

## Cheltenham Borough Council

### Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008

#### Appointment of additional non-voting co-opted members of the Committee

#### Report of the Strategic Director Environment

#### 1. Executive Summary and recommendation

##### 1.1 The issue

1.1.1 The Council's Constitution provides that each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is entitled to appoint for a period not exceeding two years:

(a) Up to three non-voting co-optees; or

(b) With Council's consent, such greater number of non-voting co-optees as the Council determines.

1.1.2 In addition the terms of reference for Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee allows one non-voting housing tenant co-opted Member.

1.1.3 The Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee currently has four non-voting co-opted members as follows:-

- Housing tenant representative
- Arts representative (Cheltenham Arts Council)
- Youth representative (MAD) – vacant whilst the organisation is undergoing restructure
- Disabled representative (Disability Forum)

1.1.4 A briefing note prepared for Cabinet in April 2008 entitled "Opportunities to help establish and support on-going and improved dialogue and relations with Cheltenham's voluntary and community sector," made a number of recommendations about supporting and improving links with the town's voluntary and community sector (now referred to as the third sector). One of these recommendations, supported by the Cabinet Member Community Development and Housing, was to look at the opportunity of co-opting a voluntary and community sector representative champion on to the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This representative would come from the Voluntary Sector Forum and they would nominate this person from their membership to represent the sector as a whole.

1.1.5 The Chairman has indicated his support of this proposal and has suggested that in view of the wide ranging remit of the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Committee recommends to Council the provision to appoint up to two

Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny

Appointment of additional non-voting Co-opted

Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008

members of the Committee

