

Agenda Item No:	12	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	22 May 2023	
Report Title:	Combined Authority Membership and Other Appointments	

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report requests the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2023/2024.

2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority Board. This is usually the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2. The Council is also asked to make appointments to the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Audit and Governance Committee, HR Committee, Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee, Skills and Employment Committee and Transport and Infrastructure Committee in line with political proportionality across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to make the following appointments/nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2023/24:

- 3.1. appoint the Leader of Council to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and one substitute member as set out in Appendix 3;
- 3.2. nominate two members to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and two substitute members from the same political parties as those appointed as set out in Appendix 3;
- 3.3. nominate one member to the Audit and Governance Committee and one substitute member from the same political party as set out in Appendix 3.
- 3.4. nominate one member to the HR Committee, Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee, Skills and Employment Committee and Transport and Infrastructure Committee.
- 3.5. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	Leader of the Council
Report Originator(s)	Paul Medd – Chief Executive – paulmedd@fenland.gov.uk Peter Catchpole - Corporate Director with responsibility for Governance - PeterCatchpole@fenland.gov.uk Amy Brown - Assistant Director & Deputy Monitoring Officer – amybrown@fenland.gov.uk Carol Pilson – Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer
Contact Officer(s)	Elaine Cooper, - Team Leader for Elections, Land charges and Member Services – ecooper@fenland.gov.uk
Background papers	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017

4. COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- 4.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint a member and substitute member for the municipal year 2023/24.

5. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

5.1. Non-Executive Committees

- 5.1.1. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 5.1.2. On 4 May 2023, there were local elections for Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge City Council and Peterborough City Council. The Combined Authority has reviewed the political balance on constituent councils and has requested constituent councils to make the following appointments to these committees.

5.1.2.1. **Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

5.1.2.2. The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members.

5.1.2.3. The implications of applying political proportionality to a fourteen-member Overview and Scrutiny Committee are detailed in Appendix 2.

5.1.2.4. **Audit & Governance Committee**

5.1.2.5. The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.

5.1.2.6. The implications of applying political proportionality to a seven-member Audit and Governance Committee are detailed in Appendix 2. The Council is required to nominate one member to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2023/24 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 2.

5.1.2.7. **Substitute Members**

5.1.2.8. The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.

5.1.2.9. For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both members are absent from a meeting and need to substitute.

5.2. Executive Committees

5.2.1. CPCA Board members are also invited, in consultation with the Mayor to make nominations to the executive committees of the Combined Authority which may include (with the exception of the Chair), another member from their constituent council. The Board member shall also nominate a named substitute member. The Council is therefore asked to note the proposed appointments to the HR, Environment and Sustainable Communities, Skills and Employment, Transport and Infrastructure Committees for the municipal year 2023/24 as set out in the Appendix 3 to this Report.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1. All appointments and nominations made by constituent councils will be reported to the Combined Authority's annual meeting on 31 May 2023.
- 6.2. The political balance calculations in the Appendices are based on up-to-date statistics given by constituent councils and take account of the outcome of the local elections that took place on the 4 May 2023. However, there may be last minute changes in the lead up to constituent councils' annual meetings and Combined Authority's annual meeting on 31st May 2023.
- 6.3. If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations. It is recommended that the Chief Executive is given delegated authority to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant group leaders.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1. Financial Implications

- 7.1.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, no remuneration is to be payable by the Combined Authority to its members.

7.2. Legal Implications

- 7.2.1. These are set out in the report. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires a combined authority to ensure that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.

7.3. Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

8. APPENDICES

- 6.1 Appendix 1 – Political Proportionality across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority area
- 6.2 Appendix 2 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee political balance calculations &– Audit and Governance Committee political balance calculations.
- 6.3 Appendix 3 – FDC Appointments to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority positions.
- 6.4 Accessible versions of the appendices are available on request from Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Audit and Governance Committee of Seven

POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2023

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Independent	Green	St. Neots Independent		Total (exc. Ind)	Entitlement
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1		26	9	22	3		1		58	1 Liberal Democrat
CAMBRIDGE CITY	1	1		26	10	1	4			40	1 Labour
EAST CAMBS.	1		15		13					28	1 Liberal Democrat
FENLAND	1		35		2	6				37	1 Conservative
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	1		21	4	11	15	1			37	1 Conservative
PETERBOROUGH	1		30	14	8	5	3			55	1 Conservative
SOUTH CAMBS.	1		9		35	1				44	1 Liberal Democrat
TOTAL	7	1	136	53	101	31	8	1		299	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			45.48	17.73	33.78		2.68	0.33			
Seat allocation			3	1	3	0	0	0	0	7	
Committee seat allocation	7		3.171	1.2453	2.3723	0	0.1876	0.0238	0		

Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2023

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Independent	Green	St. Neots Independent		Total (exc. Ind)	Entitlement
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	2		26	9	22	3		1		58	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
CAMBRIDGE CITY	2	1		26	10	1	4			40	2 Lab
EAST CAMBS.	2		15		13					28	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
FENLAND	2		35		2	6				37	2 Con
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	2		21	4	11	15	1			37	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
PETERBOROUGH	2		30	14	8	5	3			55	1 Con; 1 Lab
SOUTH CAMBS.	2		9		35	1				44	2 Lib Dem
TOTAL	14	1	136	53	101	31	8	1		299	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			45.48	17.73	33.78		2.68	0.33			
Seat allocation			6	3	5	0	0	0		14	
Committee seat allocation	14		6.342	2.4906	4.7446	0	0.3752	0.0476			

STATUTORY COMMITTEE POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY EXPLANATION: MAY 2023

The political proportionality of the Audit & Governance and Overview & Scrutiny Committees is based upon the total number of Councillors sitting at constituent authorities from political parties registered nationally with the Electoral Commission. Therefore, the total number of Councillors across the combined authority area disregards those elected as Independents. Following the elections in May 2023 this provides a total of 299 elected members (the total is 332 including Independents).

The total number of elected representatives across each of the constituent authorities are totalled by political party and a total percentage of representation is calculated (i.e. there are 136 Conservative members divided by the total of all members (299) to reach a proportionality of 45.48%). The Overview & Scrutiny Committee has 14 members in total; and Audit & Governance seven. The proportionality is then factored against the total membership to provide a seat allocation by political group.

Once this 'seat' allocation has been derived it is necessary to allocate the 'seats' against the constituent authorities. Where a political party has a majority of members on a constituent authority it follows that party would be allocated a 'seat' on the Committee. However, the political balance of the combined authority area has to be reflected and this requires an arithmetical call with regard to membership between constituent authorities.

The Audit & Governance Committee has a membership of seven, following the May 2023 elections the balance based upon proportionality would be three Conservative; three Liberal Democrats; and one Labour members. The allocation is then based upon the percentage of members from each political party at the individual constituent authorities. To reflect the political balance it is necessary to allocate seats based upon the percentage of elected members by constituent authority. Table 1, below shows the constituent authorities with most Conservative members to fill the allocation of three are: Fenland, Peterborough and Huntingdonshire. The three Liberal Democrat members should, therefore, represent Cambridgeshire County Council, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire. The one Labour members should, therefore, be a representative of Cambridge City Council.

Table 1

Constituent Authority	Conservative %age	Labour %age	Liberal Democrat %age	Others %age	A&G 'seat' allocation
Cambridgeshire	44.83	15.52	37.93	1.72	LIB DEM
Cambridge City	0.00	65.00	25.00	10.00	LAB
East Cambridgeshire	53.57	0.00	46.43	0.00	LIB DEM
Fenland	94.59	0.00	5.41	0.00	CON
Huntingdonshire	56.76	10.81	29.73	2.70	CON
Peterborough	54.55	25.45	14.55	5.45	CON
South Cambridgeshire	20.45	0.00	79.55	0.00	LIB DEM

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee has a membership of 14, following the May 2023 elections the balance based upon proportionality would be six Conservative; three Labour; and five Liberal Democrat members. The allocation is then based upon the percentage of members from each political party at the individual constituent authorities. To reflect the political balance it is necessary

to allocate seats based upon the percentage of elected members by constituent authority. Where one political party has two-thirds representation on a constituent authority that party has been allocated full representation (i.e. two seats) on the committee. Table 2, below shows the constituent authorities with most Conservative members to fill the allocation of seven are: Fenland (two members), Huntingdonshire (two members), East Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and the County Council. The three Labour members should, therefore, be representatives of Cambridge City (two members) and Peterborough. The four Liberal Democrat members should, therefore, represent South Cambridgeshire (two members), East Cambridgeshire, and the County Council.

Table 2

Constituent Authority	Conservative %age	Labour %age	Liberal Democrat %age	Others %age	O&S 'seat' allocation
Cambridgeshire	44.83	15.52	37.93	1.72	1 CON, 1 LIB DEM
Cambridge City	0.00	65.00	25.00	10.00	2 LAB
East Cambridgeshire	53.57	0.00	46.43	0.00	1 CON, 1 LIB DEM
Fenland	94.59	0.00	5.41	0.00	2 CON
Huntingdonshire	56.76	10.81	29.73	2.70	1 CON, 1 LIB DEM
Peterborough	54.55	25.45	14.55	5.45	1 CON, 1 LAB
South Cambridgeshire	20.45	0.00	79.55	0.00	2 LIB DEM

APPENDIX 3

Committee	Proportionality	Name of FDC Nominee
Combined Authority Board	Conservative	Cllr Chris Boden
Combined Authority Board Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Jan French
CPCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Conservative	Cllr Maureen Davis
CPCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Conservative	Cllr Ann Hay
CPCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Elisabeth Sennitt Clough
CPCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Steve Tierney
CPCA Audit and Governance Committee	Conservative	Cllr Gary Christy
CPCA Audit and Governance Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Susan Wallwork
Employment Committee	Conservative	Cllr Chris Boden
Employment Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Jan French
Housing and Communities Committee	Conservative	Cllr Dee Laws
Housing and Communities Committee Substitute	Conservative	Councillor Sam Hoy
Skills Committee	Conservative	Cllr Ian Benney
Skills Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Dr Haq Nawaz
Transport and Infrastructure Committee	Conservative	Cllr Chris Seaton
Transport and Infrastructure Committee Substitute	Conservative	Cllr Dr Haq Nawaz