

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Summary

1. Following the Council meeting on 11 December 2014, the appointment of a new Leader of the Council and the subsequent reduction in Cabinet members, a number of changes were required to the previously agreed list of appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies. A list of proposed changes were submitted for consideration by the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee, at their last meeting on 5 January 2015.
2. Whilst the majority of the changes proposed at the meeting were agreed, clarification was sought in relation to three of the nominations. This report provides further details in relation to the three outstanding appointments. It also seeks approval to some additional changes to Conservative Group places on Committees etc following the recent resignation of Councillor Watt from the Conservative Group.
3. Also at the Council meeting on 11 December 2014 changes in membership and the Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board were agreed. In light of the increase in membership of the Board a request has been made for the additional elected representative to be the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Background

4. The Council makes appointments at its Annual Meeting, to Committees for the coming year and the Extraordinary Meeting, held on 23 October 2014, reviewed the allocation of seats, appointments to the Council structure and outside bodies for the remainder of the municipal year. Further changes were requested at the Committee's last meeting, in light of changes in Cabinet membership.
5. Additional changes were also requested at the meeting to the Conservative Group's membership on and the Vice-Chair appointment to the Local Plan Working Group.

6. As the Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee has authority to deal with any changes or appointments to those Committees and bodies within year, this report provides the further information requested at the Committee's last meeting in respect of the following bodies and an appointment to the Health and Wellbeing Board:

(a) City of York Trading Company Shareholder Committee

At the last meeting Cllr Cunningham was appointed to replace Councillor Alexander on the Trading Shareholder Committee, subject to formal agreement by the Trading Companies Board. Clarification was however sought in relation to the role of the Chair on this body.

It has since been confirmed that Cllr Cunningham had been nominated as a member of the Committee but not as Chair, the place previously held by Cllr Alexander. At present the Committee's shareholder agreement assumes that the Leader would be a Member of and Chair of the Committee, however this issue will be considered at a future Board meeting.

(b) West Yorkshire Combined Authority – Investment Committee

At the last meeting, consideration was also given to the appointment of Councillor Williams in place of Councillor Alexander on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority – Investment Committee. At that time clarification was sought as to whether that role should be filled by the Cabinet Member for Transport.

The Council's current membership of the Investment Committee is:

- Cllr Levene – Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Economic Development (CYC's nomination for appointment to the WYCA)
- Cllr Alexander (serving on this Committee as a direct appointment by the WYCA)

Cllr Levene was previously appointed to the Investment Committee by this Council and Cllr Alexander is also on the Committee as a direct appointment by the WYCA. It is therefore suggested that WYCA replace Cllr Alexander with Cllr Williams on the Investment Committee, given that Cllr Williams is the new CYC Council Leader.

(c) Health and Wellbeing Board

At the Council meeting on 11 December 2014, the following changes were agreed to the membership and Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

“The membership of the Board will consist of:

- i. The Leader of City of York Council (“the Council) or his/her nominee, together with a further 3 elected representatives nominated by the Council.*
- ii. Two representatives of the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group appointed by them*
- iii. A representative of HealthWatch York appointed by them*
- iv. The Director of Public Health (represented in CYC by the Acting Director of Public Health)*
- v. The Director of Children’s Services, Skills and Education*
- vi. The Director of Adult & Social Services*
- vii. A representative for the York Voluntary and Community Sector*
- viii. A representative of the York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust*
- ix. A representative of Leeds Partnership NHS Foundation Trust*
- x. A representative of the Independent Care sector*
- xi. A representative of the NHS Commissioning Board*
- xii. A representative of North Yorkshire Police*
- xiii. Other members appointed by the Board or the Leader of the Council after consultation with the Board.”*

The current elected member representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board consists of Cllr Cunningham, Chair, (Leader’s appointment) together with Councillors Cuthbertson and Wiseman.

Following the agreed increase in elected representatives by Council to three, Councillor Cunningham has made a request for the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services to be appointed as the additional elected representative nominated by the Council on the Board, to ensure full coverage of the health and wellbeing service.

(d) Local Plan Working Group

Consideration was given at the last meeting to the following requested changes in membership of the Local Plan Working Group:

- (i) To appoint Councillor Healey, as a Conservative rep, in place of Councillor Watt**

- (ii) To appoint Councillor Steward as the Conservative Vice-Chair
- (iii) To appoint Councillor Williams as Labour substitute in place of Councillor Alexander

Members had sought clarification in respect of any potential impact upon overall proportionality on Committee's and other bodies in light of the recent resignation of Cllr Watt from the Conservative Group.

When a Member leaves a political group that does not automatically trigger a review of political proportionalities. Unless Council chooses to review them the proportionalities remain those in place following the last review.

If Council were to review the proportionalities on the committees to which proportionality applies then, overall, the Conservatives would lose two places to the independents.

The Local Plan Working Group is not a Committee of the Council and is not technically covered by the political proportionality rules. Although, the Council has, traditionally, allocated seats to the Local Plan and other Working Groups on a proportionate basis. The loss of one Conservative member has no impact on the number of seats they should have on this Working Group – they are entitled to 2.1 rather than 2.3 seats.

Where the proportionality rules apply the Council has a statutory duty to comply with the wishes of that political group in making appointments. Again the Council has traditionally applied the same principle in allocating seats where the rules do not technically apply.

On that basis, the membership of the Local Plan Working Group, comprising 11 Members would remain as follows:

Labour (5)
Conservative (2)
Liberal Democrat (2)
Green (1)
Independent (1)

Members are therefore asked to consider the requested changes in membership of the Local Plan Working Group, in light of the advice set out above in this report.

Additional Requests received since the agenda was published

(e) Local Government North Yorkshire Spatial Planning and Transport Board

A request has been received to appoint Councillor Levene in place of Councillor Merrett on the Local Government North Yorkshire Spatial Planning and Transport Board.

(f) Additional Change to Health and Wellbeing Board

The York Voluntary and Community Sector named representative on the Health and Wellbeing Board has now been confirmed as:

- Luke Barnett, the Chief Executive of York CVS with Melanie McQueen, the Deputy Chief Executive of York CVS as his named substitute

(g) Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee

Since the agenda was published, a request has been made for a change in the Labour Group membership on the Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee. Councillor Williams to replace Councillor Fraser as one of the Labour representatives on the Committee.

Members will also be asked to consider a change in the start time for future meetings of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

Other Conservative Group Changes to Places on Committees

7. Since the meeting on 5 January 2014, the Conservative Group Leader, Councillor Steward, has provided details of the following additional changes to nominations from his Group to their allocated places on Committees etc:

- Cllr Healey to replace Cllr Watt as a Member and Vice Chair of Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny
- Cllr Richardson to replace Cllr Watt as Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee Vice Chair
- Cllr Barton to replace Cllr Watt as the Conservative Group's Substitute representative on the Without Walls Partnership
- Cllr Richardson to replace Cllr Watt on the Joint Member Working Group on the Joint Mineral and Waste Plan

As a result of these proposed changes, Councillor Watt would remain on the following but as an Independent Member:

- Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee
- Planning Committee
- Area Planning Sub-Committee
- Clifton Backies Management Board
- Local Access Forum

Consultation

8. In accordance with the usual process for gathering nominations to available places, the relevant Groups and individuals have been consulted, as appropriate, and provided with the necessary information.

Options

9. The Committee has the option either to approve or propose alternatives to the nominations proposed in this report.

Council Plan 2011-15

10. Establishing an appropriate decision making and scrutiny structure and appointees to that, contributes to the Council delivering its core priorities set out in the Council Plan, effectively.

Implications

11. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matters before Members:
 - Financial
 - Human Resources (HR)
 - Equalities
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Property
 - Other

Legal Implications

12. As set out 6 (d) above, the Council is statutorily obliged to make appointments to Committees, Advisory Committees, Sub-Committees and certain other prescribed bodies in accordance with the political balance

rules. The legal requirements and custom and practice around proportionalities in relation to the Local Plan Working Group are also explained in paragraph 6(d).

Risk Management

13. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

14. (i) That the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee is asked to consider and agree the following changes to appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies, for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year:
- To appoint Councillor Williams as Labour substitute in place of Councillor Alexander on the Local Plan Working Group;
 - To request WYCA to appoint Councillor Williams, to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority – Investment Committee in place of the former Council Leader, Councillor Alexander, and in line with the WYCA requirements.
 - To appoint Councillor Healey, as a Conservative rep, in place of Councillor Watt on the Local Plan Working Group;
 - To appoint Councillor Steward as the Conservative Vice-Chair of the Local Plan Working Group;
 - To appoint Councillor Healey to replace Councillor Watt as both a Member and Vice Chair of the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee
 - To appoint Councillor Richardson to replace Councillor Watt as Vice Chair of Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee
 - To appoint Councillor Barton to replace Councillor Watt as the Conservative Group's Substitute representative on the Without Walls Partnership

- To appoint Councillor Richardson to replace Councillor Watt on the Joint Member Working Group on the Joint Mineral and Waste Plan
 - To appoint Councillor Levene to replace Councillor Merrett on the Local Government North Yorkshire Spatial Planning and Transport Board.
 - To appoint Luke Barnett & Melanie McQueen from York CVS as the named member and substitute member respectively, to act as representatives from the York Voluntary and Community sector on the Health & Wellbeing Board.
 - To confirm the appointment of Councillor Williams to replace Councillor Fraser as one of the Labour representatives on the Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee.
- (ii) To note the additional information received in relation to the appointment of Councillor Cunningham, previously made to the City of York Trading Company Shareholder Committee.
- (iii) That the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People, as the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, be appointed as the Council's third elected representative on the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- (iv) To consider a possible change to the start time of future Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee meetings.

Reason: In order to make appropriate appointments to the Council's Committees and Outside Bodies for the current municipal year.

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**Report
Approved**

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Specialist Implications Officers

Not applicable

Wards Affected: Not applicable

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers - None

Annexes - None