

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 26th September 2019

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

WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR DECISION**

PROPORTIONALITY AND APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise the Council of revised proportionality entitlements following a change to the membership of the Labour Group, agree the allocation of seats on Committees and make the necessary appointments to seats on the Council's Committees that were appointed on 16th May.
- 1.2 To notify the Council of the establishment of a Cabinet Commercial Sub-Committee and the Lead Members the Leader has appointed to it.

2. Recommendations

The Council is requested to resolve:

- (a) That the revised proportionality and entitlement to committee seats as set out in Appendix 1 be noted and that seats be allocated in accordance with the rules of proportionality as set out therein;
- (b) That Councillor Sharif be appointed to the Licensing Committee in place of Councillor Bains.
- (c) That Members be appointed to the seats allocated in accordance with the nominations received from political groups as follows:
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Matloob in place of Councillor Sharif
 - Education and Children's Service Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Sadiq in place of Councillor Sharif.
 - Appeals Committee – Councillor Hulme in place of Councillor Bains.
 - Employment & Appeals – Councillor Sadiq in place of Councillor Hussain
- (d) That the report of Leader notifying the Council of the establishment of a Cabinet Commercial Sub-Committee be received.
- (e) That the report of the Leader on the appointment of the Lead Members (the Cabinet) and their revised portfolios be received (Appendix 3).
- (f) That Councillor Brooker be appointed as the Chair of the Employment & Appeals Committee.

(g) That it be noted that the Councillor Carter will be the Co-Chair of the Joint Parenting Panel as Lead Member for Children & Schools be noted.

(h) That Councillors as detailed below be appointed as the Outside Body representative on the following:

- i. Slough Children's Partnership Board; Councillor Carter to replace Councillor Sadiq
- ii. Slough Local Safeguarding Children's Board; Councillor Carter to replace Councillor Sadiq
- iii. South East Employers (Deputy) Councillor Brooker to replace Councillor Hussain
- iv. Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel; Councillor Brooker to replace Councillor Bains

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

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 in Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated Regulations. Any proposed departure from political proportionality can only be agreed if no member votes against the proposal.

(b) Financial Implications

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

5 Supporting Information

Group Membership/Proportionality

5.1 A Notice has been received in accordance with Regulation 10 (c) of The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, advising that Councillor Sharif is no longer to be treated as a member of the Labour Group. Councillor Sharif is therefore an Independent Councillor.

5.2 Proportionality and allocation of Committee Places has been re-calculated based on revised Group Membership and Appendix 1 details entitlement to Committee Places. The result of the change in the membership of the Labour Group from 37 to 36 is that the Labour Group lose one seat on Licensing Committee.

5.3 Proportionality entitles the two independent Councillors (Councillors Sandhu and Sharif) to two seats in total. Councillor Sandhu was appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16th May.

Committee/Panel appointments

5.4 The change in Group Membership results in a Labour Group vacancy on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Education and Children's Services Panel in place of Councillor Sharif. Nominations for these vacancies have been received from the Labour Group and are set out in paragraph 2 (c).

5.5 The report of the Leader of the Council on the appointment of the Cabinet, as set out in Appendix 3, necessitates a number of changes to committees, panels and some outside bodies. The changes primarily arise due to the restrictions in law or the Constitution of members of the Executive sitting on particular committees and on outside bodies where the Lead Cabinet Member would normally represent the authority.

5.6 The changes are summarised as follows:

- Appeals Committee – a vacancy arises to replace Councillor Bains as he is unable to sit on the Committee as Lead Member with responsibility for human resources.
- Employment & Appeals Committee – a vacancy has arisen as Chair as it is not considered best practice for the Lead Member responsible for human resources to be chair of the Committee. A vacancy also arises to replace Councillor Hussain on the Committee.
- Licensing Committee – a vacancy arises to replace Councillor Bains following his appointment to the Cabinet. The only members of the Executive able to sit on the Licensing Committee are those with Lead Member responsibility for Licensing functions.
- Joint Parenting Panel – the Terms of Reference of the Panel state that the Co-Chair is the Lead Member for Children & Schools, therefore Councillor Carter has taken this role.
- Outside bodies – Lead Members usually represent the Council on the following bodies: Slough Children's Partnership Board; Slough Local Safeguarding Children's Board. The Chair of Employment & Appeals Committee usually represents the Council on South East Employers and Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel. The Council is invited to change the representatives on these bodies to in line with the revised Lead Members/Committee Chairs.

Cabinet Commercial Sub-Committee

5.5 The Executive Procedure Rules require the Leader to inform the Council of the establishment, terms of reference and membership of any Sub-Committees of the Cabinet.

5.7 At its meeting on 17th June 2019 the Cabinet agreed that a Commercial Sub-Committee be set up to maximise existing and future commercial and business development opportunities within the Council.

5.8 The terms of reference of the Sub-Committee were agreed by the Cabinet on 16th September 2019 and are set out in Appendix 2. The Leader of the Council will chair the Sub-Committee and appoint three other Lead Members each year with the relevant portfolios to serve on the Sub-Committee. For 2019/20, the Leader has appointed the Lead Members for Governance & Customer Services, Housing &

Community Safety and Transport & Environmental Services. The first meeting of the Sub-Committee is scheduled for 1st October 2019.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proportionality.

Appendix 2 – Cabinet Commercial Sub-Committee Terms of Reference.

Appendix 3 – Report of the Leader on appointments to the Cabinet.

7 Background Papers

None.