

Bolsover District Council

Council

22 July 2020

Appointment to Committees and Advisory Groups

Report of the Monitoring Officer and Solicitor to the Council

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To establish and appoint Members to the Council's Committees and Advisory Groups for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Coronavirus Act 2020 removes the requirement on Authorities to hold an Annual Meeting and all appointments made in May 2019 stand for the 20/21 Municipal Year. However, the absence of an Annual Meeting in May 2020 meant that the Authority was unable to review its allocation to committees following changes to the political make-up of the Authority.
- 1.2 This report therefore brings forward the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance rules. This is needed following changes to political alignments, and a seat becoming vacant following the sad passing of Councillor Pat Cooper.
- 1.3 **Appendix 1** to the report sets out the allocation of committee seats which best meets the requirements of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as far as is reasonably practicable.
- 1.4 **Appendix 2** amends the current appointments to committees following the changes to allocations as identified in Appendix 1. Political Groups are able to make changes where necessary to their appointments to Committees, and nominations to and removals from committees are requested in some instances.
- 1.5 The Committees are subject to the political balance requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Advisory Groups are not subject to the political balance requirements.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The report recommends that the allocation of Committee seats detailed best meets the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act a far as reasonable practicable.
- 2.2 Existing appointments to Committees are detailed in **Appendix 2** requesting amendments from political groups.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

- 3.1 Statutory officers, the Leader and the Governance Team have be consulted on the political balance.
- 3.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has not been necessary.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 The Council may make amendments to the nominations to committees within the proportionality agreed before and up to the discussion of this matter at the meeting. Mid-year revisions will be brought before a meeting of Council.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

- 5.1.1 None

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

- 5.2.1 The Council is required to decide the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance rules.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

- 5.3.1 None.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the Council agrees the allocation of seats of Committees as detailed in Appendix 1 is in accordance with the political balance rules; and
- 6.2 That the appointment to committees as set out in Appendix 2 be agreed.

7 Decision Information

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p><i>BDC: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/></i> <i>Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/></i></p> <p><i>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/></i> <i>Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/></i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	No
<p>Has the relevant Portfolio Holder been informed</p>	N/A
<p>District Wards Affected</p>	None directly
<p>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</p>	Demonstrating good governance

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Proportionality on Committees
2	Appointments to Committees
<p>Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)</p>	
None	
Report Author	Contact Number
Nicola Calver, Governance Manager	01246 217753