

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES - ADDENDUM**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. Following the Collingham by-election on 17 February 2022 and the reported changes in membership of political Groups earlier in the agenda, this report sets out proposed revisions to the 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. As detailed in a previous report, Councillor Debbie Darby has joined the Independent Alliance Group and this has changed the overall political balance of the Council.
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. In order to comply with legislative requirements, changes are proposed to the allocation of committee seats as set out in Appendix A.
5. Appropriate checks have also been made regarding the members nominated by the Council to sit on the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority; however, no changes are required to the current arrangements to meet the requirements of political balance.

#### **Other Options Considered**

6. It is possible to allocate the discretionary allocation of seats in a number of different permutations, but any allocation must still meet the principles set out in paragraph 3 above as far as is practical.

#### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. 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**

8. 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.

**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)**

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

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

10. 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