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| **REPORT TO** | **ON** | |
| Council | 24 July 2019 | |
|  | | |
| TITLE | | REPORT OF | |
| Appointment of Committees 2019/20 | | Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Is this report confidential? | **No** |

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To allocate places on 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, following the Borough Election on 20 June 2019.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the allocation of committee places in accordance with the Political Balance Rules as set out in the report be approved;
2. That the member for the Scrutiny Committee set out in the report be appointed for the period of twelve months until the First Business Meeting of the Council in May 2020.

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

1. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:*(tick all those applicable):*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Excellence and Financial Sustainability | X |
| Health and Wellbeing |  |
| Place | X |

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| People |  |

**POLITICAL COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Following the Local Election for the Farington West ward of the Borough on 20 June 2019, the political composition of the Council is:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Number of Members |
| Conservative | 23 |
| Labour | 22 |
| Liberal Democrats | 5 |
| Total: | 50 |

**ALLOCATION OF SEATS**

1. The term “ordinary committees” has a special statutory meaning. They only include committees that have delegated powers to discharge the Council’s statutory functions.
2. At the last Council meeting on 15 May, the new Leader of the Council proposed a reduction in the number of seats allocated to some committees. Following the election of Councillor Thurlbourn to the vacant seat for Farington West on 20 June 2019, the political composition of the Council was amended, with the Conservative Group holding the largest number of seats overall. As all the seats had been allocated at the last Council meeting, there was no place on any of the committee’s for Councillor Thurlbourn to be appointed to.
3. Bearing this in mind, the Leader has agreed on this one occasion, to increase the seats on the Scrutiny Committee by 2, making a total of 13 seats now available on the Committee, with a political make-up of (6:6:1). The two extra seats will be taken by one conservative and one Labour member, as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Committee: | Conservative Group: | Labour Group: |
| Scrutiny | Councillor Stephen Thurlbourn | Councillor Jacky Alty |

**CHANGES TO APPOINMENTS ON OTHER COMMITTEE’S**

1. A number of other changes to the appointments on Committee’s have changed as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Committee: | Member appointed: | Member removed: |
| Planning Committee | Councillor Will Adams | Councillor Mick Higgins |
| Councillor James Flannery | Councillor Jane Bell |

**Financial implications**

1. There are no financial implications arising from the proposals in this report.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

1. The proposals set out in the 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 (Committee’s and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. The method of calculation of the places on each committee has previously been approved by external advice from counsel.

**AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

1. There are no Air Quality implications arising from the proposals in this report.

**COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER**

1. There are no comments of the Statutory Finance Officer.

**COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

1. The principal legislation that governs political proportionality is set out in the Local Government and Housing Cat 1989 and accompanying regulations. On a practical level it assists if wherever possible we could have an uneven number of councillors on each committee.

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * **HR & Organisational Development** * **ICT / Technology** * **Property & Asset Management** * **Risk** * **Equality & Diversity** | There are no implications.  There are no implications.  There are no implications.  The proposals set out in this report will ensure appointments are made to various Committee’s in accordance with the Local Governance and Housing Act 1989. Failure to meet the legislative requirements would leave the Council’s decisions open to challenge.  There are no implications. |

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

There are no background papers to this report.

**APPENDICES**

None.

Darren Cranshaw

Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services.

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| Report Author: | Telephone: | Date: |
| Dianne Scambler | 01772 625309 | 9 July 2019 |