CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING - 15 May 2024

CONSTITUTION OF POLITICAL GROUPS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR AND APPOINTMENTS TO CITY COUNCIL AND OUTSIDE BODIES

SCHEDULE A

POLITICAL GROUPS

In accordance with the Regulations made under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the following political groups have been constituted.

Councillor S J Robinson (a) Liberal Democrat 33 members Group Deputy Leader: Councillor M C Goldman

Councillors C Adutwim, N Bugbee, D Clark, H Clark, P Davey, A Davidson, C Davidson, J Deakin, N Dudley, D Eley, L Foster, K Franks, J Frascona, I Fuller, S Goldman, S Hall, J Hawkins, J Lardge, R Lee, L Mascot, R Moore, G Pooley, S Rajesh, E Sampson, T Sherlock, A Sosin, J Sosin, A Thompson, C Tron, N Walsh and S Young

Conservative Councillor R T Whitehead (b) 19 members Leader: Group Deputy Leader: Councillor A Thorpe Apps

Councillors J Armstrong, V Canning, N Chambers, S Dobson, I Grundy, J Jeapes, A John, B Massey, M O'Brien, V Pappa, J Potter, J Raven, S Scott, M Sismey, M Steel, S Sullivan and P Wilson

Chelmsford 3 members Leader: Councillor R Hyland (c)

Independents Group

Councillors P Clark and S Davis

(d) Independent Councillors not in a political group

Councillors B Knight and M Taylor

SCHEDULE B - APPOINTMENTS TO THE CABINET AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Stephen Robinson) proposes the appointment of the following councillors to the Cabinet in 2024/25 with the areas of responsibility shown:

Leader of The Council	Councillor Stephen Robinson
Cabinet Deputy for Economic Development and Strategic Projects	Councillor Simon Goldman
Cabinet Deputy for Sustainable Transport	Councillor Terry Sherlock
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Connected Chelmsford	Councillor Marie Goldman
Cabinet Member for a Greener Chelmsford	Councillor Rose Moore
Cabinet Member for an Active Chelmsford	Councillor Natacha Dudley
Cabinet Member for a Safer Chelmsford	Councillor Donna Eley
Cabinet Member for a Fairer Chelmsford	Councillor Lynne Foster
Cabinet Member for Finance	Councillor Chris Davidson

OPPOSITION SPOKESPERSONS

The following councillors are proposed as the Cabinet spokespersons for the largest opposition group in 2024/25 with the areas of responsibility shown:

Function	Conservative Group
Leader's Responsibilities	Councillor Roy Whitehead
Cabinet Deputy for Economic Development and Strategic Projects	Councillor James Raven
	Councillor Sue Dobson
Cabinet Deputy for Sustainable Transport	
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Connected Chelmsford	Councillor Thorpe-Apps
Cabinet Member for a Greener Chelmsford	Councillor James Armstrong
Cabinet Member for an Active Chelmsford	Councillor Julia Jeapes
Cabinet Member for a Safer Chelmsford	Councillor Philip Wilson
Cabinet Member for a Fairer Chelmsford	Councillor Mike Steel
Cabinet Member for Finance	Councillor Roy Whitehead

SCHEDULE C

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

Political Proportionality

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 sets out the requirements for political proportionality in relation to the allocation of committee seats to councillors within political groups. Set out below is an explanation of how the annual review of the allocation of seats has been undertaken and asks Full Council to approve this approach.

Two or more councillors may form a political group by giving notice of its membership and group leader to the proper officer of the council. The political balance of the Council is as follows:-

Liberal Democrat 33 Conservative 19 Chelmsford Independents Group 3 Others 2

Total 57

The Council then allocates committee seats to those political groups in accordance with the political balance rules.

These rules are :-

- 1. Not all seats are allocated to the same political party
- 2. The majority party must have a majority of seats on every committee.
- 3. Subject to (1) and (2), the total number of ordinary committee seats must be proportionate. For example, a group with 33% of Council seats should have 33% of the seats on ordinary committees.
- 4. Subject to (1) and (2), each individual committee must be as proportionate as possible. A group with 33% of Council seats should have 33% of the seats on each committee.

The political balance rules do not always completely determine the balance of each committee. Sometimes the Council unavoidably has some discretion as to how to apply those rules. For example, if there are committees of the same size which have to be balanced differently under the rules, there is a discretion as to which committees receive which allocation. Council is asked to consider the allocation of seats to councillors within political groups on this basis set out in Appendix C.

The following Committees and Sub-Committee are proposed with the numbers, membership and chairs shown.

Note the following Constitutional restrictions on appointments to those bodies:

- 1. No member of the Cabinet or a Cabinet Deputy may be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2. No more than two members each of the Cabinet or Overview and Scrutiny Committee may be appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee
- 3. No more than two members of Cabinet may be appointed to Governance Committee and the Leader, Mayor or Deputy mayor may not be appointed

4. Trained standing substitutes are permitted to Planning Committee and Governance Committee. There is a proposal within the agenda for Annual Council to permit trained standing substitutes for Licensing and Regulatory Committee

Body	Seats	Allocation	Membership
Audit and Risk Committee	9	Liberal Democrat – 6	Councillor Nora Walsh (Chair) Councillor Nicola Bugbee Councillor Hazel Clark Councillor Natacha Dudley Councillor Kieron Franks Councillor Andrew Sosin
		Conservative - 3	Councillor James Raven Councillor Malcom Sismey (Vice Chair) Councillor Roy Whitehead
Chelmsford Policy Board	13	Liberal Democrat – 7	Councillor Charlene Adutwim (Chair) Councillor Ian Fuller Councillor Graham Pooley Councillor Andrew Sosin (Vice Chair) Councillor Nora Walsh Councillor Sue Young Councillor Jude Deakin
		Conservative – 5	Councillor Julia Jeapes Councillor Bob Massey Councillor Murrough O'Brien Councillor Andrew Thorpe- Apps Councillor Roy Whitehead
		Chelmsford Independents Group – 1	Councillor Paul Clark
Employment Committee	5	Liberal Democrat – 3	Councillor Stephen Robinson Councillor Marie Goldman Councillor Rose Moore
		Conservative - 2	Councillor Andrew Thorpe- Apps Councillor Roy Whitehead
Governance Committee	7	Liberal Democrat – 5	Councillor Kieron Franks (Chair) Councillor Ian Fuller Councillor Smita Rajesh (Vice Chair) Councillor Janetta Sosin Councillor Sue Young

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			Councillor Donna Eley (SUB)
		Conservative – 2	Councillor Bob Massey Councillor Mike Steel
			Councillor Roy Whitehead (SUB)
			And two independent persons (appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011)
			NOTE – There are also three Parish Council representatives on the Committee
Licensing and Regulatory Committee (Depending on the matters to be considered this Committee will sit as either the Regulatory Committee or as the Licensing Committee)	13	Liberal Democrat – 7	Councillor Richard Lee (Chair) Councillor Dan Clark (Vice Chair) Councillor Hazel Clark Councillor Ann Davidson Councillor Julia Frascona Councillor Joanne Hawkins Councillor Linda Mascot
			Councillor Jennie Lardge (SUB)* Councillor Ashley Thompson (SUB)*
		Conservative – 5	Councillor Nicolette Chambers Councillor Ashley John Councillor Vetri Pappa Councillor Steph Scott Councillor Philip Wilson
			SUBS TBC
		Chelmsford Independents Group - 1	Councillor Steve Davis
			*Subject to approval of agenda item 9.
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	13	Liberal Democrat – 7	Councillor Ashley Thompson (Vice Chair) Councillor Dan Clark Councillor Hazel Clark Councillor Pete Davey Councillor Jude Deakin Councillor Kieron Franks Councillor Linda Mascot
		Conservative – 5	Councillor Julia Jeapes (Chair) Councillor Victoria Canning Councillor Sue Dobson

			Councillor Mike Steel Councillor Philip Wilson
		Chelmsford Independents Group – 1	Councillor Steve Davis
Planning Committee	13	Liberal Democrat – 7	Councillor Janetta Sosin (Chair) Councillor Steve Hall Councillor Jennie Lardge Councillor Richard Lee Councillor Graham Pooley Councillor Eleanor Sampson Councillor Chloe Tron
			Councillor Hazel Clark (SUB) Councillor Julia Frascona (SUB) Councillor Nora Walsh (SUB)
		Conservative – 5	Councillor Jacob Armstrong Councillor Sue Dobson (Vice Chair) Councillor Vetri Pappa Councillor Andrew Thorpe- Apps Councillor Philip Wilson
			Councillor Murrough O'Brien (SUB)
		Chelmsford Independents Group – 1	Councillor Richard Hyland
Treasury Management and Investment Sub-Committee	7	Liberal Democrat – 4	Councillor Chris Davidson (Chair) Councillor Kieron Franks (Vice Chair) Councillor Steve Hall Councillor Andrew Sosin
		Conservative – 2	Councillor Malcolm Sismey Councillor Roy Whitehead
		Chelmsford Independents Group – 1	Councillor Paul Clark

SCHEDULE D

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee

Councillor Terry Sherlock is proposed as the Council's representative on the South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee and its Sub-Committees (Councillor Andrew Sosin as substitute).

Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies 2024/25

It is proposed that, unless indicated otherwise, the appointments below continue in 2024/25 subject to any changes or additions that may be agreed in accordance with the delegation in recommendation 3 below.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Champions

Councillor Charlene Adutwim
Councillor Ann Davidson
Councillor Jude Deakin

Armed Forces Champion

Councillor Jude Deakin

Climate & Ecology Ambassador

Councillor Terry Sherlock

Health and Wellbeing Ambassador

Councillor Ann Davidson

Body	Term of Office	No. of Representatives	Representative(s)
Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Advisory Board	1 year	1	Councillor Richard Lee
Chelmsford Age Concern	1 year	1	Councillor Ann Davidson
Chelmsford Business Improvement District	1 year	1	Councillor Simon Goldman
Chelmsford CAB Trustee Board	1 year	2	Councillors Hazel Clark and Smita Rajesh
Chelmsford Council for Voluntary Service	1 year	1	Councillor Sue Young
Chelmsford Cultural Development Trust	1 year	1	Councillor Julia Frascona
Chelmsford Educational Foundation	3 years commencing May 2023	2	Councillor Julia Frascona and Sue Young
Chelmsford Fairtrade	1 year	1	Councillor Natacha Dudley

Chelmsford Local Highways Panel	1 year	2	Councillor Kieron Franks Councillor Steph Scott
Chelmsford YMCA	1 year	1	Councillor Jude Deakin
Danbury Lakes Country Park Forum	1 year	2	Councillor Richard Hyland
Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Joint Committee	No fixed term	1	Councillor Janetta Sosin
Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel	1 year	1	Councillor Donna Eley
Essex Waste Partnership Member Board	1 year	1	Councillor Donna Eley
Flood Partnership Board	1 year	1	Councillor Rose Moore
Galleywood Heritage Centre	2 years commencing May 2023	1	Councillor Richard Hyland
King Edward VI Grammar School Historic Foundation Governors	3 years commencing 1st July 2023	2	Councillor Andrew Sosin and Mrs Myra Merchant
Local Government Association – Assembly and Conference - Delegate	1 year	1	Councillor Stephen Robinson
Local Government Association – District Councils Network	1 year	1	Councillor Stephen Robinson
Marsh Farm Country Park Forum	1 year	1	Councillor Terry Sherlock
Mid and South Essex ICS – Mid Essex Locality representative	1 year	1	Councillor Ann Davidson

One Chelmsford Partnership Strategic Board	1 year	1	Councillor Stephen Robinson (Substitute – Councillor Natacha Dudley)
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Adjudication joint Committee.	1 year	1	Councillor Terry Sherlock
Springfield United Charities	4 years commencing May 2023	3	Councillors Ian Fuller and Chloe Tron and Mr R Stevens
Tech Ambassadors	1 year	2	Councillors Marie Goldman and Nora Walsh
The Barge Susan Trust	2 years commencing May 2023	1	Mrs F B Mountain

Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council	1 year	1	Director of Public Places or representative	Director of Public Places or representative
Essex Society for Archaeology and History	1 year	1	Director of Connected Chelmsford or representative	Director of Connected Chelmsford or representative

RECOMMENDED that:

- 1. The appointments detailed in Schedules A, B, C and D above be approved;
- 2. Part 3.2.3 of the Constitution be amended to reflect the changes to the number of places on the bodies referred to in Schedule C;
- 3. The Legal and Democratic Services Manager, after consulting the relevant Group Leaders, be authorised to:
 - (a) make appointments to an Employment Appeals Committee should the need for that Committee arise;
 - (b) make appointments to or approve other changes to the representation of other non-Executive bodies that become necessary during the municipal year, provided that the political balance of those bodies continues to be observed;
- 4. The Legal and Democratic Services Manager, after consulting the political Groups, be authorised to finalise, amend or add to the appointments to Outside Bodies and to make any changes to them during the municipal year.