

Meeting of the City Council

20 September 2023

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 Leader of the Council	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee	Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services and Systems 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. Note the appointment, by the Leader of the Council, of Councillors to the Cabinet, the specified lead Cabinet Member roles and Cabinet Panels set out in Appendix 1.
2. The removal of Councillor Jacqui Coogan from the Scrutiny Board for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
3. The appointment of Councillor Jas Dehar to the Scrutiny Board for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
4. The removal of Councillor Jacqui Coogan from the Governance and Ethics Committee as member and Vice Chair for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
5. The appointment of Councillor Rohit Mistry as Vice Chair to the Governance and Ethics Committee for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
6. The removal of Councillor Jacqui Coogan from the West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a substitute for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.

7. The appointment of Councillor Rita Potter to the West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a substitute for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
8. The removal of the Leader from the West Midlands Rail Ltd as Principal Director for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
9. The appointment of the Deputy Leader as Principal Director to the West Midlands Rail Ltd for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
10. The appointment of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change as substitute director to the West Midlands Rail Ltd for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
11. The removal of Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education from the Wolverhampton Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.
12. The appointment of Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Education to the Wolverhampton Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education for the remainder of the Municipal year 2023/2024.

1.0 Purpose

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

2.0 Background

2.0 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.

2.1 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.

4.0 Financial implications

4.0 A number of roles such as Cabinet Members and Scrutiny Panel chairs, attract the payment of Special Responsibility Allowances. These are funded from the budget set aside for Councillor allowances within Democratic Services. [AS/19092023/V].

5.0 Legal implications

5.0 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.

5.1 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.

5.2 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.

5.3 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.

6.0 Equalities implications

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

7.0 All other Implications

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

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.0 [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](#)

9.0 Appendices

9.0 None