

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Council
<b>DATE:</b>	24 May 2023
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Council Committees 2023/24
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To establish Council Committees for the municipal year 2023/24
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	No
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	John Medler, Assistant Director Governance and Monitoring Officer
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	N/A
<b>EXEMPT REPORT?</b>	No

#### **SUMMARY**

This report invites the Council to establish its committees and approve their membership for the municipal year 2023/24.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Council:

Approves the establishment of its committees, including the allocation of committee seats as detailed at **Appendix A (to follow)**, and the appointments to committees as detailed at **Appendix B (to follow)**, for the municipal year 2023/24.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To establish the Council's committees for the municipal year 2023/24 in accordance with the provisions set out in the Council's Constitution, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended).

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not to appoint to Council Committees. This is not recommended.

The Council may agree different seat allocation arrangements other than those prescribed by the 1989 Act and the 1990 Regulations. A decision in these circumstances would need to be made with no member voting against it.

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council's Constitution sets out that at the annual meeting, the Council will establish, receive nominations and appoint Councillors to serve on the Council's Committees.
- 1.2 These appointments must be made in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (1989 Act) and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended). This legislation places a duty on the Council to review the representation of each political group on its committees at its annual meeting.

## 2. REPORT

- 2.1 Under Regulation 16 of the 1990 Regulations, where some of the members of the relevant authority are members of one or more political groups and the others are not, the Council's obligations are as follows:
  - i) To determine the proportion of the total membership of the Council who are members of one or more political groups and ensure that the same proportion of the total number of seats to be filled is allocated to each of the political groups in the proportion that the number of members of that group bears to the membership of the authority; and
  - ii) To secure that persons appointed to any seats that do not fall to be allocated to a political group under the above requirement are not allocated to a person who is a member of a political group.
- 2.2 Appendix A (**to follow**) sets out the allocation of committee seats to political groups and non-grouped members based on their proportion of the total membership of the authority.
- 2.3 Having determined the overall seat allocations, the next step is to allocate the seat allocations to individual committees. The 1989 Act requires the Council to apply the following principles in sequential order and **as far as reasonably practicable** when determining seat allocations:
  - a. That not all the seats on a body are allocated to the same political group.
  - b. If the number of persons belonging to a political group is a majority of the authority's membership then the majority of seats on a body are allocated to that political group.

- c. That subject to (a) and (b) the number of seats allocated to a political group on the ordinary committees of the Council should bear the same proportion to all the seats on such ordinary committees as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole;
  - d. That subject to (a), (b) and (c) the number of seats allocated to a political group on a body should bear the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole.
- 2.4 Applying the principles set out in paragraph 2.3 produces the allocation of committee seats set out in Appendix A.
- 2.5 Once the allocation of seats has been determined, there is a duty on the Council to give effect to the allocation by making appointments to seats in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group. The appointments to committee seats, as expressed by Group Leaders, are set out in Appendix B (to follow).

### **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The recommendations within this report support the Council to establish its committees for the municipal year 2023/24.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### **SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS' PARTNERSHIP**

None

#### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

None

#### **STAFFING**

None

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Council is required to allocate seats on the Committees of the Council in accordance with the law relating to political proportionality as set out in the report.

#### **DATA PROTECTION**

None

#### **FINANCIAL**

The costs of delivering the Council's Committee structures are factored into the approved Council budget.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

None

#### **STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES**

Group Leaders are consulted on the committee appointments.

**REPUTATION**

None

**CONTRACTS**

None

**CRIME AND DISORDER**

None

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING**

None

**HEALTH AND WELL BEING**

None

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

**LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER**

None

**ACRONYMS***None***APPENDICES***(If none then insert the word 'None' and delete the below text/boxes).*

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

*APPENDIX A*

Allocation of committee seats (to follow)

*APPENDIX B*

Appointments to committees (to follow)

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

**Document title****Where the document can be viewed**

The Council's Constitution.

[Click here](#)**CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT**

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

<b>REPORT APPROVAL</b>	
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