

# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

South Lakeland House Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UQ

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Thursday, 30 June 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

## Lake Administration Committee - Friday, 1 July 2022

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the above-mentioned meeting, an additional report regarding appointments to outside bodies. Hard copies will be made available at the meeting.

### 14 Urgent Items

To consider urgent items, if any.

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Linda Fisher

Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer)

***For all enquiries, please contact:-***

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## South Lakeland District Council Lake Administration Committee

Friday, 1 July 2022

### Appointment to Outside Bodies 2022/23

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<b>Portfolio:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Report from:</b>	Linda Fisher – Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer)
<b>Report Author:</b>	Adam Moffatt – Legal, Governance and Democracy Specialist
<b>Wards:</b>	Ambleside & Grasmere; Bowness & Levens; Broughton & Coniston; Cartmel; Windermere;
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	Not applicable

#### Links to Council Plan Priorities:

Working across boundaries – Appointing to Outside Bodies assists in the delivery of the Council Plan through partnership working across boundaries.

Delivering a balanced community – N/A

A fairer South Lakeland – N/A

Addressing the climate emergency – N/A

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#### 1.0 Expected Outcome and Measures of Success

1.1 This report is presented to receive any updates from Members on the Windermere Lake Action Plan Steering Group and Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee (to be provided verbally) and to nominate representatives to serve on the Steering Group and Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee for the forthcoming year.

#### 2.0 Recommendation

##### 2.1 It is recommended that the Lake Administration Committee:-

- (1) notes the appended reports from Members on the work of the Windermere Lake Action Plan Steering Group and Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee for the period 2021/22 ;
- (2) appoints representatives to serve on the Windermere Lake Action Plan Steering Group for the forthcoming year, in accordance with the makeup of the Group's membership as set out in paragraph 3.5; and
- (3) appoints a representative to the Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee for the forthcoming year.

#### 3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 Members appointed as representatives to outside bodies are required to provide an annual report. Where written reports are not provided, Members may wish to take the opportunity to report orally at the meeting.

- 3.2 The Committee is asked to receive and note the verbal update from Members serving on the Windermere Lake Action Plan Steering Group in accordance with the membership requirements set out in paragraph 3.5 below.
- 3.3 The Windermere Lake Action Plan 2017-22 was adopted by this Committee at its meeting in October 2017. The Action Plan confirmed that Authority oversight on plan delivery and review will be provided by a Member's Steering Group comprising members from the Lake District National Park Authority and the Lake Administration Committee. The remit of the Windermere Lake Action Plan Steering Group is:
- To drive and oversee the delivery and review of the Windermere Lake Action Plan
  - To receive progress reports from the Delivery Group
  - To consider and agree amendments to the Plan in light of delivery and circumstantial changes.
  - To enable community accountability for the Plan's delivery and achievement.
  - To make recommendations to the appropriate decision making committee in the Authorities where relevant.

The Membership of the Group is as follows:

- Lake District National Park Authority – 2 members
- Lake Administration Committee – 4 members, comprising 2 SLDC members and 1 member each from Lakes Parish Council and Windermere Town Council.

Meetings are to take place on a 6 monthly basis.

- 3.4 During 2021/22, the Lake Administration Committee appointed the following councillors to the Windermere Lake Action Steering Group
- Councillor Ian Wharton (South Lakeland District Council)
  - Councillor Doug Rathbone (South Lakeland District Council)
  - Councillor Paul William Wileman (Lakes Parish Council)
  - Councillor Peter Hamilton (Windermere Town Council)
- 3.5 The Committee is asked to appoint 2 District Council members, 1 Lakes Parish Council member and 1 Windermere Town Council member.
- 3.6 At the meeting of the Lake Administration Committee on 25 January 2019 the Director of Policy and Resources (Monitoring Officer) advised Members that at its meeting on 20 December 2018, the County Council Cabinet had received a report from the South Lakeland Local Area Committee. The report contained a review of the Windermere car ferry incident and included details of the repair programme and lessons learned. Members were informed that the County Council Cabinet had supported the Area Committee's recommendation for the introduction of a Windermere Ferry Advisory Group and the Area Committee would formally consider the Terms of Reference of the Group at a future meeting.
- 3.7 The Terms of Reference for the Windermere Ferry Advisory Group were considered and agreed at a meeting of the Cumbria County Council Local Area Committee on 4 June 2019. As part of this consideration the following membership of the advisory group was agreed:

- Cumbria County Council Elected Members x 6;
- Lake Administration Committee x 1; and
- Parish Council Representatives x 2 (one from Windermere and one shared between Hawkshead and Claife Parish Councils).

3.8 At the committee meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021, the committee appointed Councillor Ian Wharton to the Windermere Ferry Advisory Group.

3.9 The Committee is asked to appoint 1 Lake Administration Committee Member to the Windermere Ferry Advisory Group.

#### 4.0 Appendices Attached to this Report

4.1 Representation on Outside Bodies Report 2022

#### 5.0 Consultation

5.1 Not applicable.

#### 6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 Not to appoint representatives, this would be counter-productive to the work of the Committee.

#### 7.0 Implications

##### Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1 Members appointed to serve as representatives on outside bodies are entitled to claim for travel and subsistence as detailed within Schedule 2 of Part 6 of the Council's Constitution - Members' Allowances Scheme. Provision for this has been made within the Council's Revenue Budget.

##### Human Resources

7.2 Not applicable.

##### Legal

7.3 Not applicable.

##### Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment

7.4 Have you completed a Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment? No

7.5 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: This proposal is considered to have a neutral impact.

7.6 Summary of Health and Sustainability Impacts

		Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
<b>Environment and Health</b>	Greenhouse gases emissions		X		
	Air Quality		X		
	Biodiversity		X		
	Impacts of Climate Change		X		
	Reduced or zero requirement for energy, building space, materials or travel		X		

	Active Travel		X		
<b>Economy and Culture</b>	Inclusive and sustainable development		X		
	Jobs and levels of pay		X		
	Healthier high streets		X		
	Culture, creativity and heritage		X		
<b>Housing and Communities</b>	Standard of housing		X		
	Access to housing		X		
	Crime		X		
	Social connectedness		X		

### Equality and Diversity

7.7 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No

7.8 If you have not completed an Impact Analysis, please explain your reasons: This proposal is considered to have a neutral impact.

7.9 Summary of Equality and Diversity impacts

Please indicate: P = Positive impact; 0 = Neutral; N = Negative; Enter "X"						
Age			0			
Disability			0			
Gender reassignment (transgender)			0			
Marriage & civil partnership			0			
Pregnancy & maternity			0			
Race/ethnicity			0			
Religion or belief			0			
Sex/gender			0			
Sexual orientation			0			
Armed forces families			0			
Rurality			0			
Socio-economic disadvantage			0			

Risk Management	Consequence	Controls required
Not to appoint representatives	This would be counterproductive to the work of the Committee	Representatives to be appointed

### Contact Officers

Adam Moffatt, Legal, Governance and Democracy Specialist,  
[adam.moffatt@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:adam.moffatt@southlakeland.gov.uk)

## Background Documents Available

None

## Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent	Date Signed off
Section 151 Officer	28/06/2022	30/06/2022
Monitoring Officer	28/06/2022	30/06/2022
CMT	N/A	

Circulated to	Date sent
Lead Specialist	N/A
Human Resources Lead Specialist	N/A
Communications Team	N/A
Leader	N/A
Committee Chairman	N/A
Portfolio Holder	N/A
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	N/A
Executive (Cabinet)	N/A
Council	N/A

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## **Representation on Outside Bodies**

### **1: Windermere Lake Action Plan Group**

Myself, and Councillors Rathbone and Gardner were appointed on to this group at the AGM of the Windermere Admin. Group. The Chairman of the Lake Admin. Group has not called for a meeting, so there is nothing to report.

### **2: Windermere Ferry Admin. Group**

I was reappointed to this group at the AGM of the Windermere at the AGM of the Windermere Ferry Action Group

The Terms of Reference is as follows:

**To understand the condition of the vessel and the performance of the service**

**To be clear about the customer promise and to measure against that**

**To have an understanding of the general business activity & how the service will develop**

**To feed into the County Council's budget process and timescales.**

There was one meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> March.

The following points were discussed.

- i) Windermere Ferry Operations During Covid-19
- ii) Visitor Economy and Stakeholder Engagement/Communication
- iii) Fees & Charges
- iv) Proposal for the Future

### **Windermere Ferry Operations During Covid-19**

During the Summer, the ferry ran 2 lanes to allow social distancing, but ran as normal from September, but runs as normal, but with a reduced service due to staff shortages. Payments were also cashless.

Between the 25 April and the 31 December 2021, the ferry was operational for 91% of the available running time. The Ferry has had a total of approximately 509 hours of out of service time of which 80 hours were due to mechanical failure and 14 hours due to staff shortages.

### **Visitor Economy and Stakeholder Engagement/Communication**

Officers met with a Business Stakeholder Group including Cumbria Tourism and Local Businesses in early March to discuss the ferry operation and have been working with Cumbria Tourism to develop the Marketing strategy.

The passenger numbers using the ferry from April 2021 to Feb 2022 was 419,731, averaging 62,000 per month between June and August.

### **Fees & Charges**

No changes have been proposed to the fees and charges for 2022/23. Below is a table of the current charges. The intention is to review the charges this year.

### **Proposal for the Future**

The Windermere Car Ferry is reaching the end of its operational life, and with increasing maintenance and repair incidents, which time out of service and cost to the both in terms of capital costs and lost revenue. The lack of reliability, reduced passenger confidence, impaired response times for emergency vehicles and considerable disruption for residents means that the current diesel vessel, needs to be replaced and the preferred option is to progress with an electric ferry with a diesel engine.

A final business and design case is being prepared for formal approval towards the end of September/October.

**Ian Wharton**  
**April 29<sup>th</sup> 2022**