

East Herts Council Report

Council

Date of meeting: Wednesday, 22 July 2026

Report by: Ben Crystall - Leader of the Council

Report title: Reports by Members appointed to Outside Bodies for the civic year 2025/26 - Follow Up Report

Wards affected: All

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR Council

(A) That the additional reports of Members appointed to Outside Bodies for the 2025 - 26 civic year be received and noted.

1.0 Proposal(s)

1.1 This report presents the additional reports submitted by Members appointed to Outside Bodies for the 2025/26 civic year, which were not available for inclusion in the *Reports by Members Appointed to Outside Bodies for the 2025/26 Civic Year* report considered by Council on 13 May 2026. Council is asked to note the contents of these additional submissions.

2.0 Background

2.1 At the Annual Council meeting each year Council determines the arrangements for Outside Bodies and receives annual updates on outside body activities from appointed Members. At the time of publication, a number of Member reports were outstanding and therefore could not be included within the main report.

This follow-up report presents the outstanding submissions that have since been received, ensuring that Council has a complete record of Members' activities and observations arising from their participation in Outside Bodies during the reporting period.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 In order to increase transparency and improve the process for reviewing activities of Outside Bodies, Members appointed to Outside Bodies compile an annual report on their involvement and activities on these Outside Bodies. This provides an opportunity for Members to report back and to highlight any issues that might need to be addressed.
- 3.2 To improve consistency in reporting, Members were requested to use a standard report template when compiling their reports.
- 3.3 This report completes the annual reporting process for Outside Bodies by providing those Member updates that were unavailable when the original Annual Outside Bodies Report was published.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 No other options are considered for recommendation a) as this is a requirement in accordance with the Council Constitution.

5.0 Risks

- 5.1 Reputational. Members appointed to an Outside Body could act contrary to East Herts Council policies/guidelines. As this is unlikely, the Risk is classified as minor.
- 5.2 Financial. Members could claim substantial expenses if an Outside Body had a large number of meetings. As most Outside Bodies have a set number of meetings, this is unlikely, and the Risk is classified as minor.

6.0 Implications/Consultations

Community Safety

None arising directly from this report.

Data Protection

None arising directly from this report.

Equalities

None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

None arising directly from this report.

Financial

None arising directly from this report.

Health and Safety

None arising directly from this report.

Human Resources

None arising directly from this report.

Human Rights

None arising directly from this report.

Legal

None arising directly from this report.

Specific Wards

None arising directly from this report.

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 Appendix 1 – Additional Outside Body Annual Update reports.

Contact Member

Ben Crystall, Leader of the Council
ben.crystall@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer

Stephanie Tarrant, Assistant Director for
Democracy, Elections and Information
Governance.
stephanie.tarrant@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author

Michele Aves, Committee Support Officer
michele.aves@eastherts.gov.uk