

# **County Council**

**23 July 2020**

## **Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies**

### **Recommendations:**

- (1) That Council confirms the Committee structure and delegations to member bodies as set out in the Constitution (subject to any amendments proposed and agreed at this meeting):
- (2) That Council agrees the appointment of members to the Committees and other bodies as set out in the appendix (subject to any amendments).
- (3) That Council confirms the delegations to officers as set out in the Constitution.
- (4) That the Council authorises the Strategic Director Resources to make such amendments to the Council's Constitution as may be required as a consequence of any changes agreed by Council.

### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Article 5 of the County Council's Constitution requires, as a minimum, the establishment of the following bodies:

Cabinet  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (at least one)  
Audit and Standards Committee  
Regulatory Committee  
Staff and Pensions Committee

- 1.2 The Cabinet is appointed by the Leader of the Council (who was appointed by Council at the Annual Meeting on 23 May 2017 for a 4-year period and is automatically a member and Chair of Cabinet). A maximum of nine other members may be appointed to the Cabinet and their appointment and portfolios are matters for the Leader. The Leader must also appoint a Deputy Leader from the Cabinet members. The Leader will confirm the appointment of the Cabinet at a Leader Decision Making Session and any changes in the delegations to portfolio holders and support (non-decision making) roles for additional members.

The agenda for the Leader Decision Making session will be circulated to all members for information.

- 1.3 Committees are appointed by the County Council. These are currently (as mentioned above) the Audit and Standards Committee, Regulatory Committee, Staff and Pensions Committee and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

Adult Social Care and Health  
Children and Young People  
Communities  
Resources and Fire & Rescue

This report seeks the Council's confirmation (or amendment) to the current structure, taking account of the rules set out in the following section, and appointments of members to those seats. (The remit of each Committee is set out in the Council's Constitution and available on the Council's website).

- 1.4 Section 3 of this report also seeks confirmation of membership on a number of other member bodies which fall within the responsibility of Council to appoint, including appointments to some strategic external organisations.
- 1.5 Sub-Committees are appointed by their parent Committee. The Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee is appointed by the Staff and Pensions Committee (meeting on the rising of this meeting). The Disbursements Sub-Committee is appointed from time to time by the Strategic Director Resources as required from membership of the Audit and Standards Committee.
- 1.6 The Chairs and Vice Chairs of all Committees will also be appointed at a meeting of each Committee immediately following this Council meeting, other than the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee which has an independent chair (John Bridgeman) and the Council is invited to confirm his appointment.

## **2.0 Allocation of seats between political groups**

- 2.1 The composition of the Council is 34 Conservative Group; 7 Labour Group; 8 Liberal Democrat Group; 2 Green Group; 1 Whitnash Residents Association; 1 Independent Conservative; 1 Independent Conservative; 1 Independent Labour and 2 vacancies.

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that appointments to committees and sub-committees must achieve political balance in their membership. (There are exceptions to this notably for geographically based committees on which all local members sit).

- 2.2 The other ground rules are:

**Committees:** the aggregate allocation of all committee seats must be proportional to the party groups' overall membership on the Council. Within those allocations each individual committee must be split as close to the overall proportions as possible.

**Sub-committees:** the sub-committee is split proportionally – there is no aggregation.

**Panels, Working groups:** the national rules do not apply but the Council has applied the proportionality rule as a matter of good practice.

- 2.3 The overall rules can be set aside in favour of local arrangements provided this is agreed by the Council with no-one voting against it.
- 2.4 The allocation to committees agreed at the Annual meeting in 2019 is set out below and the Council is invited to confirm the allocation of seats for 2020 and make/ confirm membership (completing the tables in the appendix to this report).
- 2.5 Group Leaders are also invited to identify their Group Spokespersons and allocation of Special Responsibility Allowances to their spokespersons. The table below shows the current distribution of seats, the political balance entitlement and the change required to bring back into political balance.

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>GR</b>	<b>WRA</b>	<b>Ind Con</b>	<b>Ind Con</b>	<b>Ind Lab</b>	<b>Vac</b>	<b>Vac</b>	<b>Total</b>
Audit & Standards Committee (6)	4	1	1								6
Regulatory Committee (12)	7	2	2						1		12
Staff & Pensions Committee (6)	4	1	1								6
Adult Social Care & Health (10)	6	2	1			1					10
Children and Young People (10)	6	1	1	1			1				10
Communities (10)	6	2	1	1							10
Resources and Fire & Rescue (10)	6	1	1		1				1		10
2019 Distribution total	39	10	8	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	<b>64</b>
Change	-1	-2	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	-1	+1	
Entitlement Political Balance 2020	38	8	9	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	<b>64</b>

### 3.0 Appointments required to be made/confirmed by Council

The Council is invited to confirm appointments to the committees and bodies set out in the Appendix

#### 3.1 Audit and Standards Committee

The membership of the Audit and Standards Committee is comprised of 6 elected members and two co-opted (independent) members. There is currently a vacancy for one independent member. A recruitment process has been commenced to appoint a replacement independent member. The Committee is chaired by John Bridgeman, one of the independent members. The Council is invited to confirm the appointment of John Bridgeman as the Chair of the Committee.

### 3.2 Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of the Council but the rules regarding proportionality do not apply to the Board which has a mixed membership of councillor and non-councillor (including statutory officer) appointments. The membership is four county councillors which to date has included the Cabinet Portfolio Holders for Adult Social Care and Health and Children's Services plus the Leader of the Council (Chair). The Council also appoints the Chair of the Board.

The current County Councillor membership is:

Conservative: Councillors Les Caborn, Jeff Morgan and Izzi Seccombe

Labour: Councillor Dave Parsons

The current chair of the Board is Cllr Caborn and the Council is invited to confirm his appointment as the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board

### 3.3 Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Council on 18 July 2017 agreed to the establishment of the Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council each has five seats and appointments by each authority reflects the political balance of that authority.

The current County Councillor membership is:

Conservative: Councillors Margaret Bell, Clare Golby and Wallace Redford

Labour: Councillor John Holland

Liberal Democrat: Councillor Jerry Roodhouse

### 3.4 Corporate Parenting Panel

The Council approved a new Corporate Parenting Policy in September 2017. The membership of the Panel now includes the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Children's Services as Chair, plus five other members.

The current membership is:

Conservative: Councillors Pete Gilbert, Jeff Morgan, Chris Williams and Pam Williams

Labour: Councillor Caroline Phillips

Liberal Democrat: Councillor Clive Rickhards

The Council is invited to confirm the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services as the Chair.

### 3.5 Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

This is a statutory body that advises the Cabinet on religious worship and religious education within schools. The membership includes representatives of religious denominations and teacher representatives. The County Council membership is five councillors. There is no statutory requirement for political proportionality.

The current membership is:

Conservative: Councillors Clare Golby, Pam Williams and Parminder Singh Birdi  
Labour: Councillor Caroline Phillips  
Liberal Democrat: Councillor Sarah Boad.

### 3.6 Warwickshire Waste Partnership

The Waste Partnership comprises five County Councillors and a councillor from each of the five district and borough councils. It operates under a Memorandum of Understanding and the Chair is appointed by the Partnership.

The current County Councillor membership is:

Conservative: Councillors Heather Timms, John Horner and Andy Wright.  
Labour: Councillor Neil Dirveiks  
Liberal Democrat: Councillor Jenny Fradgley

### 3.7 Local Pension Board and Fire & Rescue Pension Board

The terms of reference for these two statutory boards specify that the tenure of membership (up to a maximum of nine years) is three years. Each has an independent Chair also appointed for a three-year term. If a member resigns during their term of office the replacement is appointed for three years. Confirmation of re-appointments is for the Scheme Manager (the County Council as the administering authority).

David Buckland is standing down as an employer representative on the LGPS Local Pension Board and his replacement is Mike Snow. There is currently also a vacancy for a Scheme member representative on the LGPS Local Pension Board which is currently being recruited to.

Keith Bray the current independent chair of both the LGPS Local Pension Board and the Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board has indicated a wish to resign as the independent chair of the Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board. A recruitment process is currently underway for a replacement independent chair for this Board, however it is unlikely to be completed in time for this meeting.

There is a vacancy for an Employer representative on the Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board. In addition, Liz Firmstone (Finance Service Manager – Transformation) was originally appointed to the Board as an Employer Representative in July 2018, and her term of office would have expired in July

2021. Due to her change in role it is no longer appropriate for her to be a member of the Board and she has been temporarily replaced by Dawn Suckling (Operational Finance Lead). A second Employer representative is therefore required.

It is proposed that Councillor David Reilly and Dawn Suckling be appointed to the Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board.

The County Council is also asked to confirm that the Employer representatives on the Fire & Rescue Board should be either members or officers of the Council.

The County Council is requested to confirm the appointment of those shown below for a period of three years. The term of office of the remaining members will not expire until at the earliest May 2021.

<i>LGPS Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>
Mike Snow [Employers Rep]	July 2023

<i>Fire &amp; Rescue Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>
Cllr David Reilly	July 2023
Dawn Suckling	July 2023

### 3.8 The Police and Crime Panel

Police and Crime Panels are joint committees of the principal authorities in a police area, which in Warwickshire means the County Council and the five district borough councils. The current membership of the Panel is:

#### County Council Members

Conservative: Councillors Pete Gilbert and Andrew Wright

Labour: Councillor Maggie O'Rourke

Liberal Democrat: Councillors Nicola Davies and Jenny Fradgley

#### District/Borough Members

North Warwickshire Borough Council; Councillor David Reilly (Conservative)

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council: Councillor Tony Watkins (Labour)

Stratford upon Avon District Council: Councillor Sarah Whalley-Hoggins (Conservative)

Rugby Borough Council: Councillor Derek Poole (Conservative)

Warwick District Council: Councillor Ian Davison (Green)

Co-opted Members: Andy Davis and Bob Malloy

The chair is appointed by the Panel and the current chair is Councillor David Reilly.

The composition of the panel has to meet the principle of 'fair representation'. This means that each council within the police area must have at least one member. The composition should also take account of, as far as practical of both political and geographical proportionality. This means the Councillor members, when taken together, should represent all parts of the police area and also represent the political make-up of the relevant authorities when taken together.

### **3.9 Joint Negotiating Bodies**

The Council has two Joint Negotiating Bodies one for staff and one for teachers. Each has four elected members appointed, (two appointments are made by the Leader and two appointments are made by the Council). The current Council appointments on the joint negotiating bodies are -

Joint Staff Negotiating Body – Councillors Neil Dirveiks and Bill Gifford

Joint Teachers Negotiating Body –Councillors Neil Dirveiks and Bill Gifford

### **3.10 Appointment to strategic external bodies**

There is also a need for Council to confirm its appointments to key strategic bodies, namely the Local Government Association, County Councils Network, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Council is invited to appoint to these (see recommendation 8 in the appendix to this report).

## **4.0 Appointments to other external bodies**

There are some appointments to external bodies that are made by the Leader and which the Leader confirm at a Leader decision making session.

## **5.0 Members Allowances Scheme**

An Independent Remuneration Panel undertook a review of the Council's Member Allowances Scheme in 2017. The Panel's report on its findings was considered at the Council meeting on 20 March 2018 and a number of changes were agreed to the Scheme.

If there are any proposed changes in the political management structure and responsibilities this may impact on the allowances payable under the member allowances scheme and members may then need to consider whether any changes should be referred to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## **6.0 Schemes of Delegation**

The Council's Constitution sets out the delegation of powers to member bodies. The Council is invited to confirm these - except in so far as they may be

inconsistent with any changes to the arrangements made for the member bodies set out above.

### Background Information

None

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## Appendix

### Recommendations

1. That the Council confirms the Committee structure and delegations to member bodies and officers as set out in the Constitution
2. That the number of places on Council Committees be as follows

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>GR</b>	<b>WRA</b>	<b>Ind Con</b>	<b>Ind Con</b>	<b>Ind Lab</b>	<b>Vac</b>	<b>Vac</b>	<b>Total</b>
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Change	-1	-2	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	-1	+1	
<b>Political Balance Entitlement 2020</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>

3. That the Council appoints the committees and membership:

*Opposition Group Spokespersons are indicated for Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Sp)*

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>WRA/Ind Vacancy</b>	<b>Total</b>
Audit & Standards Committee (6 +2 co-optees) J Bridgeman * +Vacancy						<b>6</b>
Regulatory Committee						<b>12</b>
Staff and Pensions Committee						<b>6</b>

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>WRA/Ind Vacancy</b>	
Adult Social Care & Health OSC						<b>10</b>
Children & Young People OSC						<b>10</b>
Communities OSC						<b>10</b>
Resources and Fire & Rescue OSC						<b>10</b>
Joint Staff Negotiating Body *Leader appt	*					
Joint Teachers Negotiating Body *Leader appt	*					
Pension Fund Sub-Committee *appointments are made by Staff and Pensions Committee						
Pool of Members to sit on the Appointments Sub-Committees and Staff Appeals Sub-Committees.						

4. (a) That John Bridgeman be confirmed as the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee.

5. (a) That the Council confirms/amends membership to the following bodies:

	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
Health and Wellbeing Board (4)			
Joint Coventry & Warwickshire Health OSC (5)			
Corporate Parenting Panel (6)			
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (5)			
Warwickshire Waste Partnership (5)			

5 (b) That Cllr Caborn is appointed as the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board

(c) That the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services is appointed as the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

6. (a) That the following be appointed to the LGPS Local Pension Board and Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board for a three-year term:

<i>LGPS Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>
Mike Snow [Employers Rep]	July 2023

<i>Fire &amp; Rescue Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>
Cllr David Reilly [Employer Rep]	July 2023
Dawn Suckling [ Employer Rep]	July 2023

(b) That the Council confirms that the Employer Representatives on the Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board should be members or officers of the Warwickshire County Council

7. That the following County Councillors be appointed to the Police and Crime Panel:  
[5 places = 2 Con; 1Lab; 2 LD]

Councillors

8. That the Council confirms/appoints to the following external bodies

	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
LEP (1)			
LGA (4)			
CCN (4)			
LGA Fire Commission			

9. That Council confirms the delegations to officers as set out in the Constitution.
10. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director Resources to make such amendments to the Council's Constitution or other documents as may be required as a consequence of any changes agreed by the Council.