

Committee: Council

Date: 15 September 2021

Subject: Changes to Membership of Committees and related matters

Lead officer: Hannah Doody, Chief Executive

Contact officer: Amy Dumitrescu, Democracy Services Manager

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Recommendations:

1. That the Council notes the changes to the membership of Committees that were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Council.
 2. Agrees the appointment of members to seats on Committees and sub-committees in Appendix A
 3. Agrees the appointment of members to seats on the consultative forums and other bodies set out in Appendix B
 4. agrees the allocation of seats and appointments to the outside organisations as detailed in Appendix C.
 5. Notes the changes to the appointments to the Cabinet including their respective portfolios (Appendix D);
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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 7 July 2021.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The following membership changes have been made by the Chief Executive under their delegated authority in accordance with section 1.4 of part 3F of the Constitution:

Committee	Member resigning	Replaced by	Date
Borough Plan Advisory Committee	Cllr Najeeb Latif	Cllr Daniel Holden	30 June 2021

- 2.2 The Leader has given notice of changes made by him to the membership of the Cabinet which now comprises the councillors listed in appendix A together with details of their portfolios.

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. Under the Council's constitution the Chief Executive may make appointments to committees at the request of group leaders between meetings of the Council, such appointments to be confirmed at the next available meeting of the Council..

5.2. Appointments to the Cabinet are a matter for the Leader so the changes made by him in July are simply for the Council to note.

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 A – Committees and sub-committees and allocation of seats to political groups (To follow)

9.2 Appendix B – Consultative and other bodies to be constituted and allocation of seats to political groups (To follow)

9.3 Appendix C – Allocation of seats on outside organisations (To follow)

9.4 Appendix D - Executive Leader's appointments to the Cabinet and their respective portfolios

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Leader of the Council – Mark Allison

- Chair of Cabinet
- Leader of the Council

**Joint Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Education
– Eleanor Stringer**

- Joint Deputy Leader of the Council
- Overarching management of education
- Leading on the planning, development and expansion of the schools estate
- Raising standards at each key stage in schools, especially GCSE KS4, and minimising the impact of austerity on educational outcomes
- Championing fair access and leading on strategic schools' issues
- Responsibility for Smart Centre (PRU) and exclusions and improving transitions into mainstream education, work and training.
- Governor training and support
- Leading across the 14-19 agenda including skills
- Covering the full statutory role as lead member for Children
- Development of the Children's Trust
- Children's care services and disabled children, including SEND
- Early years and childcare, extended schools and children's centres
- Leading on improvement in youth services. Responsible for youth justice, and engaging young people in the life of the community eg Youth Parliament
- Corporate parenting and ensuring our looked after children succeed
- Strong safeguarding through Local Safeguarding Children's Board partnership.
- Supporting families to stay together wherever appropriate, and promoting security and stability when children do come into our care
- Joint responsibility for Merton's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy

**Joint Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance, Recovery and the
Local Economy – Owen Pritchard**

- Joint Deputy Leader of the Council.
- Leading on the Council's recovery agenda.

- Leading on performance monitoring and Service Planning.
- Member Lead on the Merton the Place, a place-based vision for the borough's recovery from Covid-19, working with the Modernising Merton Lead Member
- Responsible for effective communication with residents.
- Responsible for implementation and roll out of CRM project.
- Lead Member on Strategic infrastructure development in the borough.
- Leading on efforts to boost trade and the local economy in town centres, supporting small businesses, markets and Business Improvement Districts.

Cabinet Member for Local Environment and Green Spaces – Natasha Irons

- Increasing recycling rates and overseeing the council's waste strategy and street cleaning services
- Ensuring contracts uphold best possible outcomes in effective management of waste and street cleansing.
- Focus on streetscene improvement, including initiatives around HMOs/flats above shops.
- Promoting campaigns against environmental crimes (fly-tipping, litter).
- Leading on parks and use of the borough's greenspaces.
- Ensuring management of contracts for parks and open spaces.
- Encouraging sustainable activity by local community groups in parks and open spaces.
- Responsibility for allotments and cemeteries

Cabinet Member for Women and Equalities – Marsie Skeete

- Ensuring all equalities strands (sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, religion/belief, age, marriage and civil partnerships) are embedded throughout council performance and the impact on these groups of austerity is minimised
- Oversight of the Council's Equality Strategy and Equality Impact Assessments and drawing up an Equalities Charter
- Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minorities
- Assessing the needs of the borough's EU citizens as the UK exits the EU
- Supporting the Merton Council staff BAME Forum
- Joint responsibility for Merton's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy
- Support and development of the LGBT+ forum
- Support and development of the Faith and Belief Forum

- Overseeing community engagement, including Community Plan, increased participation in local decision making and increasing social capital
- Overseeing the council's community partnerships, including specific focus on the voluntary sector.
- Leading on the management of grants to community groups and decisions of Grants Committee
- Chair of the Merton Compact Board.
- Overseeing voluntary sector organisations applying to become Refugee Community Sponsors.

Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration and the Climate Emergency – Martin Whelton

- Council lead on the Climate emergency
- Chair of Climate Change Implementation Committee
- Responsible for building links with residents, businesses and community groups to reduce carbon.
- Leading on regeneration and neighbourhood renewal initiatives.
- Overall responsibility for planning policy.
- Leading on the development of the Local Plan.
- Responsible for housing strategy, developing relations with Housing Associations and promoting the needs of tenants and leaseholders.
- Ensuring delivery of promises by Clarion Housing.
- Overseeing monitoring and enforcement of HMOs and rogue landlords
- Overseeing major projects in town centres.
- Building a vision in conjunction with local residents for the future of our neighbourhoods.
- Overall responsibility for development and building control and spatial policy.
- Transport planning including Crossrail 2, and liaison with Transport for London.
- Leading on traffic and highways.

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health – Rebecca Lanning

- Community care services, including relationships with the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Primary Care Network (PCN), Integrated Care System (ICS), wider health organisations including the voluntary sector in addition to protecting local health services.

- Social services for adults and services for adults with learning disabilities.
- Lead on dementia and mental health services.
- Leading on personalisation and choice issues.
- Older people's services including support for carers, day care for the elderly and meals on wheels, working alongside the National Health Service.
- Lead on Public Health and healthy living schemes.
- Lead member for Air Quality and sustainable transport, including school streets, cycling and LTNs, and for parking services and overseeing the council's parking management strategy.
- Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Lead member for addressing food poverty.

Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Skills – Brenda Fraser

- Leading on libraries including maximising use of library buildings
- Overseeing leisure operations and development
- Liaising with businesses and cultural organisations to embed culture in regeneration plans
- Leading on apprenticeships and training.
- Leading on the adult education service.
- Business opportunities in heritage and tourism
- Leading on trading standards and commercial environmental health
- Working with organisations in the borough's thriving arts and cultural Communities

Cabinet Member for Partnerships, Public Safety and Tackling Crime – Agatha Akyigyina

- Reducing the threat of crime and anti-social behaviour in Merton and working closely with Police and Community Safety partnerships
- Leading on a knife crime strategy for the borough
- Point of contact with Borough Command Unit and Deputy Mayor for Crime and Safety
- Overseeing CCTV operations
- Joint responsibility for Merton's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy
- Oversight of the Council's Preventing Violent Extremism strategy
- Support and development of Merton's Armed Forces Community Covenant

Cabinet Member for Finance – Tobin Byers

- Leading on the budget, including the development of revenue, capital and debt management strategies
- Responsible for corporate finance, IT and audit, human resources, civic and legal services, and risk management
- Lead on asset management, driving improvements in council performance and leading budget and finance performance review meetings
- Leading on Modernising Merton, the change management agenda with responsibility for driving through value for money and efficiency within the council, working with the Merton the Place Lead Member
- Overseeing the Council Commissioning strategy
- Monitoring progress of council wide strategic approach to customer services and community support and access.
- Monitoring the implications of Brexit on Merton Council, working alongside the Cabinet Member for Women and Equalities

Note: All Cabinet Members are also responsible as Corporate Parents for children in the care of the Council

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