

**Meeting:** Council (Appointments)  
**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
**Classification:** Part 1  
**Key Decision:** N/A  
**Title of Report:** **Administration for 2024/25 following May 2024 City Council Elections and associated matters**

**Executive Director:** Claire Shuter (Executive Director – Strategy & Change)  
**Report Authors:** Susan Zeiss (Director Legal Services – Monitoring Officer) and Colin Gamble (Head of Democratic and Electoral Services).

## 1. Executive Summary

For the Council to:

- Note the details of the Political Groups, following the Local Elections held on 2nd May 2024;
- Note the details of the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee appointed by the Leader of the Council;
- Endorse the position regarding the Cabinet Working Parties and the Councillor Resource Panel.
- Endorse the Council's Constitution (which is on the internet), including the Scheme of Delegation in Part 3, Schedule 3.

## 2. Recommendations

### 2.1 To note that following the Local Elections held on 2nd May 2024, the make-up of the Council is as follows:

Labour Group	20
Conservative Group	18
Independent Group	5
Liberal Democrat Group	4
Green	2
Non-aligned	<u>2</u>
	<u>51</u>

### 2.2 To note the titles and responsibilities of Cabinet Members made by the Leader of the Council (to be circulated at the meeting), and that these changes will be reflected in an amendment to Schedule 1(a) of Part 3 to the Constitution.

- 2.3 To note the appointments to the Cabinet (and substitutes) made by the Leader of the Council, including the arrangements for the Deputy Leader (to be circulated at the meeting as List A).**
- 2.4 To note the appointments to the Cabinet Committee (and substitutes) made by the Leader of the Council (to be circulated at the meeting as List B).**
- 2.5 That Part 3 Schedule 2 of the Constitution be amended to reflect any changes needed to the Cabinet working parties and by the addition of the Councillor Resource Panel (terms of reference to be circulated at the meeting).**
- 2.6 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to confirm the appointments to the working parties, panels and forums etc in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders.**
- 2.7 To endorse the Council's Constitution, including the Scheme of Delegation in Part 3, Schedule 3.**

### **3. Background**

- 3.1** In accordance with Article 7 in Part 2 of the Constitution and in accordance with the law, it is for the Leader of the Council to:
- Decide on the number of Cabinet Members and their titles and responsibilities.
  - Appoint the Cabinet Members (and substitutes).
  - Appoint the Cabinet Committee (and substitutes).
- 3.3** The Mayor has received a request from five Councillors (Cllrs Daniel Cowan, Anne Jones, Ian Gilbert, Matt Dent, Lydia Hyde) to call an Extraordinary Council Meeting to consider a motion of no confidence in the administration, to remove the current Leader of the Council and to elect a new Leader of the Council. The election of the new Leader, should this be necessary, is an item of business on the agenda for the Extraordinary Meeting which is scheduled to precede this meeting. It is therefore proposed that the Cabinet appointments with the respective responsibilities together with the Cabinet Committee appointments be circulated at the start of the Appointments Council meeting.
- 3.2** In terms of places on relevant Committees and Sub-Committees, these have been allocated on the basis of political proportionality to nominees of the 5 political groups on the Council; with the remaining places being allocated to the ungrouped councillors.

This matter, together with appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs, is dealt with at Agenda Items 4 and 5 and List C will be circulated at the meeting for the Council to agree.

- 3.3 In terms of appointments to Working Parties, Forums, Panels etc., these will also be allocated, by convention, on the basis of political proportionality to nominees of the political groups on the Council.
- 3.4 The Cabinet working parties should be linked to the functions of the respective Cabinet member and there may be changes to their responsibilities which will necessitate revisions to the existing working parties. It is proposed that the working parties be adjusted if needed to reflect the Cabinet portfolios. On 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the Cabinet received a report on the budget and agreed that a working group (to be titled “Councillor Resource Panel”) be established on a political proportionate basis to consider budget proposals for 2024/25 and future years. The terms of reference for this working group will be circulated at the meeting.
- 3.5 As there may be a number of changes needed to the working parties, it is recognised that it may be difficult for Group Leaders to put forward nominations at the meeting given that they will not have had sight of any revisions to the working party structure beforehand. In the circumstances, it is suggested that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to confirm the appointments to the Cabinet working parties as well as other working parties, panels and forums etc in accordance with the nominations to be submitted by Group Leaders. However, as there is a special meeting of the Traffic Regulations Working Party scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> May, it is proposed that the appointments be made to this working party at the Council meeting.
- 3.6 In terms of appointments to Outside Bodies, these will be dealt with by the Council and List E will be circulated at the meeting for Council to agree. Councillors are asked to be mindful that a comprehensive review of outside bodies was recently undertaken, and all the changes are reflected in the lists of bodies to which appointments are to be made.
- 3.7 In December 2009 the High Court handed down a judgement in a case involving Leeds City Council, which confirmed that the Council did have a valid Scheme of Delegation notwithstanding the fact that it did not confirm the Scheme on an annual basis. It would be prudent, however and is nevertheless recommended that the Council endorses the Council’s Constitution (which is on the Internet), including the Scheme of Delegation in Part 3, Schedule 3.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1. As part of the budget setting process, provision has been made to meet the cost of the special responsibility allowances.

#### **5. Appendices**

- 5.1. The Committee lists referred to in the report will be circulated at the meeting.

**6. Report Authorisation**

<b>This report has been approved for publication by:</b>		
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
S151 Officer	Joe Chesterton	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Monitoring Officer	Susan Zeiss	10 May 2024
Executive Director(s)	Claire Shuter	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2024