

Meeting of the City Council

19 July 2023

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| Report title | In Year Appointments for the 2023-2024 Municipal Year | |
| Referring body | N/A | |
| Councillor to present report | Councillor Stephen Simkins | |
| Wards affected | (All Wards); | |
| Cabinet Member with lead responsibility | Councillor Stephen Simkins Acting Leader of the Council | |
| Accountable director | David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer | |
| Originating service | Please complete | |
| Accountable employee | Jaswinder Kaur | Democratic Services Manager |
| | Tel | 01902550320 |
| | Email | jaswinder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| Report to be/has been considered by | N/A | |

Recommendations for decision:

The Council is recommended to approve:

1. The appointment of Councillor Simon Bennett to the Planning Committee for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
2. The appointment of Councillor Sally Green to the Statutory Licensing Committee and Regulatory Committee for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
3. The appointment of Councillor Barbara McGarrity QN as Vice Chair to Corporate Parenting Board for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
4. The removal of Councillor Linda Leach from the Resources and Equality Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
5. The appointment of Councillor Celia Hibbert to the Resources and Equality Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
6. The removal of Councillor Sally Green from the Economy & Growth Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
7. The appointment of Councillor Qaiser Azeem to the Economy & Growth Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
8. The removal of Councillor Anwen Muston from the Climate Change Advisory Group for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.

9. The appointment of Councillor Linda Leach to the Climate Change Advisory Group for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
10. The removal of Councillor Celia Hibbert from the Adults Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
11. The appointment of Councillor Rohit Mistry from the Adults Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
12. The appointment of Councillor Tersaim Singh (nominated substitute) to the West Midlands Combined Authority, Transport Delivery Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
13. The appointment of Councillor Carol Hyatt to the Wolverhampton Cycle Forum for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
14. The appointment of Jaipal Uppal from Wolverhampton Youth Council for Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To approve in year appointments for the 2023- 2024 municipal year.

2.0 Background

2.1 The composition of the Political balance, appointment of the Cabinet, appointments to Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies for 2023-2024 was approved at the meeting of Annual Council on 17 May 2023.

2.2 There were a number of vacancies identified within the appendices to the aforementioned report.

2.3 Approving or amending appointments to the Cabinet, appointments to Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies is a function reserved for Council.

3.0 Evaluation of alternative options

3.1 The alternative option to the proposed recommendations would be to not appoint. This would prevent the Labour Group and Conservative Group from taking up its allocation of seats on Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies.

4.0 Reasons for decisions

4.1 This decision will ensure that the Council's legal duty for committee membership to reflect the political composition of the Council is met.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
[SR/03072023/A]

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 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.

6.2 The rules for securing political balance on Committee and Sub-Committees appointed by local authorities are contained in sections 1 and 16 of the Act and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990.

6.3 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 fillings of seats allocated to them.

6.4 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.

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 There are no equalities implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

8.0 All other Implications

8.1 There are no other implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9.0 Schedule of background papers

9.1 [Council – 17 May 2023, Political balance, appointment of the Cabinet, appointments to Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies for 2023-2024](#)

10.0 Appendices

10.1 None