

# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Appointments Panel

**Date:** 20 May 2021

**Chairman:** Cllr C Whitbread

**Subject:** Annual Council Appointments 2021/22

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## **Recommending:**

- (1) That, in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the constitution of the political groups be agreed as set out in Appendix 1;**
- (2) That details of appointments made by the Leader of the Council for Cabinet members and Cabinet Committees carrying out Executive functions as set out in Appendix 2 to this report be received;**
- (3) That the Membership, Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship of Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels (non-Executive bodies) be approved as set out at Appendix 3 to this report with any outstanding nominations reported at the meeting;**
- (4) That the group representatives for the purposes of notifying substitute members for meetings be confirmed as follows:**
  - (a) Conservative Group:**
    - **Councillor C. Whitbread (Group Leader);**
    - **Councillor N Bedford (Deputy Group Leader);**
    - **Councillor S. Kane; and**
    - **Councillor M. Sartin;**
  - (b) Green Party Group:**
    - **Councillor S. Neville (Group Leader); and**
    - **Councillor S. Heap (Deputy Group Leader);**
  - (c) Liberal Democrat Group:**
    - **Councillor J. M. Whitehouse (Group Leader); and**
    - **Councillor J. H. Whitehouse (Deputy Group Leader); and**
  - (d) Loughton Residents Association Group:**
    - **Councillor C. P. Pond (Group Leader); and**
    - **Councillor D. Wixley (Deputy Group Leader);**
- (5) That the appointments of the Overview and Scrutiny Select Committees for 2021/22 be determined at the first municipal meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;**

- (6) That appointments to outside organisations carrying out Council regulatory or non-Cabinet functions, as set out at Appendix 4 to this report be approved; and**
  - (7) That the appointments to be made by the Leader of the Council to outside organisations carrying out Executive functions, as set out at Appendix 5 be received.**
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1. The Appointments Panel met on 20 May 2021 to consider nominations made by political groups and un-affiliated members for appointments to a range of member positions and other associated matters.

2. The Panel agreed that, due to the unusual nature of the municipal year just ended due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it would be appropriate for the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council to continue for a second year in their roles. These nominations are dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

3. In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, notices of the constitution of political groups received have been attached at Appendix 1 of this report. Any further changes will be reported at the meeting by the Proper Officer.

4. The Panel was advised that proposals were being finalised for the revision of the roles and responsibilities of the Cabinet by the Leader of the Council for the 2021/22 municipal year. The appointments made by the Leader of Cabinet members and the membership of Cabinet Committees, are set out in Appendix 2 to this report, alongside the responsibilities of the Cabinet Portfolios for the coming year.

5. The Panel has been able to bring forward some agreed nominations in respect of Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels, which are set out at Appendix 3 to this report. However, we have not received all of the proposals of the political groups for appointments to such Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels. All nominations remaining outstanding are highlighted in the schedule and will be reported at the meeting. Where the number of nominations exceeds the available places, the Council will be required to vote on appointments.

6. The Panel proposes that membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be extended to seventeen members for 2021/22, in order to provide a seat on the Committee for an un-affiliated member. Membership of the Committee normally comprises fifteen members but, as a result of the current political composition of the Council, this arrangement will not secure a seat for an un-affiliated member for 2021/22. The extension of membership to seventeen members for the next year will provide an additional seat on the Committee for both the Conservative Group and the Loughton Residents Association Group. In order to accommodate a request for un-affiliated member representation on the Committee for the next year, the Loughton Residents Association Group is willing to relinquish its additional seat arising from the extension of membership, in order that this position may be filled by an un-affiliated member. Membership of the Committee is required to be appointed on a pro rata basis and such deviation requires that no member of the Council vote against this arrangement.

7. The Panel recommends that group representatives should provide nominations for membership of the three new select committees for 2021/22, for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 3 June 2021 which will then make formal

appointments to each Select Committee. These nominations should be received by the Proper Officer by 31 May 2021.

8. The Panel have been able to consider some nominations to outside bodies carrying out Council regulatory or non-Cabinet functions as detailed in Appendix 4 to this report and request the Council to confirm these appointments. Any nominations remaining outstanding are highlighted in the schedule and will be reported at the meeting. Where the number of nominations exceeds the available places, the Council will be required to vote on appointments.

9. The proposals of the Leader of the Council for appointments to outside organisations carrying out Executive functions are set out at Appendix 5 to this report.

10. The Panel recommends as set out at the commencement of this report.