

Report of:	Executive Member for Finance and Governance and Director of Legal and Governance Services
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	30 November 2022
Title:	Vacancies on Committees and Outside Body
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Strategic priority:	All
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Urgent:	No
Why:	Not applicable

Executive summary

To seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on committees and scrutiny panels as a result of resignations from Committees and an Outside Body.

Purpose

1. To seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on committees/scrutiny panels/outside body, following member's resignations from those bodies.

Background and relevant information

2. Following resignations from Committees and Outside bodies, a number of vacancies exist. In accordance with the Constitution, Council is required to consider and approve nominations for appointment to the vacancies.

What decision(s) are being recommended?

3. That the Council:

Subject to receipt of nominations to the following vacancies, approves the places allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and other councillors and fills the following vacancies:

Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group

1 Vacancy (initially for Labour)

Ad hoc Scrutiny Panel

2 Vacancies (initially open to 1 MIG and 1 MICA Member)

Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel

1 Vacancy (initially for Labour)

Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel

1 Vacancy open to all Members

Economic Development Environment & infrastructure Scrutiny Panel

1 Vacancy on the panel open to all Members – 1 nomination - Councillor Dodds

Vacancy for Chair of Economic Development Environment & infrastructure Scrutiny Panel (**must be a member of the above Panel**) (Current membership: Councillors Arundale, Branson, Furness, Hellaoui, Hubbard, Mawston, Saunders and Thompson plus the member appointed as a result of the vacancy on the panel).

1 nomination for Chair: Councillor Arundale

South Tees Health Scrutiny Committee

1 Vacancy (initially open to Independent Member)

Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Committee

1 Vacancy (initially for MICA/MIG Member)

Licensing Committee

1 Vacancy (initially for MIG Member)

Tees Valley Audit and Governance Committee (Substitute)

1 Vacancy for Labour Member

Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

4. In accordance with the Constitution, Council is required to appoint to any vacant places on Committees or Outside Bodies to ensure that all meetings will be quorate.

Other potential decision(s) and why these have not been recommended

5. Do Nothing: This option could result in meetings becoming inquorate and could result in the decision-making process being delayed.

Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Legal

6. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that the Council periodically reviews the political composition of the Council, and how this is applied to appointments to committees and sub-committees of the Council.
7. The rules for securing political balance on committees and sub-committees appointed by local authorities are contained in sections 15 and 16 of the Act and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
8. The Council is under a duty to:
 - (a) Ensure that the membership of those committees and sub-committees covered by the rules reflect the political composition of the Council, as far as practicable.
 - (b) Review the allocation of seats to political groups at or as soon as practical after the Annual Council meeting and at certain other specified times for example, as a result of changes in political balance or an increase in the number of committees established.

Strategic priorities and risks

9. The relevant risks this decision would influence are cited below, with an explanation as to why they are relevant and how it would affect each risk.

Risk No	Risk Description	Impact

O8-054	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement.	By ensuring that meetings are quorate then the Council is ensuring that good governance is in place and in line with the requirements of the Council's constitution so this would have a positive impact on this risk.
O8-055	If the Council doesn't respond effectively and efficiently to legislative changes it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities.	The Council has a duty to ensure that the membership of the committees and sub committees are covered and is required to appoint to any vacant places to ensure that all meetings remain quorate. This will have a positive impact on this risk as the Council is fulfilling its duties.

Human Rights, Equality and Data Protection

9. The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Financial

10. There are no financial implications arising from the content of this report.

Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Add Members to Committees	Democratic Services Officers	7 December 2022

Appendices

1	
2	
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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