

Shadow Dorset Council

Date of Meeting	20 February 2019
Officer	Chief Executive (Designate) - Matt Prosser
Subject of Report	Transitional Appointments to Committees 2019
Executive Summary	<p>The Shadow Dorset Council approved the Dorset Council Constitution at its meeting held on 24 January 2019. It is now necessary to make appointments to the committees in the transitional structure so that any business that is required to be undertaken between the 'interim period' (1 April - 6 May 2019 inclusive) can be managed.</p> <p>The Shadow Council is therefore invited to-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. allocate seats to political groups and to make appointments to transitional committees for the year 2018/19; and, 2. delegate authority to Group Leaders to make changes to appointments as necessary. <p>The nominations of the Group Leaders will be circulated prior to the meeting.</p>
Impact Assessment:	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment: N/A</p> <p>Use of Evidence: Appropriate use of evidence has been used in the compilation of this report by following the agreed arrangements detailed within the Dorset Council Constitution.</p> <p>Budget: This report has no budget or VAT implications.</p> <p>Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk: LOW</p> <p>Other Implications: N/A</p>

Appointments to Committees

Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That seats and appointments to the Shadow Executive Committee continue to the end of the current term of the Council (6 May 2019). 2. That seats and appointments on transitional committees of the Shadow Dorset Council be allocated, as nominated by Group Leaders. 3. That Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of committees be appointed at the first meeting of each committee. 4. That delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive, after consultation with Group Leaders, to make changes to appointments as necessary.
Reason for Recommendation	To comply with the Dorset Council's Procedure Rules (Standing Orders).
Appendices	None
Background Papers	None
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Political Groups and Percentage Entitlement

- 1.1 All members of the Dorset Council except for eight councillors belong to one of the four political groups across all Dorset councils.
- 1.2 The existing political affiliations assume political proportionality. The number of members of political groups and the percentage entitlement is therefore as follows:

<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Green</u>
146 (70.87%)	36 (17.48%)	12 (5.82%)	3 (1.46%)

Note: There are also seven independent members across the Dorset area councils, and two vacancies.

Transition Committees of the Dorset Council

- 2.1 All members of the Shadow Dorset Council will become Dorset Councillors from 1 April 2019. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council will continue in place until the end of the current term of office on 6 May 2019.
- 2.2 In addition, the Shadow Executive Committee will carry on past 1 April 2019 as the new Executive of Dorset Council as prescribed by the 2018 Structural

Appointments to Committees

Changes Order. It will continue to comprise of the existing 20 members who were previously appointed by the Shadow Council in June 2018.

- 2.3 The entitlement to seats on the remainder of the transition committees of the Dorset Council which are allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to the total of those seats as the number of members of each group is to the membership of the Shadow Council.
- 2.2 In addition, where a political group has a majority of seats, it must also have a majority on each individual body to which appointments are made.
- 2.3 However, the Shadow Council may waive political balance rules for any committee where it wishes to appoint an alternative number of members from political groups. In order for political balance to be waived no member must object to this, an objection by a single member would make it necessary to apply strict proportionality.
- 2.4 The table below shows the number of seats on committees to be allocated to political groups:

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Green</u>	<u>Total</u>
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	12	3	1	-	16
Planning Committee (see 2.6 below)	12	3	1	-	16
Licensing Committee (see 2.5 below)	11	3	1	-	15
Senior Appointment and Dismissal Committee	6	1	1	-	8
School Transport Appeals Committee	6	1	1	-	8

- 2.5 Due to the quasi-judicial nature of the decisions made by the Licensing Committee, Article 10 of the Dorset Council Constitution states that no member appointed to this Committee shall take part in any meeting of the Committee unless either:
- (a) they have received licensing training provided for the purpose of participating in this Licensing Committee; and/or
 - (b) were appointed to a licensing committee of a Predecessor Council as at 31 March 2019.
- 2.6 Similarly, in respect of the Planning Committee Article 10 states that that no member appointed to this Committee shall take part in any meeting of the Committee unless either:
- (a) they have received licensing training provided for the purpose of participating in this Planning Committee; and/or
 - (b) were appointed to a planning committee of a Predecessor Council as at 31 March 2019.
- 2.7 Group Leaders have been asked for their nominations to committees in accordance with the allocations above and having regard to the requirements relating to the Licensing and Planning Committees set out above. These will be circulated prior to the meeting. It is for the Shadow Dorset Council to make these appointments.

Appointments to Committees

Appointments to Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees

- 3.1 The Constitution of the Dorset Council states that at their annual meeting the Council may appoint, from among the voting members, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for each standing committee. Delegation to the committees is sought to enable each committee to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its membership at their first meetings.
- 3.2 As mentioned above, the Chairman (and Vice-Chairman) of both the Council and Executive will continue as prescribed in the Structural Changes Order.

Jonathan Mair

Corporate Director, Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer)

February 2019