



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Leader of the Council and Rebecca Huddleston, Chief Executive	Annual Council	16 May 2024

Appointments to Committees, Panels and Groups 2024/25

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To enable Members to be appointed to the Council's non-executive Committees and other panels and groups for the 2024/25 Council Year.

2. Council priorities

2.1 Effective arrangements to carry out the Council's non-executive decision making and advisory functions.

2.2 A well run, forward-thinking council that puts customers first.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That all the current Committees, Panels and Groups be reappointed for 2024/25, with the same number of places on each and with the same membership as in 2023/24 except:

- a) That Councillor Collinson be appointed to the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Preston;
- b) Councillor Robinson be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Collinson;
- c) Councillor Robinson be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Climate Change Sub-Committee in place of Councillor Collinson;
- d) Councillor Robinson be appointed to the Councillor Development Group in place of Councillor Preston;
- e) Councillor Catterall be appointed to the Councillor Development Group in place of Councillor Kay;

- f) Councillor Beavers be appointed to the Audit and Standards Committee in place of Councillor Belshaw;
- g) Councillor Belshaw be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Beavers;
- h) Councillor Carole Stephenson be appointed to the Licensing Committee in place of Councillor Swatton;
- i) Councillor Swatton be appointed to the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Higginson, and;
- j) Councillor Belshaw be appointed to the Planning Policy Group in place of Councillor Carole Stephenson.

3.2 That Councillor Berry be re-appointed as the Wyre Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2024/25.

3.3 That, in the event of the Council being asked to nominate a second representative to the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire for 2024/25, Councillor Peter Le Marinel be appointed (see Paragraph 4.6).

4. Background

4.1 In accordance with the Constitution, the Council appoints its Committees at the Annual Meeting.

4.2 The Local Governance and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 introduced a statutory requirement that, where a relevant authority has a membership divided into different political groups, it must ensure that appointments as a whole is divided.

4.3 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that the allocation of places on non-executive Committees of the Council must be allocated on the following criteria:

- (a) that all seats on a body are not allocated to the same Political Group;
- (b) that the majority of seats on a body are allocated to a particular Political Group, if the number of persons belonging to that Group is the majority of the Authority's membership;
- (c) subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees of a relevant Authority which are allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority;

(d) subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of seats on a body which are allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the number of all seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that Group in membership of the Authority.

4.4 According to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989, which are expressly specified in paragraph 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, a single Member does not constitute a 'group', and any Independent unaligned councillor is not automatically entitled to any committee seats. They can only be allocated a place (or places) if nominated by one of the groups.

4.5 Places on the committees, panels and other groups currently established by the Council, as listed in Appendix 1, have been allocated on the basis of calculations made under the political balance rules set out above. No adjustments are required for 2024/25.

4.6 Each council in Lancashire appoints a representative to the Police and Crime Panel (PCP), which is established as a formal Joint Committee of the 15 local authorities for the Lancashire police force area. The terms of reference of the Panel are set out under Responsibilities for Joint Functions in Part 3.04 of the Council's Constitution. Lancashire councils are each invited to make one nomination to the Panel. To ensure that the required political balance on the Panel is achieved, it is possible that Wyre will be invited to make two nominations, as it was in 2023/24, but that will not be confirmed until after the Panels' AGM on 1 July 2024.

5. Key issues and proposals

5.1 Several changes to committee membership are proposed for 2024/25, as detailed in paragraph 3.1 above. They are all direct, like-for-like changes. No changes have been proposed by the Wyre Independent Group. A full list of the proposed membership of all Committees, Panels and Groups for 2024/25 is attached as Appendix 1.

6. Alternative options considered and rejected

6.1 No alternative options have been considered.

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications	
Finance	There are no additional financial implications associated with this report.
Legal	The proposals in this report are in accordance with legal requirements, as referred to in section 4 of this report. In particular, the Licensing Committee is established under Section 6 of the Licensing Act 2003, Section 154 Gambling Act 2005 in respect of Licensing Act and Gambling Act

	functions and Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of other licensing functions The Constitution will be amended to reflect this legal clarification.
Climate Change	There are no Climate Change implications directly associated with this report.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 – Nominations for membership of committees, panels and groups
2024/25