

# Full Council Report

## ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

Date **17 JULY 2024**  
Title **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS TO VACANCIES**  
Report of **MONITORING OFFICER**

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to notify councillors of vacancies and for nominations and appointments to be made.
- 1.2 In addition, the report gives an opportunity for political groups and others to make changes, if any.

### 2. Recommendation(s)

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| 2.1 That the appointments set out in Appendix 1 be agreed. |
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### 3. Background

- 3.1 Since the last meeting of the council, Cllr Joe Robertson has resigned from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and also from the Policy & Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care.
- 3.2 Cllr Clare Mosdell, the Conservative Group Leader, has been notified by Cllr Joe Robertson.
- 3.3 As a consequence that group may wish to make certain changes in its group seat allocation and the council is required to appoint the councillors nominated.
- 3.4 There is also two outstanding vacancies on the Pension Fund Committee, one for the Alliance Group to nominate, and one vacancy for an unaligned councillor.
- 3.5 At the time of drafting this report, Appendix 1 is yet to be finalised.

### 4. Corporate Priorities and Strategic Context

- 4.1 The appointments made will assist to facilitate the council to deliver its corporate vision and its corporate aims. The [Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025](#) lists key areas of

activity that will be our main areas of focus for the lifetime of this plan which will need to be central to everything we do as a council.

## 5. Consultation And Engagement

- 5.1 Group leaders and the three unaligned councillors have been consulted and engagement has taken place.

## 6. Financial / Budget Implications

1. There are no additional costs associated with the proposals contained within this report. The recommendations accord with the overall budget agreed by the council in February 2024.

## 7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Where certain bodies are required to be politically proportionate, the council must respect the expressed wishes of the relevant political groups as regards their seat allocation and appoint as duly nominated.
- 7.2 Where the council is required to allocate a seat proportionately to the unaligned councillors, there is no requirement to appoint any particular unaligned councillor to any such seat.
- 7.3 With regard to any appointment to an overview and scrutiny committee regard must be had to the statutory guidance - [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/overview-and-scrutiny-statutory-guidance-for-councils-and-combined-authorities). For example, paragraph 27 of that guidance states: *'When selecting individual members to serve on scrutiny committees, an authority should consider a member's experience, expertise, interests, ability to act impartially, ability to work as part of a group, and capacity to serve'*. Paragraph 28 advises: *'Authorities should not take into account a member's perceived level of support for or opposition to a particular political party...'*. This guidance does not, however, override the legal requirement to give effect to the seat allocation under section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

## 8. Equality And Diversity

- 8.1 The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. It is not considered that this report has any negative impact upon any of the protected characteristics.

## 9. Options

- 9.1 As stated above, the council must appoint councillors duly nominated by the relevant political group for bodies required to be politically proportionate provide such nominees are willing and eligible to serve.

## 10. Risk Management

- 10.1 The recommendations are to ensure that the council meets its corporate governance requirements and responds to changing requirements and demands. These should lessen the risks arising from any challenge to the decision-making process by way of judicial review or other legal action.

## 11. Evaluation

- 11.1 The council has no option but must respect the expressed wishes of the relevant political groups as regards their respective seat allocation and must appoint those duly nominated to their allocated committee seats which are politically balanced.

## 12. Appendices Attached

- 12.1 Appendix 1 sets out the council appointments to the vacancies on the bodies.

## 13. Background Papers

- 13.1 None.

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