

Individual Executive Decision Notice

Report title	Appointment to the Pensions Board and the Bilston Relief in Need Charity Bilston Educational Charity	
Decision designation	GREEN	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Ian Brookfield Leader of the Council	
Wards affected	Bilston	
Accountable Director	Mark Taylor, Deputy Managing Director	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee	Dereck Francis Tel Email	Democratic Services Officer Tel: 01902 555835 dereck.francis@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Not applicable	

Summary

To approve appointments to the Pensions Board and the Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity.

Recommendations for decision:

That the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Deputy Managing Director:

1. Approves the appointment of Councillor Jasbir Jaspal as an employer representative on the Pensions Board for the remainder of the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.
2. Approves the appointment of Councillor Philip Page onto Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity for a four year term of office expiring 2023.

Signature

Date:

Signature

Date:

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The composition of the Pensions Board as approved at the meeting of Annual Council on 15 May 2019, provides for the appointment of an Employer Representative to be nominated by the Controlling Labour Group. The Labour Group has nominated Councillor Jasbir Jaspal to fill the vacancy.
- 1.2 The Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity, which embraces a number of former Bilston Parish/Township Charities, was established by a scheme approved by the Charity Commission in 1983 with the objective of relieving, either generally or individually, persons resident in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bilston who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress. The scheme provides for the appointment, amongst others, of two nominative trustees by the Council. The four year term of office of one of the Council's current nominees, Councillor Philip Page has expired. It is recommended that Councillor Page be re-appointed for a further four year term.

2.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 2.1 The alternative option to the proposed recommendations would be to not fill the vacancies. This would prevent the Employer Representatives on the Pensions Board from taking up its full allocation of seats on the Pensions Board and also the prevent the Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity from operating with a full complement of trustees.

3.0 Reasons for decision

- 3.1 This decision will ensure that the Council vacancy for an Employer Representative on the Pensions Board is filled and that the Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity has its requisite number of trustees.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report as the appointment to the Pensions Board and the Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity do not attract a Special Responsibility Allowance.
[GE/30072019/B]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the Council to review periodically the political composition of the Authority, and how this is applied to appointments to Council bodies.
- 5.2 The rules for securing political balance on Committees and Sub-Committees appointed by local authorities are contained in sections 15 and 16 of the Act and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990.

- 5.3 The Council is under a duty to:
- ensure that the membership of those committees and sub-committees covered by the rules reflect the political composition of the Council, as far as practicable;
 - review the allocation of seats to political groups at or as soon as practical after the Annual Council meeting and at certain other specified times e.g. as a result of changes in political balance or an increase in the number of committees established;
 - allocate seats on the committees to the political groups in proportion to their numerical strength on the Council, as far as practicable;
 - accept nominations made by the groups for the filling of seats allocated to them.
- 5.4 In determining the allocation of seats, the Council must also apply the following four principles, as far as reasonably practicable:
- (a) not all seats to be allocated to the same political group;
 - (b) if a political group has a majority on the Council, it must have a majority of seats on committees;
 - (c) subject to (a) – (b) above, the total of all seats on ordinary committees should be allocated to the groups in proportion to their respective strength on the Council; and
 - (d) subject to (a) – (c) The number of seats on ordinary committees or sub-committees to be allocated to each political group in proportion to the number of all the seats on the committee or sub-committee in proportion to their respective strength on the Council.
- 5.5 The scheme providing for the establishment of the Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity requires the Council to appoint representative trustees.
- 5.6 In accordance with the Constitution Individual Cabinet Members are empowered to make Individual Executive Decisions in respect of their area of responsibility, subject to consultation with the appropriate senior officer (director or head of service) and provided the decision does not fall within one of the exceptions listed in the Constitution. The Leader of the Council has lead responsibility to agree permanent membership changes to Cabinet Panels, Regulatory or other Committees, Area Committees and Forums and the Scrutiny Board and Scrutiny Panels, in between annual meetings of the Council. The recommendations proposed in this report do not fall within the list of exemptions that would require that the matter be considered collectively by Cabinet.
[TS/28082019/W]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 The Bilston Relief in Need Charity and Bilston Educational Charity operates for the relief, either generally or individually, persons resident in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bilston who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There are no human resources implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

9.0 Corporate Landlord implications

9.1 There are no Corporate landlord implications arising from the recommendations in the report

10.0 Health and Wellbeing implications

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

11.0 Schedule of background papers

11.1 None