

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer (Introduced by Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform))	Council	Wednesday, 17 May 2023

## Appointments to Committees, Panels and Working Groups for 2023/24

Is this report confidential?	No
Is this decision key?	Not applicable

### Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to allocate places on the various committees of the Council in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to make appointments to those committees in accordance with Section 16 of the Act, together with the appointment of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the appropriate Committees. The report also appoints to a number of panels and working groups.

### Recommendations to Council

2. The composition and allocation of committee places in accordance with the Political Balance Rules as set out in the report be approved;
3. The Members, Chairs and Vice Chairs for the committees, panels and working groups set out in the appendix to this report be appointed for the period of twelve months until the First Business Meeting of the Council in May 2024; and
4. The Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend the Constitution to take into account the consequential changes as a result of this report.

### Reasons for recommendations

5. To ensure we meet the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and appointments are made to committees, panels and working groups.

### Other options considered and rejected

6. Not applicable.

## Corporate priorities

7. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary council	Thriving communities
<b>A fair local economy that works for everyone</b>	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

## Background to the report

8. In accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it is the duty of the Council, at its first business meeting in each Council year, where it is divided into different political groups, to review the representation of different political groups on the various committees.

9. Under the terms of Section 15 (5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, where a Council is divided into different political groups in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as this Council is, seats on ordinary committees have to be allocated to give effect to the following principles:

- a) all the seats on committees are not to be allocated to the same political group;
- b) the majority of seats on a committee should be allocated to the group which has the majority of the Authority's membership (in our case 26 seats or more);
- c) subject to (a) and (b) above, the total number of seats on committees must be allocated in proportion to the political strength on the Council; and
- d) subject to (a), (b) and (c) above, the number of seats on each committee must be allocated in proportion to the political strength on the Council.

10. The current political composition of the Councils:

	Number of Members
Labour	29
Conservative	16
Liberal Democrat	5
Total	50

11. The term "ordinary committees" has a special statutory meaning. They only include committees that have delegated powers to discharge the Council's statutory functions.

12. The political proportionality rules do not apply to the appointment of the Cabinet under the Section 24 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Council's Constitution.

13. The Leader of the Council is proposing a reduction in the number of seats allocated to the Planning Committee and Licensing Committee. It is his view that they are too big in size and the proposed number is of a more manageable size. Following the

introduction of substitutes it is felt that the size of these committees could be reduced.

14. It is also proposed to replace the existing Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel with two committees. One Scrutiny Committee would consider Corporate, Performance and Budget issues and the second would consider Community and External issues. It is felt that this strengthens the Council's scrutiny arrangements and will increase Scrutiny's influence in improving the borough, our council and partners.
15. In order to comply with Section 15 (5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the allocation of seats on committees is set out below:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Total Places</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Planning	10	6	3	1
Licensing & Public Safety	10	6	3	1
Corporate, Performance & Budget Scrutiny Committee	7	4	2	1
Community & External Committee	7	4	2	1
Standards	7	4	2	1
Governance	7	4	2	1
Appeals	3	2	1	0
Appointments Panel – Chief Officers	5	3	2	0
Shared Services	5	3	2	0

16. Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides that after the Authority has determined the allocation of committee places, it is the duty of the Authority to exercise its power to make appointments to committees to give effect to the wishes of the various political groups, as to who is to be appointed to the places on that Committee which have been allocated to that particular group. The places are the property of the various political groups for appointment and dismissal.
17. The appointment of members in line with the wishes of the political groups are shown in the appendix to this report.

### **Climate change and air quality**

18. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Council's Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

### **Equality and diversity**

19. There are no equality and diversity implications from this report.

## **Risk**

20. The proposals set out in this report will ensure that appointments are made to the various Committees in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Failure to meet the legislative requirements would leave the Council's decisions open to challenge.

## **Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer**

21. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

## **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

22. The proposals set out in this report will ensure that appointments are made to the various Committees in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

## **Background documents**

There are no background papers to this report.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Nominations from the Political Groups to the Council's various committees, panels and working groups.

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
Darren Cranshaw (Head of Democratic Services)	darren.cranshaw@southribble.gov.uk	01772 625512	15/05/23

## Appendix 1

### Appointments to Committees

	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Appeals Committee (2:1:0)	Cllr Bell Cllr Martin  Sub: Cllr C Tomlinson Cllr Williams	Cllr Rear  Sub: Cllr Michael Green Cllr M Smith	-
Appointment & Employment Panel (3:2:0)	Cllr Bylinski Gelder Cllr Flannery Cllr Foster  Sub: Cllr Hunter Cllr M Tomlinson	Cllr Walton Cllr Smith  Sub: Cllr Bretherton Cllr Mullineaux	-
Corporate, Performance & Budget Scrutiny Committee (4:2:1)	Cllr Adams (Chair) Cllr Peet Cllr Pillinger Cllr Williams  Sub: Cllr Gabbott Cllr Unsworth	Cllr Michael Green (Vice) Cllr King  Sub: Cllr Walton Cllr Forshaw	Cllr D Howarth  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting
Community & External Scrutiny Committee (4:2:1)	Cllr Jackson (Vice) Cllr Martin Cllr Pritchard Cllr Wharton Hardman  Sub: Cllr Bedford Cllr Stevens	Cllr Coulton Cllr Campbell  Sub: Cllr Gleave Cllr Michael Green	Cllr Turner (Chair)  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting
Governance Committee (4:2:1)	Cllr Sharples (Chair) Cllr Roberts (Vice) Cllr Gabbott Cllr Pillinger  Sub: Cllr Jackson Cllr Stringfellow	Cllr M Smith Cllr Bretherton  Sub: Cllr King Cllr Campbell	Cllr Turner  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting
Licensing & Public Safety Committee (6:3:1)	Cllr Bell (Chair) Cllr Wharton Hardman (Vice) Cllr Bedford Cllr Gabbott Cllr Gleeson Cllr Stevens	Cllr Forshaw Cllr Gleave Cllr Buttery	Cllr Hancock  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting

	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Planning Committee (6:3:1)	Cllr C Tomlinson (Chair) Cllr Stringfellow (Vice) Cllr Adams Cllr Farnworth Cllr Unsworth Cllr Williams  Sub: Cllr Roberts Cllr Sharples	Cllr P Smith Cllr Mullineaux Cllr Mary Green  Sub:  Cllr Bretherton Cllr Rainsbury	Cllr Shaw  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting
Shared Services Joint Committee (3:2:0)	Cllr Bylinski Gelder Cllr Foster Cllr M Tomlinson  Sub: Cllr Ashton Cllr Watkinson	Cllr Walton Cllr M Smith  Sub: Cllr Bretherton Cllr P Smith	-
Standards Committee (4:2:1)	Cllr Unsworth (Chair) Cllr Gleeson Cllr Hindle-Taylor Cllr Sharples  Sub: Cllr Adams Cllr Bell	Cllr Rainsbury (Vice) Cllr Watson  Sub: Cllr Coulton Cllr Buttery	Cllr Lillis  Sub: To be announced at the Council meeting

## Working Groups and Panels

	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Climate Emergency Working Group  (11 Members: 5 Community Hubs, Relevant Cabinet Member and 3:2:1)	Cllr Martin (Chair) Cllr Ashton (Cab Mem) Cllr Bedford Cllr Pillinger	Cllr Watson Cllr Gleave	Cllr Turner
Member Development Steering Group (3:2:1)	Cllr Jackson (Chair) Cllr Bylinski Gelder Cllr Gleeson	Cllr Mary Green Cllr Buttery	Cllr Hancock

	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>
Shares Services Appointments Panel (2:1:0)	Cllr Bylinski Gelder Cllr Foster  Sub: Cllr M Tomlinson	Cllr Walton  Sub: Cllr P Smith	-