

# Individual Executive Decision Notice

<b>Report title</b>	Appointment to the Corporate Parenting Board	
<b>Decision designation</b>	GREEN	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Leader of the Council Leader of the Council	
<b>Wards affected</b>	(All Wards);	
<b>Accountable Director</b>	David Pattison, Director of Governance	
<b>Originating service</b>	Democratic Services	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Shelley Humphries	Democratic Services Officer
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Not applicable.	

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## Summary

To approve an appointment to Corporate Parenting Board.

## Recommendation for decision:

That the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Director of Governance:

1. Approves the appointment of Councillor Rupinderjit Kaur to the Corporate Parenting Board for the remainder of the 2020 - 2021 Municipal Year.

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Signature

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Signature

Date:

Date:

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Council is asked to appoint Councillors to the various Regulatory and Oversight, other Panels/Committees/Boards and Advisory Groups, including Chairs and Vice-chairs. The allocation of seats is in accordance with the political balance rules, with the exception of the Standards Committee, and the nominations of the political groups.
- 1.2 The composition of the Corporate Parenting Board as approved at the meeting of Annual Council on 15 May 2019 consists of 10 members with the political balance of eight Labour representatives and two Conservative representatives.
- 1.3 A Labour position on Corporate Parenting Board became vacant in March 2020 and following a request sent to the Labour Group, Councillor Rupinderjit Kaur volunteered to fill the vacancy on 11 September 2020.

## **2.0 Evaluation of alternative options**

- 2.1 The alternative option would be to not fill the vacancy and for the Board to be a member down and the political balance would not be satisfied.

## **3.0 Reasons for decision**

- 3.1 The decision will ensure that the vacant position on the Corporate Parenting Board is filled and the political balance is satisfied.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report as the role does not attract a Special Responsibility Allowance.
- 4.2 [GE/25092020/K]

## **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. Advice will probably be taken from legal colleagues but accountability for appreciating and detailing the legal implications remains with the accountable officer(s).
- 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 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.  
[SB/02112020/A]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 The Corporate Parenting Board operates as an oversight committee to ensure that all Councillors and City of Wolverhampton Council Service Groups are all fulfilling their roles and responsibilities as corporate parents proactively.

## **7.0 Climate change and environmental implications**

7.1 There are no climate change and environmental implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no human resources implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **9.0 Corporate Landlord implications**

- 9.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **10.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

- 10.1 There are no direct Health and Wellbeing implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **11.0 Covid Implications**

- 11.1 Meetings of Corporate Parenting Board are currently being held remotely and live-streamed to protect Board members, participants and members of the public.

## **12.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 12.1 [Corporate Parenting Board Terms of Reference](#)
- 12.2 Political balance, appointment of the Cabinet, appointments to Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies for 2018/19 - Council - 15 May 2019.