

**COUNCIL
20 JANUARY 2022**

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENT MEMBER AND CHAIR TO THE PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE (& NOTING APPOINTMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND DEPUTY LEADER)

REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

COUNCIL PRIORITY: PEOPLE FIRST/SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT/BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to confirm the appointment of a new / replacement Member to the Planning Control Committee, substitute Member and new Chair of the Committee.
- 1.2 This follows the appointment of Councillor Ruth Brown, the current Chair of the Committee, to the position of Executive Member for Planning, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and Deputy Leader of Council, who shall resign from the Committee as at this meeting date (and prior to the decision being taken below).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That for the remainder of the civic year 2021/22 Member and Substitute be appointed to the Planning Control Committee, namely:
- Councillor Carol Stanier to become a Member of the Committee
 - Councillor Sam North to become a substitute Member of the Committee
- 2.2 That Councillor Tom Tyson be appointed as Chair of the Planning Control Committee for the remainder of the civic year 2021/22.
- 2.3 That the appointment of Councillor Ruth Brown be noted as the Executive Member for Planning, and Deputy Leader for the remainder of the civic year 2021/22.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To comply with the provisions of 4.8.1 (a) (vii), (viii) and (ix) of the Council's Constitution following Councillor Brown resigning from the Committee/ position of Chair of Planning Control Committee as of this Council meeting, following the Executive appointments.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 That the Planning Control Committee operates without a Chair and the Vice Chair presides at each meeting, if present, and if not a Member of the Committee is elected as Chair for that meeting only.
- 4.2 This option is not recommended as the efficient conduct of the Planning Control Committee requires significant co-ordination between Officers and the Chair and it would not be possible to adequately prepare for meetings in the absence of a consistent elected Chair.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1 The Leaders of the Administration have been consulted. The Service Director and Democratic Services Manager have been informed by the relevant Group Leader(s) of the proposed changes. Executive appointments are a matter for the Leader of Council.

6. FORWARD PLAN

- 6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 Following the sudden demise of Councillor Paul Clark, Councillor Ruth Brown, the current Chair of the Committee, has been appointed to the position of Executive Member for Planning, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and Deputy Leader of Council. Councillor Brown has confirmed that she will be resigning from the position of Chair of Planning Control Committee and from the Planning Control Committee itself as of this Council meeting (to take effect as at the commencement of the meeting).
- 7.2 Under Standing Order 4.8.1(a) (vii), (viii) and (ix) of the Council's Constitution the following applies:
- (vii) note the number of Members to be appointed to the Cabinet and the appointment those Members;
- (viii) appoint the..... Planning Control Committee..;
- (ix) appoint the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees, with the exception of the Area Committees, subject to any requirements of this Constitution concerning who may be appointed to such positions.
- 7.3 Section 4.4.1 (g) outlines that determining the composition of and appointments to Committees is a function of Full Council.

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The Service Director, and Democratic Services Manager by way of sub delegation can make in year changes to the membership of Committees (not Chair or Vice Chair). However, for completeness the changes to the membership, substitution and Chairing of the Planning Control Committee have been contained within this report.
- 8.2 The Planning Control Committee itself only has the power to elect a Chair from its membership for the duration of a single meeting.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The legal and constitutional requirements are set out in the main body of this report.
- 9.1. 14.6.8 (a) Delegation of Authority – Service Director: Legal and Community of the Constitution states:
(xx) To make appointments (or where relevant nominate) Councillors or Substitutes to Committees, Sub-Committees, panels, boards and outside bodies, in consultation with Group Leaders during the civic year in respect of the appointments that have previously been made at Annual Council.
- 9.2 Sub delegation to Democratic Services Manager under 1.14.1 of officer's delegations:

e) The appointment, nomination or revocation of appointment of any individual to any office/ body other than to Full Council in the event of vacation of office, in consultation with Group Leaders in respect of elected Councillors (In accordance with any requirements under the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, or any legislation replacing the same under section 14.5.1 of the Constitution.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 A vacancy on a Committees, Sub-Committees or Panel could result in the respective political party not being fully represented at a particular meeting.
- 11.2 The efficient conduct of the Planning Control Committee requires significant co-ordination between Officers and the Chair and it would not be possible to adequately prepare for meetings in the absence of a consistent elected Chair.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

12.2 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to this report.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

15.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

14. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no human resource implications.

15. APPENDICES

15.1 None.

16. CONTACT OFFICERS

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17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

17.1 None.