

Children and Families Committee

Date of Meeting:	23 May 2022
Report Title:	Appointments to Sub-Committees, Working Groups, Panels, Boards and Joint Committees
Report of:	Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services and Governance
Report Reference No:	CF/48/22-23
Ward(s) Affected:	No specific wards

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** This report seeks approval from the Children and Families Committee to appoint members to the Corporate Parenting Committee, the Local Authority School Governor Nominations Sub-committee and to nominate a member to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1** The Council, at its annual meeting on 18 May 2022, is due to approve the political representation on its main committees. The appointment of certain sub-committees, working groups, panels and boards is a matter for the relevant service committees. This report concerns those bodies which fall to be appointed by the Children and Families Committee or by the committee in conjunction with other service committees. Where political proportionality is applicable, the agreed conventions and methods of calculation have been applied.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the committee appoints the bodies referred to in this report; agrees the political representation on such bodies; agrees that the names of members appointed to them will be submitted to the Head of Democratic Services and Governance; and makes other appointments as indicated in this report.

4. Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The Committee is responsible for the appointment of those sub-committees, working groups, panels and/or boards referred to in this report.

5. Other Options Considered

- 5.1.1 Not applicable.

6. Background

A. Bodies which report to the Children and Families Committee

1. Corporate Parenting Committee

The Constitution provides that the lead service committee in respect of the Corporate Parenting Committee will be the Children and Families Committee. The Corporate Parenting Committee will meet on a bi-monthly basis, report to the Children and Families Committee on at least an annual basis, and review its terms of reference annually. (Please see Appendix 1 for the terms of reference). The membership (12 members) of the Corporate Parenting Committee is required to be formally ratified by the Children and Families Committee.

In 2021 the Children and Families Committee also chose to appoint an associate non-voting member to the Corporate Parenting Committee. This was to allow a longstanding Lib Dem Member to remain part of the Committee. Due to a change in political proportionality, there is now a formal voting Liberal Democrat position on this committee and, therefore, there is no need to repeat this arrangement for 2022-23. Taking into account the changed political proportionalities, the following is the recommendation to the Committee:

Recommendation: That the Children and Families Committee appoints members to the Corporate Parenting Committee as follows: Con:4; Lab:4; Ind:3; Lib Dem:1; R. Ind:0; NGI:0

2. The agreed Transitional Arrangements provide that the Local Authority School Governor Appointments Panel will be a sub-committee of the Children and Families Committee. The terms of reference of the Sub-Committee include the requirement to make arrangements for the nomination of school governors (please see Appendix 2 for the terms of reference). The membership (5 members) of the Sub-Committee is required to be formally ratified by the Children and Families Committee.

Recommendation: That the Children and Families Committee appoints the Local Authority School Governor Appointments Sub-Committee with a membership of 5; the proportionalities being as follows: Con:2; Lab:2; Ind:1; Lib Dem:0; R. Ind:0; NGI:0.

The current Members are:

Conservative:

Councillor Michael Beanland
Councillor George Hayes

Labour:

Councillor Stephen Carter (Chair)
Councillor Alift Harewood

Independent:

Councillor David Edwardes

B. Other Bodies to which the Children and Families Committee is required to make appointments

Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board

Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board is a joint board to which this Council appoints three councillors as voting members. The Transitional Provisions provide that the lead service committee in respect of this board will be the Adults and Health Committee; and the three Council nominees to the board will be formally nominated by the Adults and Health Committee, the Corporate Policy Committee, and the Children and Families Committee. (Please see Appendix 3 for the terms of reference). There are no specific criteria which apply to the appointment.

Recommendation: That the Children and Families Committee nominates one member to the Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board.

The current Member is Councillor Carol Bulman.

7. Implications

7.1 Legal

7.1.1 The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, made pursuant to the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, make provisions in respect of the political group representation on a local authority's committees in relation to the overall political composition of the Council. The legislation applies to the decision making committees and sub-committees of the Council.

7.1.2 The legislation requires that, where proportionality applies, and seats are allocated to different political groups, the authority must abide by the following principles, so far as is reasonably practicable:

7.1.2.1 Not all of the seats can be allocated to the same political Group (i.e. there are no single group committees).

7.1.2.2 The majority of the seats on the body are to be allocated to a political Group with a majority membership of the authority.

- 7.1.2.3 The total number of seats on all ordinary committees and sub committees allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the proportion on the full Council.
- 7.1.2.4 The number of seats on each ordinary committee allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the proportion on full Council.
- 7.1.3 The proposals contained in this report meet the requirements of the legislation.
- 7.1.4 The 1990 Regulations require Political Group Leaders to notify the Proper Officer of the Groups' nominations to the bodies in question.
- 7.1. **Finance**
- 7.2.1 There are no financial implications that require an amendment to the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 7.2. **Policy**
- 7.3.1 There are no direct implications for policy.
- 7.3. **Equality**
- 7.4.1 There are no direct implications for equality.
- 7.4. **Human Resources**
- 7.5.1 There are no direct human resource implications.
- 7.5. **Risk Management**
- 7.6.1 Failure to comply with the Act and Regulations when appointing its committee memberships would leave the Council open to legal challenge.
- 7.6. **Rural Communities**
- 7.7.1 There are no direct implications for rural communities.
- 7.7. **Children and Young People/Cared for Children**
- 7.8.1 There are no direct implications for children and young people/cared for children.
- 7.8. **Public Health**
- 7.9.1 There are no direct implications for public health.
- 7.9. **Climate Change**
- 7.10.1 There are no direct climate change implications.

Access to Information	
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Appendices:	Appendix 1: Terms of Reference for the Corporate Parenting Committee Appendix 2 Terms of Reference for the Local Authority School Governor Nominations Panel Appendix 3: Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board
Background Papers:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer.