Council 2024

29th January

Report title: Item 12: Urgent Business: Committee Appointments Report

Relevant Portfolio Holder		Councillor Matthew Dormer		
Portfolio Holder Consulted		Yes		
Relevant Head of Service		Claire Felton, Head of Legal,		
		Democratic and Property Services		
Report Author	Job Title: Principal Democratic Services Officer			
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Wards Affected		All		
Ward Councillor(s) consulted		N/A		
Relevant Strategic Purpose(s)		An Effective and Sustainable Council		
Non-Key Decision				
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.				

1. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council is asked to RESOLVE that

- 1) the Political balance of the Committees of the Council be agreed as set out at Appendix 1;
- 2) the arrangement where the seats on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are not allocated in accordance with the political balance requirements be continued; and
- 3) appointments by political group leaders to the places on each Committee as detailed at Appendix 2 be noted.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report sets out the proposed political balance of the authority's Committees and seeks the Council's agreement to these.
- 2.2 this report is required as there has been a change to the membership of political groups at the authority since the last meeting of Council.
- 2.3 Once the Council has agreed the political balance, the Leaders of each of the Political Groups on the Council can nominate to the places on each for their group.

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2.4 The attached list of Committee appointments relates to Committees that form part of the political balance only. Informal Committees and other committees where there is no requirement for the membership to reflect the political balance are not addressed in this report.

3. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

3.1 Once the Council has agreed the allocation of seats to the main Committees, the leaders of each political group will nominate members to fill them so that the business of the Council can continue to run smoothly. It is planned to have a list of the nominations available for noting at the Council meeting.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The level of Members' allowances, based on the current number of positions as set out in this report, has been agreed previously by the Council.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 With the exception of the Executive Committee, the Council is required by law and / or its own constitution to allocate places on its main Committees in accordance with its political make-up and to approve the Committee terms of reference. The main requirements are that:
 - the number of seats on each Committee allocated to each Political Group reflects the proportion it holds of the total number of seats on the Council;
 - the Group with the majority of seats on the Council should hold the majority of seats on each Committee.
- 5.2 The definition of a Political Group for these purposes is that it has a minimum of 2 members. The current composition of the Council is 16 Conservative group members, 12 Labour group members and 1 non-aligned member.
- 5.3 There is no proposal to change any of the appointments to position of Chairs or Vice chairs for any of the Committees and this is not therefore addressed in this report.

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6. OTHER - IMPLICATIONS

Relevant Strategic Purpose

- 6.1 The proposals detailed in this report support the strategic purpose 'An Effective and Sustainable Council'.
- 6.2 The Council is required to consider the political balance when changes are made to the composition of the membership of the authority and this report enables the Council to address this requirement.

Climate Change Implications

6.3 There are no climate change implications.

Equalities and Diversity Implications

6.4 There are no equalities and diversity implications.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

7.1 There are no specific risks arising from this report.

8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Political Balance

Appendix 2 - Committee Appointments

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9. REPORT SIGN OFF

Department	Name and Job Title	Date
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Matther Dormer	29.01.24
Lead Director / Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	29.01.24
Financial Services	Pete Carpenter, Interim Section 151 Officer	29.01.24
Legal Services	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	29.01.24