

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S
REPORT TO COUNCIL**

26 July 2023

Report Title: Changes to Committee Membership – Addendum to Agenda Item 8

Submitted by: Chief Executive

Portfolios: All

Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To advise Members of further changes to committee membership proportionality following a further change in political group membership.

Recommendation

That Council:-

- 1. Note the change in political proportionality on committees arising from the resignation of Cllr Sue Moffat**
- 2. Determine the appointments to committees as detailed in this report.**

Reasons

To ensure that vacancies arising on the Council's committees are appointed to on a politically proportionate basis.

1. Background

- 1.1 In accordance with Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated regulations, seats on the ordinary committees of the Council are to be allocated to the political groups in a manner proportionate to the number of overall seats on council held by each group. A need has arisen to revisit the allocation of committee seats to the political groups, and to make an appointment to a newly acquired committee seat.

2. Issues

- 2.1 Notice has been duly received advising the Proper Officer that Sue Moffat has resigned her seat on the Council for the Audley Ward.
- 2.2 In accordance with Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated regulations, a calculation has been undertaken to reflect the change in group membership. That calculation has determined that there is a need to reduce by one seat the number of seats allocated to the Labour group, and increase by one seat the number of seats allocated to the Conservative group

2.3 In accordance with the council's Constitution, Council is to make appointments to committee seats. In accordance with the relevant legislation, it must do so in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group.

2.4 As a result of the resignation of Sue Moffat vacancies have arisen on Planning Committee and on the Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee. The proportionality calculation indicates that one of these seats should be allocated to a member of the Conservative group and one of these seats should be allocated to the Labour group. Group Leaders have been invited to make nominations to these vacancies and the following nominations have been received:

2.5 Nominations to the Economy & Place Scrutiny Committee - Cllr John Williams (Labour) and Cllr Mark Holland (Conservative).

2.6 Nominations to Planning Committee – No nominations have been received;

3. **Proposal**

That Council:-

- **Note the change in political proportionality on committees arising from the resignation of Cllr Sue Moffat**
- **Determine the appointments to committees as detailed in this report.**

4. **Reasons for Proposed Solution**

4.1 To ensure that the proportion of seats on committees reflects the political proportionality of the Council.

5. **Options Considered**

5.1 None.

6. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

6.1 These are set out in the body of the report.

7. **Equality Impact Assessment**

7.1 There is no requirement for an EIA to be undertaken in connection with this decision. Nominations to committee seats are made by Group Leaders who will have regard to equality and diversity considerations when making their nominations.

8. **Financial and Resource Implications**

8.1 None.

9. **Major Risks**

9.1 None.

10. **Sustainability and Climate Change Implications**

10.1 None.

11. **Key Decision Information**

11.1 This is not a Key Decision.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

12.1 Not Applicable.

13. **List of Appendices**

13.1 Not Applicable.

14. **Background Papers**

14.1 Not Applicable.