



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 22 MAY 2024

Report of the Director - Legal and Democratic Services

**Committee Memberships, Schedule of meetings and Outside Body
Appointments for 2024/25**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 For Council to make appointments to the Committees of the Council, including Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for the ensuing year.
- 1.2 To seek approval of the schedule of Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings for the 2024/25 municipal year.
- 1.3 To seek approval to appoint to Outside Bodies for the ensuing year.

2. Information and Analysis

Committee Membership

- 2.1 In determining the membership of committees, account must be taken of the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended made under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. These regulations require that seats on committees and sub-committees are allocated in a way which reflects the overall political balance of the Council and that the Council gives effect to the wishes of the political groups in the appointments to those seats.
- 2.2 Allocation of seats by a Council must give effect to the following principles set out in the 1989 Act. The principles have to be applied in priority order as follows:

- (a) that not all the seats are allocated to the same political group;
- (b) that the majority of seats are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the authority's membership;
- (c) subject to (a) and (b) above, that the total number of all seats of the ordinary committees allocated to each particular political group reflects the group's proportion to the membership of the authority;
- (d) subject to (a) – (c) above, that the number of seats allocated to a particular political group reflects that group's proportion of the membership of the authority.

2.3 Derbyshire County Council has one elected member that has not joined a political group. A political group is defined as comprising two or more members. Members who are not members of a political group are not automatically entitled to seats on committees, however as long as the principles of proportionality outlined above are respected and no member votes against the recommendation, the Act does not prevent Councils choosing to offer seats to unaligned/non-grouped members.

2.4 The political groups entitled to seats on committees and to be allocated seats on committees for the forthcoming year are as follows:

	Members	Percentage of seats	Actual seats
Conservative Group	41	65.08	65
Labour Group	16	25.40	26
Liberal Democrat Group	4	6.35	6
Reform UK Group	2	3.17	3

There are a total of 100 committee seats to be allocated for the 2024/25 municipal year. The allocation of seats on the committees and sub-committees of the Council is, therefore, as follows:

Committee	Total Seats	Con	Lab	Lib dem	Reform
Appointments and Conditions of Service	8	5	3	0	0
Audit	6	4	1	0	1
DCC Trading	5	4	1	0	0
Governance Ethics and Standards	8	6	2	0	0
I&S – Climate	10	6	3	1	0
I&S – Health	9	6	2	1	0
I&S – People	9	5	2	1	1

Committee	Total Seats	Con	Lab	Lib dem	Reform
I&S – Places	9	5	3	1	0
I&S – Resources	9	6	3	0	0
Pensions and Investments	8	5	1	1	1
Planning Delegation Sub	4	3	1	0	0
Regulatory – Planning	10	7	2	1	0
SACRE	5	3	2	0	0
Total	100	65	26	6	3

2.5 In addition to the Committees mentioned above the below bodies are appointed to on a proportional basis. As they are not formal committees or sub-committees of Derbyshire County Council, they are included separately on this report and not counted towards the total number of seats.

Committee/Body	Total Seats	Con	Lab	Lib dem
Derby and Derbyshire Development Plans Joint Advisory Committee	6	5	1	0
Derbyshire Combined Fire Authority	12	8	3	1
Member Development Working Group	7	5	1	1
Peak District National Park Authority	4	3	1	0

2.6 The Health and Well-being Board is required to appoint the three members of Cabinet with responsibility for Health and wellbeing matters.

2.7 A full list of proposed appointment to committees, including the relevant Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, is presented at Appendix 2 to this report.

Schedule of meetings

2.7 Council must approve, at the Annual Meeting, a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and its Committees for the ensuing year. This is presented at Appendix 3 to this report.

Outside Bodies

2.8 The Council makes appointments to a variety of outside bodies each year, from national and regional bodies to local community groups. Council is asked to approve the appointments to outside bodies as detailed in Appendix 4 to this report and to note that any in-year changes to the list may be agreed by the Cabinet Member for Strategic

Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change in accordance with the provisions of Appendix 1 to the Council's Constitution – responsibility for Functions.

- 2.9 Members should note that there are a number of Outside Body appointments relating to the newly established East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA). Appointments to the Board of the Authority have been confirmed as the Leader (who is also the Council's lead member) and Deputy with two substitutes as set out at Appendix 4. In addition to the Board, at its first meeting EMCCA approved an initial governance framework that is needed to undertake its statutorily defined functions. This consists of the following:
- Transport Advisory Committee
 - Skills and Employment Advisory Committee
 - Investment Committee
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - Audit and Governance Committee.

The County Council as a constituent member has been asked by the EMCCA to appoint 2 representatives and 2 substitutes to each of these committees. Council is to note that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Audit and Governance Committee are required to be politically balanced. This means that the EMCCA must ensure that the members of each committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the Constituent Councils when taken together. How positions are to be allocated to each constituent council on the EMCCA committees will be confirmed at the meeting.

- 2.10 Furthermore, as result of the creation of the EMCCA, the functions associated with the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership will pass over to the new authority at some point in 2024. Members should therefore note that appointments to these Bodies will cease at the point this happens.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 There is no requirement for public consultation on this report. Political Groups have been contacted for their nominations as appropriate.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 The Council must make the appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies, although members could choose to make different appointments to those suggested. Members may also choose to set a different schedule of meetings to the one suggested at Appendix 3.

5. Implications

- 5.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 None identified

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Implications
7.2 Appendix 2 – Committee Membership 2024/25
7.3 Appendix 3 – Meetings Schedule
7.4 Appendix 4 – Outside Body Appointments

8. Recommendation(s)

That Council:

- 1) Appoints the Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Council's Standing Ordinary Committees, Sub-Committees and Improvement and Scrutiny Committees as set out at Appendix 2 to this report;
- 2) Approves the schedule of meetings, attached at Appendix 3 to the report, for the 2024/25 Municipal Year; and
- 3) Appoints representatives to outside bodies as detailed at Appendix 4 to the report.

9. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 To ensure that the Council has appropriate Committees and sub-committees in place to discharge its functions and duties and that a schedule of meetings for the forthcoming year is in place.
- 9.2 To ensure that the County Council has continuing representation on a variety of Outside Bodies that are of benefit to the organisation.

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising this report as Special Responsibility allowances payable to members have been included in the base budget.

Legal

- 2.1 Legal implications have been considered in the body of the report.

Human Resources

- 3.1 None

Information Technology

- 4.1 None

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 None

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental, Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

- 7.1 None