

Annual Meeting of the Council – 18th May, 2006

Report of the Director of Law and Property

Appointment of Members to the Cabinet

Purpose of Report

1. To approve the number of members to be appointed to the Cabinet and to appoint the members to serve for the 2006/07 municipal year.

Background

2. Article 7 of the Council's Constitution prescribes that the Cabinet will consist of the Leader together with at least two, but not more than nine, councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Council. The proposals of the Majority Group with regard to this matter will be made at the meeting.
3. The Appendix to this report sets out the proposed designations of Cabinet Members for the 2006/07 municipal year. This reflects the decision of the Council at its meeting on 18th July, 2005 regarding the remodelling of Council Services (Minute No. 22 of that meeting refers).
4. Work is ongoing to finalise the Council's remodelling arrangements, particularly for the new Directorates of Children's Services and Adult, Community and Housing Services. This, together with the adoption of new designations for Cabinet Members, will require amendments to the Constitution and particularly the Scheme of Delegation. This issue is dealt with in a separate agenda item elsewhere on this agenda.
5. The Council is reminded that the Cabinet Procedure Rules provide that each of the other political groups on the Council may nominate members from their Group to attend meetings of the Cabinet. Such members may speak at the meeting, but may not vote. The number of members nominated by each Group is made in accordance with proportionality. These nominations will be made through the Director of Law and Property.

Finance

6. The financial implications arising from the above proposals will be met from existing resources.

Law

- 7. The relevant statutory provisions regarding the Constitution and arrangements with respect to executives are contained in Part II of the Local Government Act, 2000, together with Regulations, Orders and Statutory Guidance issued by the Secretary of State. The rules on proportionality (which are applied to the nomination of representatives from the minority groups) are contained in the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and associated regulations.

Equality Impact

- 8. This report has no direct implications for the Council's policies with regard to equality and diversity. Decisions taken by the Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members on policy issues and the implementation of the Council Plan framework will involve actions to promote equality and in relation to children and young people.

Recommendation

- 9. That the number of members to be appointed to the Cabinet for the 2006/07 municipal year, the designation of Cabinet Members, and the members to serve for the year, be approved in accordance with the Appendix and the list to be circulated at the meeting.

John Poynton

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Director of Law and Property

Background Papers

The Council's Constitution.

