

Committee: Council

Date: 5 February 2020

Subject: Changes to Membership of Committees and related matters

Lead officer: Ged Curran, Chief Executive

Contact officer: Louise Fleming, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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Recommendations:

1. That the Council approves the re-appointment of Councillor Adam Bush as Vice-Chair of the Pension Fund Investment Advisory Panel.
 2. That the Council notes that the Merton Heritage Forum agreed at its meeting on 15 October 2019 to dissolve and no longer meet as a constituted body with immediate effect; and agree that the Terms of Reference of the Forum are removed from the Council's Constitution.
 3. That the Council notes the changes to the membership of Committees that were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Council.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report seeks Council's approval for appointments to committee places and asks Council to note the changes made to committee membership under delegated authority since the publication of the agenda for the last ordinary Council meeting on 18 September 2019.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. Following the resignation of David Williams and the reinstatement of Councillor Adam Bush on the Pension Fund Advisory Panel, the Council is requested to approve the reappointment of Councillor Adam Bush as Vice-Chair.
- 2.2. At its meeting on 15 October 2019, the Merton Heritage Forum agreed to dissolve as a formally constituted body with immediate effect. The body is likely to continue as a community led forum by stake holder groups. The community approach will ensure that the forum is more relevant to stake holders' interests and maintains the ability for groups to network and share best practice. Therefore there will be no further meetings of the Forum and it is proposed that the Constitution be updated to remove the Terms of Reference for this body. Officers have reviewed proportionality as a result of the dissolution of the Forum and this has resulted in no overall change to political proportionality. The minutes of the meeting are attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.3. The following membership changes have been made by the Chief Executive under his delegated authority in accordance with section 1.4 of part 3F of the Constitution:

Committee	Member resigning	Replaced by	Date
Pension Fund Advisory Panel	Adam Bush	David Williams	19 September 2019
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Vacancy	Dennis Pearce	30 September 2019
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Marsie Skeete	Brenda Fraser	1 October 2019
Pension Fund Advisory Panel	David Williams	Adam Bush	15 October 2019
Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel	Brenda Fraser	Marsie Skeete	28 November 2019

3 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

3.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

4.1. None for the purposes of this report.

5 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The information regarding membership changes in this report complies with legal and statutory requirements. Council is required to accept nominations made by political groups.
- 5.2. The Housing and Local Government Act 1989 contains provisions relating to the political balance on committees, the duty to allocate seats to political groups and the duty to give effect to allocations.
- 5.3. The Council has a statutory duty to review the representations of different political groups on the Council in order to ensure that a political balance is secured on council committees so as to reflect the overall political composition of the council.
- 5.4. The requirement to allocate seats must be made in accordance with the following statutory principles:
 - a) All of the seats are not to be allocated to the same political group.
 - b) The majority of the seats must be allocated to the political group with a majority on the Council.
 - c) Subject to the two principles listed above, the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary committees of the Council allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to that on full Council.

6 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

6.1. None for the purposes of this report.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1. N/A

9 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

9.1 Appendix 1 – Minutes of the Merton Heritage Forum 15 October 2019.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Documents from the authorised officer confirming approval of the membership changes agreed under delegated authority.

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