

Committee: Council

Date: 2 February 2022

Subject: Changes to Membership of Committees and related matters

Lead officer: Hannah Doody, Chief Executive

Contact officer: Amy Dumitrescu, Democracy Services Manager

Democratic Services 020 8545 3357 - democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

That the Council:

1. Notes the changes to the membership of Committees that were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Council.
 2. Agrees the appointment of members to seats on Committees and sub-committees in Appendix A
 3. Agrees the appointment of members to seats on Committees and sub-committees in Appendix B
 4. Agrees the appointment of members to seats on Committees and sub-committees in Appendix C
 5. Notes the revised Cabinet portfolios at Appendix D
-

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 17 November 2021.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. It is noted that following the resignation of Councillor Tobin Byers, his Cabinet position will now be undertaken by Councillor Owen Pritchard as detailed in the revised portfolios within Appendix D.
- 2.2. The following membership changes have been made by the Chief Executive under their delegated authority in accordance with section 1.4 of part 3F of the Constitution:
- 2.3.

Committee	Member resigning	Replaced by	Date
Planning Applications Committee	Cllr John Dehaney – substitute	Cllr Ben Butler – substitute	3 December 2021

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 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.
 - d) Subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each ordinary committee of the Council allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to their proportion on the 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.