

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 30th January 2018

CONTACT OFFICER: Catherine Meek
(For all enquiries) Head of Democratic Services
(01753) 875011

WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR DECISION**

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES, PANELS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To appoint to vacancies on various committees, panels and outside bodies and to note an appointment made to the Employment & Appeals Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rules, Part 4.1, Paragraph 1.2 (vi).

2. Recommendations

The Council is requested to resolve:

- (a) That Members be appointed to the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee in accordance with the wishes expressed by Political Groups in respect of the seats allocated to them.
- (b) That appointments of Louis Lee, David Comben and Murray Litvak to the Independent Panel be noted.
- (c) That the requirement for political proportionality, as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, be waived with regard to the Joint Parenting Panel and that Councillor Coad be appointed to the vacancy on the Panel.
- (d) That the appointment of Councillor Swindlehurst to the Employment & Appeals Committee, made under Council Procedure Rules Part 4.1, Paragraph 1.2 (vi), be noted.
- (e) That the Lead Member for Health & Social Care, Councillor Pantelic, be appointed as the Council's Outside Body representative on Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust.
- (f) That the revised proportionality and entitlement to committee seats as set out in Appendix 1 be noted and seats be allocated accordingly.

3. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy and Five Year Plan Priorities

Effective, transparent and equitable decision making processes are an essential pre-requisite to the delivery of all the Council's priorities.

4. Other implications

(a) Legal Implications

The recommendations within this report meet legal requirements, primarily the Local Government Housing Act 1989 and associated regulations. The Joint Parenting Panel is subject to political proportionality and any variation to this can only be agreed if no member votes against. It is a requirement of the Council's Constitution that the Employment & Appeals Committee must include at least one member of the Executive.

(b) Financial Implications

There are no other workforce, financial or other implications arising from this administrative report.

4. Supporting Information

Appointments to Committees and Panels

- 4.1 The Council agreed new arrangements for the dismissal of Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer at the meeting held on 18th May 2017. This included the establishment of the following new committees and panels:
- Investigating and Disciplinary Committee to deal with disciplinary matters relating to the relevant officers. It is a politically balanced committee of five Members, only one of whom is to be a member of the Executive (not the Leader or Cabinet Member with responsibility for human resource or finance).
 - Appeals Committee to deal with disciplinary matters short of dismissal relating to the relevant officers. It is also a politically balanced committee of five Members, only one of whom is to be a member of the Executive (not the Leader or Cabinet Member with responsibility for human resource or finance).
 - Independent Panel comprising of three people appointed under section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 to advise Council in the event of a recommendation from the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee to dismiss a relevant officer.
- 4.2 No appointments have yet been made to either the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee and nominations have been sought from the Political Groups and will be reported at the meeting.
- 4.3 The three Independent Persons appointed to the Independent Panel are Louis Lee, the Council's Independent Person, and David Comben and Murray Litvak who have been appointed as Independent Persons at other authorities.
- 4.4 Councillor Matloob has resigned from the Joint Parenting Panel and Councillor Coad has been nominated to take the vacant seat on the Panel. In accordance with the requirements such a change can only be made if no member votes against.

- 4.5 Following the appointment of the new Cabinet by the Leader of the Council a number of changes to committees were required and were agreed by Council on 19th December. A further change needed to be made to the Employment & Appeals Committee as it is a requirement that it includes at least one member of the Executive. The Committee meets on 25th January 2018 and an appointment was required prior to the Council meeting. Councillor Michael Holledge has resigned from the Committee and Councillor Swindlehurst has been appointed to the vacancy under delegated authority in Council Procedure Rules Part 4.1, Paragraph 1.2 (vi).

Outside Bodies

- 4.6 The Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care would normally be the Council's Outside Body representative on Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust. Councillor Hussain was appointed by Council on 18th May 2017 as the portfolio holder at that time. Following the appointment of the new Cabinet, it is proposed that Councillor Pantelic be appointed as the representative for the remainder of the municipal year.

Committee Membership / Proportionality

Councillor Coad

- 4.7 Members are informed that Councillor Coad has resigned from the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) and with effect from 16th January 2018, will be an Independent Councillor. This change does not affect entitlement to Committee Places/Proportionality.

Councillor Munawar

- 4.8 A Memorial signed by a majority of the Members of the Labour Group, was received on 22 January 2018, advising that Councillor Munawar is no longer to be treated as a member of the Labour Group. Councillor Munawar is therefore an Independent (Labour) Councillor.
- 4.9 Proportionality on Committee Places has therefore been re-calculated and Appendix 1 details entitlement to Committee Places. The result of the change in the membership of the Labour Group from 33 to 32 means that Labour lose one seat on Audit & Corporate Governance Committee. The Independent Councillors (Councillors Coad and Munawar) are entitled to two committee seats in total, one seat on the Licensing Committee and one seat on Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The Council is requested to note and approve the appointments to committees, panels and outside bodies as set out in this report.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Basket of Entitlement .

7. Background Papers

None.