

Subject:	Political Balance, Committees and Outside Bodies		Status:	For Publication	
Report to:	Annual Council		Date:	17 th May 2024	
Report of:	Chief Executive		Portfolio Holder:	Leader of the Council	
Key Decision:	No - reserved for Council	Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality Impact Assessment:		Required:	No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment:		Required:	No	Attached:	No
Contact Officer:	Carolyn Sharples		Telephone:	01706 252422	
Email:	carolynsharples@rossendalebc.gov.uk				

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council confirms appointments proposed by the various political groups as set out in the following appendices:

- Appendix A - Draft political balance calculation
- Appendix B - Draft committees of the Council, working groups, member champions and other meetings.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Following the elections the Council has a new political balance (Appendix A).
- The appointments to committees for 2024/25 reflects this new balance (Appendix B).
- Appendix B also details:
 - Cabinet appointments
 - Chair/vice-chair appointments
 - Member Champion appointments
 - Working group and other appointments
 - Co-opted Member and Independent Person appointments

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council is required to confirm the political balance following the elections and agree committee appointments in order to conduct its business.

4. DETAILS

4.1 At each Annual Meeting the Council agrees the appointments for the coming municipal year and this document (Appendix B) sets out the number of appointments which need to be made.

4.2 There are strict rules on political balance/proportionality, which apply to appointments to decision making bodies of the Council. Appendix A illustrates the political balance.

4.3 Political balance does not apply to the Cabinet which may be either single or multi party.

4.4 The proposals of the Council's various political groups for appointments to the Council's committees, working groups, member champions and other meetings including outside bodies are set out in Appendix B. This includes the confirmation of the co-opted members on the Audit and Accounts Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4.5 The Chief Executive has delegated authority to make any in-year changes to appointments where notified.

4.6 Consultation has been carried out with political groups.

5. **RISK**

All the issues raised and the recommendations in this report involve risk considerations as set out below:

- If appointments are not made to the committees then there is a risk that the Council will not be able to effectively conduct its business over the coming months. In addition, if appointments are not made to outside bodies there is a risk that the Council's views will not be represented in the debates undertaken within those bodies.

6. **FINANCE**

There are no material financial matters arising from the report.

7. **LEGAL**

There are no specific legal implications identified as arising from this report, other than the need to make sure certain appointments are in line with the political balance rules.

8. **POLICY AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific policy or equalities implications for the Council arising from this report.

9. **REASON FOR DECISION**

It is important that appointments to committees are made to ensure that the Council can effectively conduct its business.

No background papers.

Rossendale Borough Council - Political Balance Calculation

	Available No.	Labour No.	Conservative No.	Green No.	Community First No.	Total No.
Council	30	20	5	3	2	30
Committees of Council		66.67	16.67	10.00	6.67	100.00
Development Control	7	5	1	1	0	7
Licensing	11	6	3	1	1	11
Audit and Accounts	7	5	1	1	0	7
Overview and Scrutiny	7	5	1	0	1	7
Standards	7	5	1	1	0	7
Appointments and Appeals	9	6	1	1	1	9
Total	48	32	8	5	3	48
Grand Total	48	32	8	5	3	48
		66.67	16.67	10.42	6.25	
Balance Should Give		32.0	8.0	4.8	3.2	48
Difference		0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.2	0

Working Groups	Avail No	Labour	Conservative	Green	Community First	Total
Governance Working Group	5	3	1	0	1	5
Local Plan Steering Group	5	3	1	1	0	5

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS 2024/2025

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR	MEMBERS	
CABINET (Leader, Deputy Leader and up to 8 other members)	Alyson Barnes	Michelle Smith	Adrian Lythgoe Liz McInnes Andrew Walmsley	
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL (7 Members) 5 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Green	Marilyn Procter	James Eaton	David Hancock Nick Harris Ann Kenyon	Ann Hodgkiss Julie Adshead
LICENSING (11 Members) 6 Labour 3 Conservative 1 Green Party 1 Community First	Christine Gill	Judith Driver	Jimmy Eaton David Hancock Neil Looker Matt Norton	Anne Cheetham Simon Holland Ann Hodgkiss Bob Bauld Mike Royds
AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (7 Members) 5 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Green	Nick Harris	Marilyn Procter	Greg Bleakley Ann Kenyon Matt Norton	Alan Woods John Payne (Plus Mr Simon McManus Co-opted)
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (7 Members) 5 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Community First	Samara Barnes	Alan Neal	Danielle Ashworth Tom Belli Samantha Harrison Annie McMahon	Scott Smith (Plus Mr James Heaton Co-opted)
STANDARDS (7 Elected Members, 2 Members of Whitworth Town Council and 1 Independent Person) 5 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Green			Samara Barnes Greg Bleakley Adrian Lythgoe Liz McInnes Andrew Walmsley Simon Holland Bob Bauld	<u>Whitworth Town Council</u> TBC TBC <u>Independent Persons</u> Alison Driver
APPOINTMENTS AND APPEALS (panel of 9 Members) 6 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Green 1 Community First	Five or three members to be chosen by the Chief Executive from the panel if possible to reflect the political balance on the Council and if possible on a rota basis.			
	Alyson Barnes Samara Barnes Christine Gill	Liz McInnes Michelle Smith Andrew Walmsley	Scott Smith John Payne Alan Neal	

OTHER APPOINTMENTS	
CROSS PARTY WORKING GROUP (5 Members)	Members to be confirmed by Group Leaders when the group is required to meet. The number of councillors may be expanded where a wider range of views are sought, so long as political balance is retained.
GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP (5 Members) 3 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Community First	Judith Driver Ann Hodgkiss Liz McInnes Alan Neal Michelle Smith
LOCAL PLAN REVIEW STEERING GROUP (5 Members) 3 Labour 1 Conservative 1 Green	Adrian Lythgoe Ann Hodgkiss Marilyn Procter Julie Adshead Michelle Smith
MEMBER CHAMPIONS	
EQUALITIES	Tom Belli
FLOOD	Neil Looker
DESIGN AND HERITAGE	Annie McMahan
YOUNGER PEOPLE	Samara Barnes
ARMED FORCES	Marilyn Procter
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS	
Neighbourhood Forums are held in a local area venue and all ward members are encouraged to attend their area forum. The allocation of grants will be agreed with each Neighbourhood Forum chair. Please note that Neighbourhood Forums are not Council meetings.	

JOINT COMMITTEE/ PARTNERSHIP APPOINTMENTS		TYPE OF APPOINTMENT
CAPITA Strategic Governance Board	Andrew Walmsley, Liz McInnes, Alan Woods	Board member
Healey Dell Nature Reserve Joint Management Committee	Mike Royds, Scott Smith	Local authority ward member representative
Lancashire Leaders and District Leaders Groups	Alyson Barnes	Local authority lead member
Lancashire Police And Crime Panel	Samara Barnes (Alyson Barnes - sub)	Local authority member representative
Lancashire Waste Partnership	Adrian Lythgoe	Local authority member representative
LCC Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee	Liz McInnes (vacancy - sub)	Local authority co-opted member
Patrol Adjudication Joint Committee	Andrew Walmsley	Local authority member representative
PLACE Joint Committee	Alyson Barnes	Local authority lead member
RTB Board	Alyson Barnes, Scott Smith	Director
OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS		TYPE OF APPOINTMENT
Burnley Pendle & Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service (BPRCVS)	Marilyn Procter, Alan Woods	Local authority member representative
Carers Link Lancashire	Liz McInnes	Local authority member representative
East Lancashire Railway Trust Board of Management	David Hancock, Annie McMahon, Anne Cheetham (Alyson Barnes - sub)	Board member
Growth Lancashire Board	Alyson Barnes (vacancy - sub)	Director
LGA Assembly	Alyson Barnes	Local authority lead member
Littleworld Limited t/a Horse & Bamboo Theatre	Marilyn Procter	Trustee
North West Employers'	Michelle Smith (vacancy - sub)	Local authority member representative
North West Region Reserves Forces & Cadets Association (RFCA)	Marilyn Procter	Local authority member representative
Pennine Prospects	Adrian Lythgoe	Board member
Rossendale Leisure Trust Ltd	Adrian Lythgoe, Scott Smith	Trustee/board member