

COUNCIL  
22 JULY 2020

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

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## **APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY**

### **SUMMARY**

To appoint Councillors to serve on the Committees of the Council for the year 2020/21 based on the rules of political proportionality.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Councillors be appointed to serve on the Committees of the Council in accordance with the wishes of the political groups as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

### **WARDS AFFECTED**

None

### **STRATEGIC LINK**

An effective decision making structure underpins all of the Council's objectives.

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## **1 REPORT**

**1.1** The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 govern the appointment of Members to serve on Committees. The Act requires that where an authority's membership is divided into different political groups, appointments to fill seats on -

- ordinary committees or sub-committees of the authority;
- advisory committees; and
- outside bodies with at least three seats,

are allocated in the same proportion as that in which the Council as a whole is divided.

**1.2** The Council is also under a duty to review the representation of political groups and to determine the allocation of seats to be filled and in doing so, as far as reasonably practicable, to make decisions that conform with the following prescribed principles:

- a) that not all the seats are allocated to the same political group;
- b) that a political group with an overall council majority gets a majority of seats allocated;

c) subject to (a) and (b) that the total number of seats each political group has on all ordinary committees is in proportion to that group's share of the total council elected membership; and

d) subject to (a) and (c) that each political group has the same proportion of seats as it holds on the council as a whole.

**1.3** The new Council has three political groups and two independent members. A table demonstrating the allocation of seats is attached at Appendix 1.

**1.4** The Council is now under a duty to make appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes of the political groups which are shown in the Schedule at Appendix 2 to follow.

## **2 RISK ASSESSMENT**

### **2.1 Legal**

The regulatory framework governing committee places is documented in the main body of the report, which represents minimal risk to the Council.

### **2.2 Financial**

There are no financial risks arising from this report.

## **3 CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## **4 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **5 ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix 1 – Allocation of Seats

Appendix 2 – Schedule of Appointments