



Annual Meeting of the Council

29 April 2021

Report from the Chief Executive

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	Four Please note these appendices are now attached following republication of the Council agenda on 29 April 21: Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committees & Outside bodies Appendix 2 - Cabinet Appointments Appendix 3 - Appointments to be confirmed by General Purposes Committee Appendix 4 - Appointments to be confirmed by Licensing Committee
Background Papers:	None
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed appointment of members and co-opted members to allocated positions on the Council's Committees, and Outside Bodies for the 2021-2022 municipal year. The positions are allocated according to the political balance of the Council and in accordance with rules on proportionality, which are the subject of a separate report listed as Agenda Item 9 on the summons for this meeting.

1.2 The recommendations below set out where, in line with the Council's Constitution, Full Council approval for an appointment is needed, and which appointments are subject to confirmation by a separate body, with these presented for information purposes.

1.3 It also sets out the proposed appointments of Chairs/Vice Chairs for these bodies for the 2021-2022 municipal year, including the appointment of independent chairs where necessary.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 For Full Council to agree, or confirm (as appropriate) the proposed appointments of Members, Co-Opted Members and substitutes to Council Committees and Outside Bodies as set out in Appendix 1.

2.2 For Full Council to agree the proposed appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs to Council Committees as set out in Appendix 1 for the 2021-2022 municipal year.

2.3 For Full Council to agree:

(a) the re-appointment (as detailed in section 3.4 of the report) of the following three Independent Persons with effect from 1 May 2021:

- William Goh and Keir Hopley for a four year term of office, subject to confirmation by Full Council each year; and
- Nigel Shock for a one year term of office;

(b) the appointment of the following two new Independent co-opted members on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee – Javid Ansari & Mark Mills for a four year term of office, subject to confirmation by Full Council each year, with effect from 1 May 2021 (as detailed in section 3.5 of the report);

(c) the re-appointment of Mr David Ewart as independent chair of both the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Pension Board for a two-year term of office ending on 31 July 2023.

2.4 For Full Council to note the appointments:

(a) notified by the Leader of the Council in relation to Cabinet and Cabinet Committees and their respective Chairs/Vice Chairs, as set out in Appendix 2 for the 2021-2022 municipal year.

(b) to be confirmed by General Purposes Committee as set out in Appendix 3 for the 2021-2022 municipal year.

(c) to be confirmed by Licensing Committee as set out in Appendix 4 for the 2021-2022 municipal year.

3.0 Detail

3.1 In accordance with Standing Order 27 (i) of the Council's Constitution, the membership of Council Committees, Joint Committees and other relevant

bodies, forums and panels plus the appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs and substitute Members for these are matters requiring agreement by the Annual Meeting of the Council for the upcoming municipal year.

- 3.2 The appointments to Council Committees are to be made in line with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ('the Act') and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 ('the 1990 Regulations') which set out how Committees must be constituted when a Council is divided into one or more political groups. Further details on the political balance of the Council on Committees to meet these provisions are detailed in the report 'Representation of Political Groups on Committees' which has been listed as Agenda Item 9 on the summons for this meeting.
- 3.3 The appendices setting out the proposed appointment of councillors to relevant Committees and Outside Bodies will be circulated in advance of the meeting, once confirmed by both political groups on the Council.
- 3.4 At the Annual Council meeting in September 2020, approval was given to extend the appointment of the Council's three Independent Persons (IPs) to the Annual Meeting in 2021. The Independent Persons fulfil a statutory role and are appointed for the purpose of being consulted by the Monitoring Officer, the Audit & Standards Committee and members in relation to any Code of Conduct complaints. They would also form the Panel, should one need to be convened, in respect of the dismissal of one of the council's three statutory officers (Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and s151 Officer). The extension in September 2020 was agreed to allow sufficient time for a full recruitment process (delayed as a result of the focus on the Covid-19 response) to be undertaken. It has now been possible to complete the recruitment process, and as a result Council is being asked to confirm the formal re-appointment of Mr William Goh and Mr Keir Hopley for a further four year term of office and Mr Nigel Shock for a one year term of office, commencing on 1 May 2021.
- 3.5 It was also agreed at the Annual Council meeting in September 2020, for the same reason as stated in 3.4 above, to extend the appointment of the term of office for the independent co-opted member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee (Margaret Bruce) to the Council's Annual Meeting in 2021. Following completion of the recruitment process for the independent co-opted member positions, Council is also now being asked to confirm the appointment of the following two new independent co-opted members, again for a four year term of office commencing on 1 May 2021 - Javed Ansari & Mark Mills
- 3.6 Finally, the Council also has a long-standing arrangement for its Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Pensions Board to be chaired independently, in order to enhance its governance arrangements. These arrangements are considered to operate effectively, with the independent chair of both bodies Mr David Ewart. Members of both the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and of the Pensions Board are content that the current independent chair has fulfilled his respective roles effectively, as are senior officers. As the term of office for the independent chair's current appointment on both bodies is due to expire on 11 July 2021 it is recommended, given the views expressed, that the independent Chair be re-appointed to both roles for a further two-year term of office, ending on 31 July 2021. As these are not

decision making meetings there are no significant conflicts in appointing the same person to chair each body.

3.7 As per Standing Order 51 (a) the Council may also appoint a pool of substitute members from which a member may be selected to speak and vote in the absence of a member of the Committee, provided that the substitute member is not already a member of the Committee. This Standing Order states that each pool shall be up to the number of members comprising membership of the Committee and be divided according to the political balance on the Committee, save that where a group has only one member on the Committee up to two members may be appointed to the pool. The list of appointments also include details of the substitute pool of members nominated.

3.8 For information purposes only:

- the appointments made by the Leader to the Cabinet and Cabinet Committees have been set out in Appendix 2 (marked as "To Follow").
- the appointments to be confirmed by General Purposes and Licensing Committee have been detailed in Appendices 3 & 4 respectively (again both marked as "To Follow").

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 Certain positions to which Members are appointed will attract a Special Responsibility Allowance, the costs of which are met from within the existing Members Allowance budget.

4.2 There are no other financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 As aforementioned, the appointments are due to be made in line with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 The s149 public sector equality duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

6.2 The Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty (outlined above) cover the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

6.3 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report at this stage. However, equalities implications from the individual recommendations will continue to be considered and assessed during the decision-making process.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

7.1 The nominations for appointments detailed within the appendices to the report have been submitted directly by each political group.

8.0 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

8.1 There are no direct human resources or property implications that relate to this report.

Report sign off:

Debra Norman

Director of Legal, HR, Audit & Investigations,