

Report to Full Council
24 February 2022

Agenda Item: 6

# REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

# **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

# **Purpose of the Report**

1. Following the outcome of the by-election to be held on 17 February 2022 once known, Council will be asked to agree the revised allocation of committee seats, to ensure political proportionality.

#### Information

- 2. The County Council is under a duty to review the allocation of committee seats to political Groups where there is a change to the membership of political Groups.
- 3. In determining the composition of Committees, account must be taken of the requirements of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. This requires that seats on Committees and Sub-Committees are allocated to the political Groups of the Council in a way which reflects the overall balance on the Council. The advice of the Monitoring Officer is that to comply with legislative requirements the allocation of seats should be based on overall seat numbers rather than on individual committee numbers.
- 4. The outcome of the Collingham by-election, when known, will result in a need to reconsider the current allocation of committee seats. An addendum to this report will be circulated once the outcome of the by-election is known and the impact on political balance and seat allocations has been calculated.

# **Other Options Considered**

5. None

#### Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. To meet the Council's duty to review the allocation of seats to political groups on a change in political group membership, in order to ensure seat allocation is made in accordance with the principles of proportionality prescribed by law.

# **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty,

safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

#### RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the Council confirm the revised allocation of committee seats as set out in Appendix A (once circulated).

# **Anthony May Chief Executive**

## For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Marjorie Toward, Service Director, Customers, Governance and Employees and Monitoring Officer

# **Constitutional Comments (HD 15/02/2022)**

8. The proposals set out in this report fall within the remit of Full Council.

## Financial Comments (RWK 10/02/2022)

9. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

#### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Establishment of Committees report to Full Council 27 May 2021 (published)
- Membership of Committees report to Full Council 25 November 2021 (published)

#### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All