

Title of Report	APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES	
Presented by	Councillor Tony Gillard	
Background Papers	The Council's Constitution The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (legislation.gov.uk)	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	None have been identified.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	In determining the membership of committees, account has been taken of the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and 1991 made under sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. These Regulations require that seats on committees and sub-committees are allocated to the political groups in a way which reflects the overall balance on the Council.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	None have been identified.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To appoint to the vacant seat on the Council's Audit and Governance Committee.	
Recommendations	THAT AN APPOINTMENT BE MADE TO FILL THE VACANT SEAT ON THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2024/25 CIVIC YEAR, OR IF NO NOMINATIONS ARE RECEIVED, IT WILL BE AGREED THAT THE SEAT WILL REMAIN VACANT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2024/25 CIVIC YEAR	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution Members must, at the Annual Meeting, endorse committee Terms of Reference, receive nominations of Councillors to serve on each board or committee and appoint to those boards or committees.
- 1.2 The appointments to the committees and groups for the 2024/25 civic year, taking into account the political balance requirement, were agreed at the Annual Council meeting held on 7 May 2024.

1.3 Ahead of the meeting on 7 May 2024, the report titled ‘Appointments to Committees and Groups, Election of Chairs and Deputy Chairs’ was also circulated, within which Appendix B to the report provides guidance on determining proportionality for political balance.

2.0 VACANT SEAT ON AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2.1 At Annual Council in May 2024, the Alliance chose not to appoint to one of its allocated seats on the Audit and Governance Committee.

2.2 The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 states that where a political group has failed to express its wishes in relation to the appointment to such a seat as is mentioned in regulation 14 within the period of three weeks beginning with the date on which notice was given under that regulation, the authority or committee may make such appointment to that seat as they think fit. This is also reflected in the guidance in Appendix B referred to above.

2.3 During a busy period for the Council, the vacancy was unintentionally overlooked at the Full Council meeting in June, but is now being addressed at the next available opportunity.

2.4 Following discussions the Alliance has confirmed that it does not wish to fill the vacant seat, and that Council is to appoint a member to that seat.

2.5 Nominations have been sought from both the Labour Group and the Independent Members of the Council to fill the vacancy.

2.6 Nominations will be circulated at the meeting. If more than one nomination is received, a vote will be taken by Council and the member with the most votes will be appointed to the seat. If no nominations are received, the seat will remain vacant for the remainder of the 2024/25 civic year.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and 1991 made under sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
Safeguarding:	Not applicable
Equalities/Diversity:	The process ensures that all committees have a politically balanced make-up.
Customer Impact:	Not applicable
Economic and Social Impact:	Not applicable.
Environment, Climate Change and zero carbon:	Not applicable

Consultation/Community Engagement:	All Political Groups and Independent Members
Risks:	Failure to address the vacancy in the relevant Committee would put the Council in breach of its duties and compromise the legality and integrity of any future decisions.
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