

## **Report to Council**

**Subject:** Appointments to Scrutiny Committee, standing ordinary committees and sub-committees of the Council

**Date:** 24 May 2023

**Author:** Democratic Services Manager

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Purpose**

To make appointments to the committees of the Council, including chairs and vice chairs for the ensuing year.

### **Key decision**

This is not a key decision.

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council approves the appointment of Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of the Council's standing ordinary committees, sub-committees and Scrutiny Committee as set out in appendix 1.**

## **1 Background**

In determining the membership of committees, account must be taken of the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and 1991 made under sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. These regulations require that seats on committees and sub-committees are allocated to the political groups in a way which reflects the overall political balance of the Council. A political group is defined as a group consisting of two or more members.

The current political make-up of the Council is:

Labour group	28
Conservative group	9
Liberal Democrat group	4

There are a total of 79 committee seats to be allocated for the 2023/24 municipal year. The allocation of seats on the committees and sub-committees of the Council is, therefore, as follows:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Total Seats</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Planning	<b>16</b>	11	4	1
Environment And Licensing	<b>11</b>	7	3	1
Licensing Act Committee	<b>11</b>	7	3	1
Appeals & Retirements	<b>7</b>	5	1	1
Joint Consultative and Safety Committee	<b>7</b>	5	1	1
Audit Committee	<b>7</b>	5	1	1
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	<b>13</b>	9	3	1
Appointments and Conditions of Service	<b>7</b>	5	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>

On 11 July 2012 Council agreed:

- a) Unanimously to set up a Standards Committee which is not politically balanced; and
- b) That the Standards Committee should consist of 2 representatives from each political group together with 2 co-opted non-voting members (1 independent and 1 Parish reps).

With the above in mind, the Standards Committee will be appointed as follows (the Standards Committee is not subject to proportionality):

	<b>Total Seats</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Standards Committee	<b>6</b>	2	2	2

Nominations to committees have been sought and received from group leaders/business managers and are attached at appendix 1.

## **2 Proposal**

It is proposed that Council approves the appointments to the committees of the Council, including chairs and vice chairs for the ensuing year.

## **3 Alternative Options**

To not approve the appointments for the ensuing year and have no clarity of the membership of committees.

## **4 Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

## **5 Legal Implications**

The Local Government Act 1972, the Localism Act 2011, and local Government Acts and Regulations made prescribe the governance arrangements for local authorities in considerable detail. They require councils to ensure that there is a clear committee structure in place and this report asks members to agree this.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

No direct implications as a result of this report.

## **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

No direct implications as a result of this report.

## **8 Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Committee membership 2023/24

## **9 Background Papers**

None identified

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

To approve the appointments to the committees of the Council, including chairs and vice chairs for the ensuing year for the ensuing year.

### **Statutory Officer approval**

**Approved by: M Hill**

**Date: May 2023**

**On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer**

**Approved by: F Whyley**

**Date: May 2023**

**On behalf of the Monitoring Officer**