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Council

6 September, 2022

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership – Councillor G Duggins

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Director of Law and Governance

**Ward(s) affected:**

Not Applicable

**Title:**

**City Council Appointments**

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**Is this a key decision?**

No

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**Executive Summary:**

Appointments to Council bodies are normally made annually at the Council's Annual Meeting. Sadly, this year, vacancies have arisen as the result of the deaths of Councillor John Mutton and Councillor Seamus Walsh. This report informs Council of appointments made under delegated authority to some of those vacancies; seeks approval to the appointment of the Chair of the Ethics Committee and to the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and requests a further delegation to deal with the rest of those vacancies following the outcome of the Sherbourne Ward by election on 22 September, 2022.

**Recommendations:-**

**That the City Council:-**

- (1) **Notes the following appointments made under delegated authority by the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader:-**
  - **Councillor C Miks as the Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee**
  - **Councillor R Singh as the Chair of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)**
  - **Cllr Nazir to the Ethics Committee**
  - **Councillor S Agboola to the Audit and Procurement Committee and the Communities and Housing Scrutiny Board (4)**
- (2) **Approves the appointment of the Chair of Ethics Committee, (together with any associated appointments and subsequent amendments to the membership of the Ethics Committee to ensure political balance); and the appointment to the**

**West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (including identifying the Lead Member for that body), the nominations to be moved by the Leader at the Council meeting on 6 September, 2022.**

- (3) Delegates the appointment of the remaining vacancies to Council bodies (and any subsequential amendments to appointments) to the Director of Law and Governance following consultation with the appropriate Group Leader following the Sherbourne Ward by-election on 22 September, 2022.**

**List of Appendices included:**

None

**Useful background papers:**

None

**Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it, or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

Yes – 6 September, 2022

## **Report title: City Council Appointments**

### **1. Context (or background)**

1.1 Appointments to City Council bodies and outside bodies are normally made annually at the Council's Annual Meeting held in May. Sadly, Councillor John Mutton died on 14 May, 2022, just before the Annual Meeting on 19 May, 2022. In order to ensure that key Council appointments were made and to prevent a gap between the outcome of the subsequent by election for Binley and Willenhall Ward and the next Council Meeting in September, the following appointments were made under delegated authority by the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader, as approved at the Annual Meeting:--

- a. Councillor C Miks as the Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
- b. Councillor R Singh as the Chair of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)
- c. Cllr Nazir to the Ethics Committee
- d. Councillor S Agboola to the Audit and Procurement Committee and the Communities and Housing Scrutiny Board (4)

1.2 Sadly, Councillor S Walsh passed away on 17 July, 2022. This leaves a vacancy as Chair of the Ethics Committee (and Advisory Panel appointments associated with this position- Members Training Development and City of Culture 2021 and Major Events), together with vacancies on the Licensing and Regulatory Committee, the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) and the pool of Members who sit on Appeals Committees. Councillor Walsh was also the City Council's Lead Member appointment on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

1.3 The nominations for the appointment of Chair of Ethics Committee (together with any associated appointments and subsequent amendment to the membership of the Ethics Committee to ensure that the political balance is maintained) and to the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (including the nomination as Lead Member) will be moved by the Leader at the Council meeting on 6 September.

1.4 The Sherbourne Ward by-election will be held on 22 September, 2022. It is proposed that the appointments to the remaining vacancies (together with any subsequent changes to appointments) be delegated to the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the appropriate Group Leader. This will enable the newly elected Councillor to be appointed to Council bodies in advance of the Council meeting on 18 October, 2022. All appointments to Council bodies are subject to the political proportionality rules.

### **2 Options considered and recommended proposal**

2.1 Council is recommended to:-

1. Note the following appointments made under delegated authority by the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader:-

- Councillor C Miks as the Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
- Councillor R Singh as the Chair of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)
- Cllr Nazir to the Ethics Committee
- Councillor S Agboola to the Audit and Procurement Committee and the Communities and Housing Scrutiny Board (4)

2. Approve the appointment of the Chair of Ethics Committee (together with any associated appointments and subsequent amendments to the membership of the Ethics Committee to ensure political balance), and the appointment to the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (including identifying the Lead Member for that body), the nominations to be moved by the Leader at the Council meeting on 6 September, 2022
3. Delegate the appointment of the remaining vacancies to Council bodies (and any subsequent amendments to appointments) to the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the appropriate Group Leader following the Sherbourne Ward by election on 22 September, 2022

### **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 Consultation has taken place with both political Group Leaders.

### **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 If the recommendations are approved, the appointments of the Chair of Ethics Committee and to the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority will take effect from the date of the Council Meeting on 6 September. Other appointments will take effect following the Sherbourne by-election and the exercise of the delegated authority.

### **5. Comments from the Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Governance**

- 5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications relating to these proposals.

- 5.2 Legal implications

All appointments to City Council bodies are made in line with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 to ensure political proportionality.

### **6. Other implications**

Not applicable

#### **Report author(s):**

#### **Name and job title:**

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#### **Directorate:**

Law and Governance

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Barry Hastie	Chief Operating Officer	-	15/08/22	16/08/22
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Councillor G Duggins	Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership	-	16/08/22	16/08/22

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