

**Report for:** Full Council 17 January 2022

**Title:** **Change to Appointments to Committees 2021/22**

**Authorised by:** Fiona Alderman, Head of Legal and Governance & Monitoring Officer

**Lead Officer:** Ayshe Simsek Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager  
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**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/  
Non-Key Decision:** Non-Key Decision

### **1. Describe the issue under consideration.**

- 1.1 At Annual Council on 27 May, appointments were made to Committees, a responsibility reserved to it by the Constitution.
- 1.2 On the 29<sup>th</sup> of November, Cllr Erdal Dogan was appointed to the Cabinet as Cabinet Member for Stronger and Safer Communities and resigned from the membership of the Corporate Committee and Standards Committee.
- 1.3 The Labour Group Chief Whip has indicated that, in accordance with the Labour Group wishes, Cllr Barbara Blake should fill the vacancy of Deputy Chair on Corporate Committee and Cllr Peter Mitchell should fill the vacancy on Standards Committee

### **2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

N/A

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 It is recommended that Councillor Barbara Blake be appointed to the Corporate Committee as Vice Chair.
- 3.2 It is recommended that Cllr Peter Mitchell be appointed to the Standards Committee.

### **4. Background information**

- 4.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Full Council makes appointments to Committees and Sub-Committees in accordance with Article 4.02(l) of the Constitution. In line with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, Committees are constituted in accordance with the Council's political balance.
- 4.2 The membership of the Corporate Committee and Standards Committee must be constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 in terms of political balance. The

Labour group has 73.2% of the total number of seats and the Liberal Democrat group have 26.8%.

- 4.3 Where practicable, the allocation of seats on Committees should be in line with the proportion of seats on the Council held by the political groups. The rule about proportionate allocation of seats on bodies overall takes precedence over the rule about proportionate allocation on any individual body. The number of seats on the Corporate Committee is 11 with 8 seats allocated to the Labour group and 3 seats allocated to the Liberal Democrat group according to political proportionality. The number of seats on the Standards Committee is 5 with 4 allocated to Labour and 1 to the Liberal Democrat Group.

## **5. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities) Finance and Procurement**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

### **Head of Legal and Governance & Monitoring Officer**

- 5.2 The report sets out those Council bodies to which the political balance rules apply. The 1989 Act requires political balance in the distribution of seats on committees to be undertaken “so far as is reasonably practicable” thus recognising that a mathematically precise split between political parties cannot always be achieved.
- 5.3 In section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, principle (b) states that a party with a majority on full Council shall have a majority of seats on each individual body. This principle takes precedence over principles (c) and (d) which require political groups to be represented on the ordinary committees taken as a whole and on the bodies individually in proportion to their representation on Full Council.
- 5.4 Principle (c) concerning proportionate allocation of seats across all the ordinary committees of the council takes precedence over the principle (d) concerning proportionate allocation on any individual body.

## **6. Use of Appendices**

**None**

## **7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

- 7.1 Background documents:
- *Appointments to Cttees 2021- 22*
  - *Haringey Council's Constitution*
- 7.2 The background papers are located at River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, London N22 8HQ.
- 7.3 To inspect them or to discuss this report further, please contact Ayshe Simsek on 0208 489 2929.