

Council

22 March 2018

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

Proportionality, Allocation to Seats and Appointments to the Council Structure and Outside Bodies for the remainder of 2017/18

Summary

1. At its Annual General Meeting on 25 May 2017, Full Council agreed its proportionality arrangements on Committees and other bodies and appointed Members to available seats on those Committees and other bodies. It also appointed a Council Leader to hold office until the next local elections in May 2019.
2. Due to a number of recent changes affecting both the political make up of the Council and the leadership and membership of the Executive, it has now become necessary to re-calculate the proportionality and to make a number of consequential amendments to the approved appointments.
3. This report seeks formal approval for these new proportionality arrangements and appointments, to enable the Council to run its business for the remainder of the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

Background

4. On 8 March, the Council Leader resigned his office and, at an Extraordinary meeting of Full Council, a new Leader was appointed.
5. When resigning from the post of Executive (Council) Leader, the former Leader, along with another member of the Conservative group, also resigned from the group and subsequently formed the York Independents group, resulting in changes to the number of seats held by each political group on the Council.
6. In addition, the Council Leader has made a number of new appointments to the Executive, requiring changes to appointments that are held ex officio by the Leader or a specific Executive Member, and to appointments that can only be held by a non-Executive Member.

Proportionality / Allocation of Seats

7. Council is asked to approve appointments to those available seats to which the political balance rules must be applied under the terms of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989. Council is also asked to consider applying the rules to the remaining bodies it chooses to set up, in accordance with previous practice. Full details are contained in Annex A to this report.

Appointments to Committees, Working Groups & Outside Bodies

8. With reference to the changes mentioned in paragraph 6 and further to the allocation of seats referred to above, Council is asked to make the appointments to Committees and other bodies set out in Annex B. These include various outside bodies, together with Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees. These appointments will be made in accordance with nominations to be made by political groups, together with nominations to places allocated to Independent Members.

West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA)

9. Details of places available to the Council on WYCA and its nominations to fill those places are provided in Annex B. These include nominations to the Combined Authority itself and to its Transport and Scrutiny Committees.

The WYCA will be given details of the Leader's appointed relevant Executive Member for co-option by WYCA to its West Yorkshire and York Investment Committee.

Council is further asked to note that the WYCA Member appointed by this Authority is appointed (in their capacity as WYCA Member), to WYCA's LCR Partnership Committee.

Transport for the North (TfN)

9. Details of places available to the Council on TfN and its nominations to fill those places are also set out in Annex B. They include places for a substitute member of the TfN Board for and a member and substitute member of the TfN Scrutiny Committee.

Consultation

12. In accordance with the usual process for gathering nominations to available places at the Annual Council Meeting, all party Groups have been consulted on and provided with the necessary information on available places.

Options

13. Options open to the Council are:
 - (i) to approve or not approve the allocation of seats in accordance with the arrangements set out in Annex A;
 - (ii) to make the proposed appointments to Committees and other bodies set out in Annex B, or to propose alternatives.

Council Plan 2015-19

14. Establishing an appropriate decision making and scrutiny structure, is essential in providing a framework through which the Council can make decisions relating to the delivery of its core priorities set out in the Council Plan, effectively.

Implications

15. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members, namely to consider the allocation of seats and places to Committees and other bodies, including Chairs and Vice Chairs, together with the appointment of a Council Leader.
 - Financial
 - Human Resources (HR)
 - Equalities
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Property
 - Other

Legal Implications

16. 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. These rules may only be waived where no Member votes against the proposal.

Risk Management

17. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report, other than the failure to meet the above legal requirements and the risk of a Council operating with no agreed political management arrangements (in the form of a decision making and scrutiny structure) should Council fail to make any such arrangements.

Recommendations

18. Members are asked to consider the options, and the annexes attached to this report, and are recommended to:
- (i) Approve the revised allocation of seats in accordance with Annex A ; and
 - (ii) Approve appropriate nominations to Committees, other bodies and outside bodies, as well as appointments to Chairs and Vice-Chairs, as set out in Annex B, together with details of any further appointments which may be circulated prior to the meeting

Reason: To fulfil the Council's statutory and constitutional requirements.

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**Report
Approved**

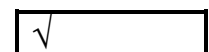


Date 14 March 2018

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A: Revised allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-committees,
Boards and Working Groups between Political Groups
2017/18

Annex B - Revised appointments to Committees and other bodies
2017/18

Background Papers

None