year Appointment of Council Representative to White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee
DECISION TO BE MADE BY	Keith Baker, Leader of the Council
DATE AND TIME	17 November 2016, 10.00 am
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Andrew Moulton, Head of Governance and Improvement Services
REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED ON	9 November 2016
VENUE	LGF1

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

That the Council's interests continue to be represented on the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

That either Councillor Lindsay Ferris or John Jarvis be appointed as the Council's Representative on the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Following the recent appointment of Councillor Angus Ross to the Chair of the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee there is a need to appoint another Councillor to represent the interests of Wokingham Borough Council on the Committee.

Background

Under Section 35 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 (revised 2002), 51 designated aerodromes – of which only 49 are currently in operation, varying in size from Heathrow down to small General Aviation airfields – must consult equally and fairly users of the aerodrome, local authorities and community groups about the airport's operations. Although this doesn't necessarily mean a consultative committee is required, the Government regards a committee as the best way for airports to fulfil this requirement. Many airports choose to operate consultative committees despite not being formally 'designated' by the Act. The Department for Transport has issued several versions of guidance about how consultative committees should be set up and how they should operate, though airports are not legally required to follow these recommendations. New guidelines were published in 2014.

The Council has had a Representative on the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee since 2014 following the advice in the guidelines to involve neighbouring Councils.

Councillor Angus Ross was appointed as the Council's representative on the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee at this year's Annual Council meeting, which took place in May 2016. Councillor Ross has subsequently been asked to chair the White Waltham Airfield Consultative Committee and as a result has elected to resign as Wokingham Borough Council's representative on the basis that continuing to stand in both roles would constitute a potential conflict of interest.

Councillor John Jarvis has been nominated by the Conservative Group and Councillor Lindsay Ferris has been nominated by the Liberal Democrat Group to undertake this role.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A		

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None

Cross-Council Implications

None

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
Director – Finance and Resources	None received
Monitoring Officer	I have no comment to make.
Leader of the Council	None received

Liberal Democrat Group Leader – Lindsay Ferris	I wish to be considered for this position.
Labour Group Member – Andy Croy	I do not wish to be considered for this position.

List of Background Papers
DfT Guidelines for Airport Consultative Committees 2014

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Date 7 November 2016	Version No. 1

WHITE WALTHAM AIRFIELD CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

What is the legal status of the organisation

Voluntary consultative body.

Aims and Objectives

To provide a means of consultation with respect to any matter concerning the management or administration of the airfield.

Trust Deed, Code of Conduct, Constitution, Memorandum or Articles of Association

Constitution dated 10 April 2014

Status of Appointment (i.e. Observer/Trustee/Director)

Member

Wokingham Representative(s) 2016/17

Angus Ross

Financial Status

nil

Risk/Liabilities

nil

Insurance

nil

Is Training Provided

No, but members entitled to a short free flight to see airfield surroundings from the air.

Frequency of Meetings

3 per year, usually 5pm at Clubhouse with sandwiches and tea/coffee

Contact Details (organisation)

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Consultative Committee
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