

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director (Governance) (Introduced by Executive Member (Economic Development and Public Service Reform))	Council	Tuesday, 17 May 2023

## Appointments to committees, panels and working groups for 2023/24

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	Not applicable
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### Purpose of the Report

- To allocate places on the various committees of the Council in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to make appointments to those committees in accordance with Section 16 of the Act, together with the appointment of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the appropriate Committees.

### Recommendations

- The allocation of committee places in accordance with the Political Balance Rules as set out in the report be approved.
- The Members, Chairs and Vice Chairs for the committees set out in the appendix to this report be appointed for the period of twelve months until the first business meeting of the Council in May 2024.

### Reasons for recommendations

- The allocation of committee places is required by Regulations.

### Other options considered and rejected

- No other options have been considered.

### Corporate priorities

- The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Housing where residents can live well	A green and sustainable borough
An enterprising economy with vibrant local centres in urban and rural areas	<b>Healthy, safe and engaged communities</b>

## Background to the report

7. Under the terms of Section 15 (5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, where a Council is divided into different political groups in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as this Council is, seats on ordinary committees have to be allocated to give effect to the following principles:
- (a) all the seats on committees are not to be allocated to the same political group
  - (b) the majority of seats on a committee should be allocated to the group which has the majority of the Authority's membership
  - (c) subject to (a) and (b) above, the total number of seats on committees must be allocated in proportion to the political strength on the Council and
  - (d) subject to (a), (b) and (c) above, the number of seats on each committee must be allocated in proportion to the political strength on the Council.

## Political composition

8. The current political composition of the Council is:

Party	Number of Members
Conservative	5
Labour	37
Total	42

## Allocation of seats

9. In order to comply with Section 15 (5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the allocation of seats on committees is set out below:

Committee	No of places	Conservative	Labour
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14	2	12
Planning Committee	13	2	11
Licensing and Public Safety Committee	15	2	13
General Purposes Committee	17	1	16
Governance Committee	8	1	7
Shared Services Joint Committee	5	1	4
Appointments Panel	6	1	5
Shared Services Appointments Panel	4	1	3
Human Resources Appeals Panel	9	1	8

## Appointment of members to Committees

10. The appointment of members in line with the wishes of the political groups are shown in the appendix to this report.

### **Climate change and air quality**

11. The work noted in this report has no impact on the Councils Carbon emissions and the wider Climate Emergency and sustainability targets of the Council.

### **Equality and diversity**

12. Members must be aware of their responsibilities under the Equality Act implications in their role and will receive training for this.

### **Risk**

13. The proposals set out in the report will ensure that appointments are made to the various Committees in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
14. Failure to meet the legislative requirements would leave the Council's decisions open to challenge.

### **Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer**

15. No comment.

### **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

16. The report is in accordance with the relevant legislation.

### **Background documents**

There are no background papers to this report.

### **Appendices**

List the appendices in the order that they are attached to the report with titles as appropriate. Any spreadsheets/diagrams should be in pdf format and be headed up.

Appendix A Appointments to Committees, Panels and Groups

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