

Allerdale Borough Council

Council – 19 September 2018

Changes to Committee Memberships

The Reason for the Decision	To approve changes to committee memberships in line with sections 15, 16 and 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, following Councillor John Cook's resignation from the Independent Group to join the Conservative Group.
Summary of options considered	<p>To approve changes to committee memberships</p> <p>Not to approve changes to committee memberships</p>
Recommendations	<p>That the following changes be made to committee memberships:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the distribution of seats across committees as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report be approved, to accord with the rules on proportionality as far as is practicable2. Councillor John Cook be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Conservative Group to replace one of the two Independent Group councillors; Bill Finlay or Hilary Harrington - to be confirmed at the meeting3. An Independent Group member be appointed to the Audit Committee to replace Councillor John Cook4. An Independent Group member be appointed to the Chief Officers Employment Panel to replace

Councillor John Cook

5. An Independent Group member be appointed to the Personnel Tribunal to replace Councillor John Cook

Financial / Resource Implications

Travel and subsistence will be met from within the existing budget

Legal / Governance Implications

Appointments to committees are made in line with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990

Community Safety Implications

There are no community safety implications arising from this report

Health and Safety and Risk Management Implications

There are no health and safety and risk management implications arising from this report

Equality Duty considered / Impact Assessment completed

The Equality Duty has been considered

Wards Affected

None

The contribution this decision would make to the Council's priorities

Representation on committees clearly defines roles and responsibilities and enhances accountability

Is this a Key Decision

No

Portfolio Holder

Councillor Joan Ellis, Governance & People Resources

Lead Officer

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Report Implications

Community Safety	N	Employment (external to the Council)	N
Financial	N	Employment (internal)	N
Legal	Y	Partnership	Y

Social Inclusion	N	Asset Management	N
Equality Duty	N	Health and Safety	N

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Councillor John Cook resigned from the Independent Group on 3 September 2018 and joined the Conservative Group.

1.2 The political make-up of the Council and entitlement to seats across committees is now as follows:

Political Group	Seats on Council	Entitlement to Seats
Labour	28	33
Conservative	16	19
Independents	6	8
J Sandwith - UKIP	1	1
None		
J Holliday	1	1
W Jefferson	1	1
D Robertson	1	1
S Stoddart	1	1
D Wilson	1	1
Total	56	66

1.3 There are a total of 66 seats across the Council's committees as shown:

Committee	Seats
Audit Committee	7
Chief Officer's Employment Panel	5
Development Panel	12
Discretionary Housing Payments Tribunal	3
Licensing Committee	15
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	12
Personnel Tribunal	5
Standards Committee	7
Total	66

1.4 Due to the reconfiguration of seats the Independent Group has lost a seat on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to the Conservative Group.

1.5 The Conservative group have gained a seat on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and have nominated Councillor John Cook.

1.6 The Independent Group are asked to nominate a member to be appointed to the Audit Committee, a member to the Chief Officers Employment Panel and a member to the Personnel Tribunal, to replace Councillor Cook in accordance with the politically proportionate provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

2.0 Recommendations

That the following changes be made to committee memberships:

- 2.1 That the distribution of seats across committees as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report be approved, to accord with the rules on proportionality as far as is practicable
- 2.2 Councillor John Cook be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Conservative Group to replace one of the two Independent group councillors; Bill Finlay or Hilary Harrington - to be confirmed at the meeting
- 2.3 An Independent Group member be appointed to the Audit Committee to replace Councillor John Cook
- 2.4 An Independent Group member be appointed to the Chief Officers Employment Panel to replace Councillor John Cook
- 2.5 An Independent Group member be appointed to the Personnel Tribunal to replace Councillor John Cook

Sharon Sewell
Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer