

# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Appointments Panel

**Date:** 18 May 2023

**Chairman:** Cllr C Whitbread

**Subject:** Annual Council Appointments 2023/24

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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 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 A. Patel;
  - (b) Green Party Group:**
    - Councillor S. Heap (Group Leader); and
    - Councillor E. Gabbett (Deputy Group Leader);
  - (c) Liberal Democrat Group:**
    - Councillor J. M. Whitehouse (Group Leader); and
    - Councillor J. H. Whitehouse (Deputy Group Leader);
  - (d) Loughton Residents Association Group:**
    - Councillor C. P. Pond (Group Leader); and
    - Councillor D. Wixley (Deputy Group Leader); and
  - (e) Grange Hill Independent Community Group:**
    - Councillor D Barlow (Group Leader); and

- **Councillor L Morgan (Deputy Leader);**

- (5) That the appointments of the Overview and Scrutiny Select Committees for 2022/23 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; and**
- (8) That Mr Wyn Marshall be re-appointed as a non-voting, co-opted member of the Stronger Communities Select Committee for the 2022/23 municipal year.**

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1. The Appointments Panel met on 18 May 2023 to consider nominations made by political groups and un-affiliated members for appointments to a range of member positions and other associated matters.

2. 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.

3. 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 2023/24 municipal year. The appointments made by the Leader of Cabinet members are set out in Appendix 2 to this report. The responsibilities of the Cabinet Portfolios for the coming year will be detailed in a forthcoming Leader Portfolio Holder Delegated Decision.

4. 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. Any outstanding nominations will be reported at the meeting. Where the number of nominations exceeds the available places, the Council will be required to vote on appointments.

5. The Panel proposed that membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be extended to 17 members to secure a seat for an un-affiliated Member; whereby the extension had provided an extra seat for both the Conservative and Loughton Resident Association Groups with the Loughton Residents Association Group relinquishing their additional seat to the un-affiliated Member. Membership of the Committee is required to be appointed on a pro rata basis and if the membership of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is extended to 17 members then such deviation requires that no member of the Council vote against this arrangement.

6. The Council had agreed at its previous meeting on 4 April 2023, that appointments to the Scrutiny Committees should be undertaken at this meeting and not by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a special meeting convened for that purpose. Therefore, the Committee Nomination form attached at Appendix 3 includes nominations by the Groups to the Communities and Place Scrutiny Committees.

7. 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 will be reported at the meeting. Where the number of nominations exceeds the available places, the Council will be required to vote on such appointments unless otherwise agreed.

8. 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.

9. The Panel considered the appointment of co-opted members to the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees for the next municipal year, in accordance with the protocol agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 28 January 2020. At its meeting on 25 February 2021, the Council appointed Mr. Wyn Marshall as a non-voting, co-opted member of the Stronger Communities Select Committee until the end of the 2021/22 municipal year. This appointment has to be confirmed each year at the Annual Council meeting and the Panel believed Mr. Marshall should be re-appointed for the 2023/24 municipal year and has recommended that the Council approve this appointment.

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