



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

19th JANUARY 2022

CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Following changes to the Leader's Scheme of Delegation and membership of the Cabinet, Council is asked to elect for the remainder of this Municipal Year a:
- a) Mayor;
 - b) Deputy Mayor;
 - c) Vice-chair of the Planning & Development Committee;
 - d) Chair of the Appeals/ Employee Appeals/ Chief Officer Appeals Committee
- 1.2 To seek authority from Council for the Service Director Democratic Services and Communications to make any consequential changes to the Labour Group's committee representation.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- 2.1 Elect a Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022.
- 2.2 *Seek confirmation from the newly elected Mayor whom they wish to appoint as their Consort and Chaplin for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021-2022).*
- 2.3 Elect a Deputy Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021 – 2022.
- 2.4 *Seek confirmation from the newly elected Deputy Mayor whom they wish to appoint as their Consort for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021 – 2022).*
- 2.5 Make appointments to the following committee Chairs/ Vice-Chair roles:

- I) Vice-Chair Planning & Development Committee
- II) Chair Appeals/ Employee Appeals/ Chief Officer Appeals Committee

- 2.6 That the Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication be authorised to make appointments to the Labour Group representation to politically balanced committees of the Council, upon receipt of notification to him of the wishes of the political group in question.
- 2.7 Any subsequent requests for amendment to the membership will be referred to Council.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The need to consider a number of positions and committee representation following recent amendments to the Council's Executive arrangements.
- 3.2 The need to advise Members of the changes that will be sought by the Labour Group in respect of the politically balanced committees.
- 3.3 The need to respond to the resignation of Councillor Jill Bonetto from the role of Mayor and Chair of the Appeals/ Employee Appeals/ Chief Officer Appeals Committee.
- 3.4 The need to respond to the resignation of Councillor Gareth Caple from the role of Vice-Chair of the Planning and Development Committee.
- 3.5 The need to respond to indication that the Deputy Mayor Cllr Wendy Treeby will be nominated for the role of Mayor for the remainder of the Municipal year. The recommendations are proposed in a way which will provide flexibility for Council to respond, should the circumstance arise where the current Deputy Mayor is elected as Mayor, opportunity a new Deputy Mayor to be elected.

4 CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Changes to the membership of the Council's Cabinet have resulted in a number of roles, which are appointed by Council, consequentially needing to be reconsidered for the remainder of this Municipal Year.
- 4.2 I have subsequently received indication that following her Cabinet appointment, Cllr Jill Bonetto wishes to resign as Mayor and First Citizen of Rhondda Cynon Taf. I have received indication that the current Deputy Mayor will be nominated by the Labour Group to succeed Councillor Jill Bonetto for the remainder of this Municipal Year. As a result, nominations for the role of Deputy Mayor are also sought.

- 4.3 Council is advised that members of the Cabinet are not eligible for appointment to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Committees, furthermore, at least one member of the Cabinet only may sit on the Governance & Audit and Democratic Services Committees. The Council Leader is excluded from these positions.
- 4.4 Following the appointment of Councillor Gareth Caple and Councillor Jill Bonetto to the Council's Cabinet, there is a need to review Labour representation on the following committees:
- a) Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee (x1)
 - b) Overview & Scrutiny Committee (x2)
 - c) Democratic Services Committee (x2)
 - d) Planning & Development Committee (x2)
 - e) RLDP Members Steering Group (x2)
 - f) VER Panel (x1)
 - g) Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Scrutiny Committee (x2)
 - h) Appeals/ Employee Appeals/ Chief Officer Appeals Committee (x1)
 - i) Pension Fund Committee (x1)
- 4.5 Councillor Gareth Caple was appointed as the Chair of Cwm Taf Public Service Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) for the 2021/22 Municipal Year. The appointment to this role is decided by the JOSC and this matter will be included as part of the agenda for this committee at its next scheduled meeting due to take place on the 28th January 2022
- 4.6 The appointment of Cabinet Members fall with the Leader's Scheme of Delegation and consequently are a decision for the Leader of the Council, there are a number of positions which subsequently require Council's decision. This report seeks provide the opportunity to regularise our committee arrangements following the appointment of two new Cabinet Members.
- 4.7 As the consequential changes in membership required are more 'significant' than the alterations in a group's representation normally indicated during the course of a municipal year, approval from Council is sought to delegate authority to the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications to make appointments to the politically balanced committees set out in 4.4, upon receipt of nominations from the political group in question. These appointments and overall amendments to the membership of individual committees will subsequently be communicated to all Members.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no Equality or Diversity implications aligned to this report

6. CONSULTATION/INVOLVEMENT

6.1 There are no consultation implications aligned to this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Committee membership requirements – Council Constitution.

9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.

9.1 The work of scrutiny encompasses all of the Council's Corporate Plan objectives, therefore it is important to ensure the Committees membership is complete and accurate to undertake such scrutiny.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 While the appointment of Cabinet Members falls within the Leader's Scheme of Delegation and are consequential and are a matter for the Leader of the Council, there are a number of positions which subsequently require Council's direction. This report seeks to regularise our committee arrangements following the appointment of two new Cabinet Members.

Other Information:-

Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Not applicable

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP

Background Papers

Freestanding Matter