

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 20 May 2026

Report of: Strategic Director for Corporate Resources

Title: Appointment of Members to the Council's Committees

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 To confirm the political proportionality, distribution and appointments to Council committees.
- 1.2 To receive amendments to the nominations from political group leaders to committees 2026/27 municipal year.

2. Recommendations:

- 2.1 That Council approves committee membership changes in accordance with the nominations submitted by the political group leaders at Appendix B.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

- 3.1 A request was received by the Democratic Services Manager from group leaders of the Liberal Democrat and Reform UK groups.

4. What are the resource implications including non-financial resources:

- 4.1 There are no resource implications resulting from the recommendations.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

- 5.1 There are no financial implications for Council to consider.

6. What are the legal aspects?

6.1 Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (the 1989 Act) sets out the duty to allocate seats to political groups. This requires Committees to reflect the political balance of the Council. Where there are changes within the municipal year the legislation states that changes should be made "as soon as practicable". In general, this would be at the next scheduled meeting of Council.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

- 7.1 The content of this report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer.

8. Equality Act 2010 (The Act)

8.1 In recommending this proposal no potential impact has been identified on people with protected characteristics as determined by the Act because it seeks only to make nominations to Council committees.

9. Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

9.1 No direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

10. Report details:

- 10.1 A request was received by the Democratic Services Manager from group leaders of the Liberal Democrat and Reform UK groups in the following terms:
- 10.2 Councillor Sheridan of the Reform UK group to replace Councillor Richards of the Liberal Democrat group on the Planning Committee;
- 10.3 Councillor Richards of the Liberal Democrat group to replace Councillor Payne of the Reform UK group on the Strategic Scrutiny Committee.
- 10.4** In addition, the Liberal Democrat group intend to replace Councillor Kevin Mitchell with Councillor Michael Mitchell on the Audit and Governance Committee.
- 10.5** The changes proposed do not change the political proportionality, demonstrated at Appendix A.

11. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

11.1 Ensuring appointments to committees will contribute to a Well-Run Council.

12. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

12.1 No risks have been identified.

13. Are there any other options?

13.1 None

Strategic Director of Corporate Resources

Author: Liz Smith, Democratic Services Manager

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989

List of Appendices:

- Appendix A – Proportionality Calculation
- Appendix B – Committee Allocations