

Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	30 MAY 2024
Heading:	APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
Executive Lead Member:	NOT APPLICABLE
Ward/s:	NOT APPLICABLE
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the proposed Committees for Council to appoint for the forthcoming year. This report further sets out proposed changes to several Committees should they be appointed.

Recommendation(s):

Council is recommended to:

- a. Approve the appointment of Committees listed within this report, including the Polling Places and Polling Districts Review Working Group, for the forthcoming year.
- b. Approve membership, including Chairs and Vice Chairs, for each of the appointed Committees, including the Polling Places and Polling Districts Review Working Group, for the forthcoming year.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

The Council must appoint Committees for the forthcoming year. Furthermore, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, Council is required to allocate seats on appointed Committees in a politically proportionate way.

Alternative Options Considered

No alternative options have been considered.

Detailed Information

COMMITTEES TO APPOINT

Council is recommended to appoint the following Committees for the forthcoming year:

Principal Select Committee

Place and Innovation Select Committee (*formerly Inward Focus Select Committee*)

Environment and Communities Select Committee (*formerly Outward Focus Select Committee*)

Planning Committee

Licensing Committee

Audit Committee

Local Joint Consultative Committee

Chief Officers' Employment Committee

Standards and Personnel Appeals Committee

Charities Committee

Local Plan Development Committee

If appointed, each Committee will meet in accordance with the approved Schedule of Meetings and the work programme for each Committee.

Council is also recommended to approve the continuation of the following working group:

Polling Places and Polling Districts Review Working Group

CHANGES TO COMMITTEES

Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees

Council is recommended to approve changes to the Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees. Over the past year, the Select Committees were aligned to the previous Cabinet structure. This structure has since changed, so it is proposed to change the name of the Select Committees and to realign the remit of both to be in line with the Council's Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027.

The Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 sets out six key priorities that the Council is working towards for the established term of the Plan.

These priorities are as follows:

- Economic Growth & Place
- Safer & Stronger
- Innovate & Improve
- Cleaner & Greener
- Homes & Housing
- Health & Happiness

It is proposed that the above priorities are split into two groups and included within the remit for two newly named Select Committees, see below.

Place and Innovation Select Committee

It is proposed to rename the Inward Focus Select Committee to the Place and Innovation Select Committee.

This Committee would focus on the following Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 priorities:

- Economic Growth & Place
- Safer & Stronger
- Innovate & Improve

Environment and Communities Select Committee

It is proposed to rename the Outward Focus Select Committee to the Environment and Communities Select Committee.

This Committee would focus on the following Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 priorities:

- Cleaner & Greener
- Homes & Housing
- Health & Happiness

This realignment would mean both Committees can be more focused and enable appointed Members to build up increased knowledge and expertise in these areas. It would also enable the Select Committees to monitor progress more closely against the Corporate Plan as Cabinet do.

The Principal Select Committee will remain responsible for oversight and management of the two other Select Committees, including setting and monitoring the work programme, ensuring the function meets statutory requirements, carrying out reviews when required, and receiving Executive Lead Member updates where appropriate.

POLLING PLACES AND POLLING DISTRICTS REVIEW WORKING GROUP

In accordance with the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 the Council is required to complete a review of its polling districts and polling places at least once every 5 years. This commenced in October 2023 with the recommendations reported to Council on the 27 November 2023 following a public consultation on the findings.

Following the combined PCC/Mayoral elections in May 2024, feedback was received on a number of the polling places. To ensure that these are duly reviewed, it is prudent to ensure that the Working Group considers this feedback and reports any conclusions or changes back to a future meeting of Council.

Therefore, Council is asked to approve the continuation of the Polling Places and Polling Districts Review Working Group. The Working Group will consist of 7 Members in accordance with political proportionality with the Leader of the Council as Chairman.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

There are no direct Corporate Plan implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Legal:

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council is required to allocate seats on its Committees in a politically proportionate way.

Finance:

There are no direct financial implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Not applicable.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Failure to comply with the requirements set out within the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in relating to allocating places to committees in a politically proportionate manner.	Committee membership to be allocated in accordance with the calculated political balance for the Council.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Environmental/Sustainability:

There are no direct environmental/sustainability implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Equalities:

There are no direct equalities implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Other Implications:

There are no other implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Reason(s) for Urgency

None.

Reason(s) for Exemption

None.

Background Papers

None.

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