

SCHEME OF VOTING RIGHTS FOR CO-OPTED MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP) SCRUTINY BOARD (AN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)

Cumbria County Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by Schedule A1 of the Local Government Act 2000 adopted the following Scheme on 11 April 2019:-

1. Citation

This Scheme may be cited as the Scheme for Voting Rights for Co-opted Members of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board.

2. Definitions

2.1 This Scheme shall be called "The Scheme of Voting Rights for Co-opted Members of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board".

2.2 In this Scheme:

- "Council" means Cumbria County Council;
- "Councillor" means an Elected Member of Cumbria County Council;
- "Co-opted Member" means a person who is not a member of the Council but who has been appointed by the Council as a member of Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board; and
- "District Council" means one or more of the following councils - Allerdale Borough Council, Barrow in Furness Borough Council, Carlisle City Council, Copeland Borough Council, Eden District Council and South Lakeland District Council.
- "Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board" means the Committee, appointed pursuant to Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 and designated by the Council as having overall responsibility for scrutiny of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership.

3. The Scheme

3.1 The Council's Constitution makes provision for the Council to appoint up to six co-opted members (one from each of the Cumbria District Councils) to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board for the purposes of scrutiny of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership.

3.2 The Council is the Accountable Body for the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership. The Local Enterprise Partnership must make arrangements with its Accountable Body for scrutiny of its activities and the Council has provided in its Constitution that such scrutiny shall be a function of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board.

- 3.2 The National Assurance Framework for Growth (January 2019, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) required Local Enterprise Partnerships to make scrutiny arrangements which permitted scrutiny by all relevant local authorities and to facilitate this the Council has amended its Constitution to permit it to create a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board, with voting co-opted members from the District Councils.
- 3.4 The total number of voting Co-opted Members on the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board shall not exceed six, comprising one elected member from each District Council.
- 3.5 Each District Council is entitled to nominate one member for a term of one year from the date of its Annual Meeting. Members may be nominated to serve for subsequent terms without limitation as to the number of such terms. Such nomination shall be accepted by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board as an appointment to the Board, unless the person would be disqualified from membership of a local authority.
- 3.6 The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board may remove a co-opted member at any time in its discretion. The relevant District Council shall be entitled to nominate a replacement.

4. When a Co-opted Member of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board shall be permitted to vote

Where Co-opted Members of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board have been approved by full Council as voting co-opted members in this Scheme those members may vote when the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board is exercising its functions of review and scrutiny of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership, but not otherwise.

6. Decision Making Protocol of the Scheme

To recognise the overarching importance of the elected accountability of Council Members the following Decision Making Protocol will be observed.

- 6.1 The total number of voting Co-opted Members on the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Board shall not exceed six.
- 6.2 Co-opted Members will exercise their voting rights in accordance with the Principles of Decision Making set out in the Constitution, namely:
 - (a) Proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
 - (b) Due consultation and the taking of professional advice from Officers;
 - (c) Respect for human rights;
 - (d) A presumption in favour of openness and reasonableness
 - (e) Clarity of aims and desired outcomes; and

(f) An explanation of what options considered and the reasons for the final decision.

7. General Principles

- 7.1 This Scheme and arrangements made in accordance with its terms shall be subject to regular review.
- 7.2 Co-opted Members shall be subject to the Council's Member Code of Conduct and must adhere to its provisions, including those with regard to the registration and declaration of interests.
- 7.3 Co-opted Members will not be entitled to an allowance and/or reimbursement of expenses from the Council.

Made this 11th day of April 2019

Signed Le Bowditch.....

Chair of the Council

