

OPEN

Corporate Policy Committee

21 August 2024

Membership of decision making and other bodies, chairs and vice chairs

Report of: Director of Governance and Compliance, David Brown

Report Reference No: CPC/27/24-25

Ward(s) Affected: all wards

Purpose of Report

- 1 To inform the Committee of changes to the memberships of committees and sub-committees, chairs and vice chairs, member champions and to seek agreement to membership changes of outside bodies. This aligns with the Cheshire East Plan 2024-25 aim of being an open and enabling organisation.

Executive Summary

- 2 The change in Council leadership on 17 July 2024 necessitated a change to a committee chair, but also created the opportunity for changes to be made to committee memberships, and changes to outside organisation memberships.
- 3 Under the Council's Constitution, in-year committee membership changes, and changes to chairs and vice chairs of committees can simply be notified to officers, but changes to memberships of outside organisations must be approved by committees. As the Corporate Policy Committee has cross-cutting powers, it is the appropriate committee to receive this report and to agree such changes as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Corporate Policy Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the changes to chairs, vice chairs and member champions as set out in the Appendix to this report.
2. Agree the proposed changes to outside organisations as set out in the Appendix to this report.

Background

- 4 On 17 July 2024, the leadership of the Council changed, which created the need, and provided an opportunity, for changes to be made to committee and sub-committee chairs and vice chairs, and to their memberships. Outside organisation memberships have also been reviewed and changes to them must be agreed by the committee.
- 5 The Council's Constitution provides for in-year changes to chairs, vice chairs and committee/sub-committee memberships to be formally made, by written notification to officers. The Appendix to this report details the changes to Chairs and Vice Chairs, which can be made available to all members. The committee is asked to note these changes.
- 6 With regard to in-year changes to memberships of outside organisations, these must be formally agreed by the committee. Details are set out in the Appendix to this report, and the committee is asked to agree them.

Consultation and Engagement

- 7 Apart from consultation with officers, no other consultation was required, or necessary. The changes referred-to in paragraph 4 are a matter for members and the Corporate Policy Committee.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 8 The recommendations of this report have been made as it became necessary to make changes, as set out in paragraph 4, as a consequence of the change in Council leadership on 17 July. As it is an aim of the Cheshire East Plan 2024-25 that the Council should be an open and enabling organisation, it is appropriate for a report to be made to the committee, in public, detailing these changes.

Other Options Considered

- 9 Whilst one option would have been not to report the changes to the committee, this would not have been in line with the Council’s Constitution, nor would it have been in line with the Council’s Cheshire East Plan 2024-25 aims.

Option	Impact	Risk
Do nothing	Non-aligned with the Constitution and Cheshire East Plan 2024-25 aims	Failure to be open and enabling and the public would not be informed of the recommended changes
As recommended	Aligned with the Constitution and Cheshire East Plan 2024-25 aims	No identifiable risks.

Implications and Comments

Monitoring Officer/Legal

- 10 The legal and constitutional position is as set out in the report. Certain of the changes to membership and/or Chair of committees and outside bodies, resulting from the appointment of a new Leader of the Council will occur by way of automatic transfer but others will require new formal appointment by the relevant committee or body. For outside organisations, appointment will also be led by their own constitutional arrangements.

Section 151 Officer/Finance

- 11 A budget of £1,551,990 exists on cost centre E810010 to meet the cost of Members Allowances. This budget is currently forecast to underspend by approximately 10% so there is some flexibility to meet additional costs that this change may result in without impacting on the Council’s approved budget/ Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

Policy

- 12 Reporting the changes which arise from the change in Council leadership ensure that officers, Members, and members of the public have full information about who are members of the Council’s committees, sub-committees and outside organisations, and who is responsible for chairing them.

<p>An open and enabling organisation</p> <p>The relevant priority is P1.1, which is to ensure that there is transparency in all aspects of Council decision-making.</p>	<p>A council which empowers and cares about people</p> <p>No direct link to the report recommendations.</p>	<p>A thriving and sustainable place</p> <p>No direct link to the report recommendations.</p>
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Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

13 No direct implications.

Human Resources

14 No direct implications.

Risk Management

15 No direct implications.

Rural Communities

16 No direct implications.

Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

17 No direct implications.

Public Health

16 No direct implications.

Climate Change

17 No direct implications.

<p>Access to Information</p>	
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Appendices:	Appendix 1 - which shows the changes identified in paragraph 4 of the report
Background Papers:	The Council's Constitution and published list of chairs, vice chairs, and memberships of committees, sub-committees and outside organisations