

Committee: Council

Date: 18 September 2019

Subject: Changes to Membership of Committees and related matters

Lead officer: Ged Curran, Chief Executive

Contact officer: Louise Fleming, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Democratic Services 020 8545 3616 - democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

1. That the Council approves the appointment of Councillor Najeeb Latif as Vice-Chair of the Borough Plan Advisory Committee.
 2. That the Council approves the appointment of Councillor Thomas Barlow as Vice-Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and a member of the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, following the resignation of Councillor Stephen Crowe.
 3. That the Council notes the changes to the membership of Committees that were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Council.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report seeks Council's approval for appointments to committee places and asks Council to note the changes made to committee membership under delegated authority since the publication of the agenda for the last ordinary Council meeting on 10 July 2019.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The appointments to Committees and other bodies, including the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of those committees and other bodies, were agreed at the annual Council meeting on 15 May 2019. All the places available on the Borough Plan Advisory Committee were appointed to, however due to an omission in the report only the Chair was appointed at that meeting. Therefore this report seeks to formalise the appointment of Councillor Najeeb Latif to the position of Vice-Chair.
- 2.2. Following the resignation of Councillor Stephen Crowe from both the Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Council is asked to approve the appointment of Councillor Thomas Barlow to both; and his appointment as Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Panel.
- 2.3. The following membership changes have been made by the Chief Executive under his delegated authority in accordance with section 1.4 of part 3F of the Constitution:

Committee	Member resigning	Replaced by	Date
Planning Applications Committee	Dennis Pearce	Dave Ward	10 July 2019
Standards and General Purposes Committee	Thomas Barlow	Nigel Benbow	22 July 2019
Standards and General Purposes Committee	Pauline Cowper	Russell Makin	25 July 2019
Standards and General Purposes Committee	Nigel Benbow	Thomas Barlow	29 July 2019
SW London and Surrey Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Stephen Crowe	Nigel Benbow	29 July 2019
Standards and General Purposes Committee	Russell Makin	Pauline Cowper	20 August 2019
NE Surrey Crematorium Board	Nick McLean	Nigel Benbow	3 September 2019
Planning Applications Committee	David Dean	Stephen Crowe	6 September 2019
Merton Community Panel	Stephen Crowe	Edward Gretton	9 September 2019
Merton Community Panel	Edward Gretton	Nigel Benbow	9 September 2019

3 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

3.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

4.1. None for the purposes of this report.

5 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The information regarding membership changes in this report complies with legal and statutory requirements. Council is required to accept nominations made by political groups.
- 5.2. The Housing and Local Government Act 1989 contains provisions relating to the political balance on committees, the duty to allocate seats to political groups and the duty to give effect to allocations.
- 5.3. The Council has a statutory duty to review the representations of different political groups on the Council in order to ensure that a political balance is secured on council committees so as to reflect the overall political composition of the council.
- 5.4. The requirement to allocate seats must be made in accordance with the following statutory principles:
 - a) All of the seats are not to be allocated to the same political group.

b) The majority of the seats must be allocated to the political group with a majority on the Council.

c) Subject to the two principles listed above, the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary committees of the Council allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to that on full Council.

6 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

6.1. None for the purposes of this report.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1. N/A

9 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

9.1 None.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Documents from the authorised officer confirming approval of the membership changes agreed under delegated authority.

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