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| Committee Civic Affairs Sub-Committee – For Decision | Date 25/10/2023 |
| Subject: New Outside Body – Thames Estuary Growth Board (TEGB) | Public |
| Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly? | 4, 5, 7, 10, 11 |
| Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending? | No |
| If so, how much? | N/A |
| What is the source of Funding? | N/A |
| Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department? | N/A |
| Report of: Greg Moore, Interim Deputy Town Clerk | For Decision |
| Report author: Emily Slatter, Office of the Policy Chairman | |

Summary

The Thames Estuary Growth Board (TEGB) is a newly convened partnership between private and public sector organisations. It seeks to drive green economic growth across the Thames Estuary with a particular focus on delivering and increasing private sector investment in the region.

TEGB has asked that a Member of the City of London Corporation sit on their newly convened Board as a formal Corporate Member and requested that the Member be the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, or nominated Deputy thereof. Any such appointment will require the TEGB to be formally recognised as an Outside Body to which the City Corporation appoints.

The City Corporation has a strong and well-established interest in the Thames Estuary, both through its activities in the area and through other extant Outside Bodies to which it appoints. It is considered to be in the City’s interests to accept the invitation from TEGB.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

1. Endorse the City of London Corporation becoming a Corporate Member of the TEGB, and for that organisation to be deemed an Outside Body of the City of London Corporation.
2. For the Member who sits on the Outside Body to be the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, or nominated Deputy thereof, as requested by the Outside Body.

Main Report

Background

1. TEGB is a newly convened body, the precursor to which was established by the UK Government in 2019, through the Secretary of State's response to the Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission, chaired by Sir John Armit. The TEGB was formally incorporated in February 2023.
2. The Board's vision is to create a "Green Blue" economy that harnesses the potential of the river, the land and the people to create jobs, improve productivity and ensure sustainability.
3. The work of TEGB, therefore, strongly aligns with the City of London Corporation's interests. Including, but not limited to, distinct corporate responsibilities in Port Health and Environmental Services, existing relationships with Outside Bodies who support economic growth in and surrounding the Thames Estuary, and the Markets Co-Location Programme.
4. Prior to TEGB's formal incorporation, the City Corporation previously attended meetings organised by the group and an Officer from the Corporation's Markets Team stood as the official substitute, we propose to retain this. The City Corporation was represented by the Deputy Policy Chairman at the request of the organisation.
5. For purposes of continuity the TEGB has asked that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, or nominated Deputy thereof, sit on the TEGB as a Corporate Member.
6. The Board will meet approximately five times a year. In addition to attending meetings, Board Members will be expected to take an active interest in projects, initiatives and campaigns across the Estuary as well as potentially working with one or more of the Board Committees. TEGB anticipate that the time commitment to be around two days per month for an initial three-year term.
7. There are no financial implications or expectations for City Corporation to have a Member to sit on the Board.
8. This appointment is unremunerated; reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed by the TEGB.
9. Any appointee to TEGB will need to sign the Board's *Code of Conduct* included as Appendix 1.

Current Position

10. Such an appointment will require the TEGB to become an Outside Body to which the Corporation appoints.
11. The City Corporation values its links with these bodies and appreciates the time and service Members devote to the wider community by participating in their work.

12. The City Corporation has nomination and appointment rights to a wide range of outside bodies in line with the City Corporation's Outside Bodies Scheme.
13. Authority to nominate or appoint Members, and Officers and other individuals to serve on outside bodies rests with the Court of Common Council or, if authority has been delegated, the relevant committee.
14. In this instance, the Civic Affairs Sub-Committee is being asked to consider this report's recommendations, approving the proposal from TEGB for the City Corporation to take up appointment rights and endorse the recommendations of a Member to sit on TEGB. If approved by the Sub-Committee, the endorsement of the Policy & Resources Committee and the Court of Common Council will also be sought, in order to formalise the addition of TEGB to the list of Outside Bodies to which the City Corporation appoints.

Options

15. To approve TEGB as an outside Body for the Corporation and endorse a representative from the City of London Corporation to sit on the TEGB as a Corporate Member. This is the recommended option.
16. To reject the invitation from the TEGB and not join as a Board Member. This is not recommended as this would mean a missed opportunity to collaborate with key stakeholders in an area of significant interest to the Corporation.

Proposal(s)

17. To agree for the TEGB to become an Outside Body of the City of London Corporation, and to appoint a representative from the City of London Corporation to sit on the TEGB Board as a Corporate Member.
18. For the Member who sits on the Outside Body to be the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, or nominated Deputy thereof, as requested by the Outside Body.
19. Endorsing the report's recommendation will continue work to continue to the aims and objectives of the TEGB and complement the City's work to increase investment in the region, support a thriving economy and shape outstanding environments.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – This appointment would align with the key objectives of the Corporate Plan. It would particularly compliment objectives pertaining to supporting a thriving economy and shaping outstanding environments.

Financial implications – None

Resource implications – None

Legal implications – None

Risk implications – None

Equalities implications – Thames Estuary Growth Board note in their *Articles of Association* that the composition of the Board remains cognisant of its make-up and take all reasonable steps to ensure that it is diverse, inclusive, and representative of society – and aims to ensure that all its services, including the delivery of this policy, provide equality of opportunity. Included as Appendix 2.

Climate implications – None

Security implications – None

Conclusion

20. The Thames Estuary Growth Board (TEGB) has asked that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, or nominated Deputy thereof, sit on their Board as a Corporate Member. In doing so, the TEGB would become an Outside Body for the Corporation and can contribute continued support to the TEGB to create a “Green Blue” economy that harnesses the potential of the river, the land and the people to create jobs, improve productivity and ensure sustainability.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – [TEGB Code of Conduct](#)
- Appendix 2 – [TEGB Articles of Association](#)

Emily Slatter

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