

14 May 2026



Princes Road
Maldon
Essex CM9 5DL

www.maldon.gov.uk



SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Doug Wilkinson

Dear Councillor

STATUTORY ANNUAL COUNCIL – 14 MAY 2026

Please find enclosed the following reports, for consideration at the above meeting, which were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

13. **Leaders and Composition of Political Groups** (Pages 3 - 4)
14. **Appointment of Membership of Committees of the Council** (Pages 5 - 12)
18. **Appointment of Representatives to Local Government and Outside Bodies**
(Pages 13 - 20)
19. **Appointment of Members to serve on Working Groups of the Council** (Pages 21
- 26)

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

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**REPORT of
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**to
ANNUAL COUNCIL
14 MAY 2026**

LEADERS AND COMPOSITION OF POLITICAL GROUPS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To appoint the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal year to May 2027.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the Council considers ratification of the Leader-Designate as Leader of the Council;
- (ii) That the Council elects the Deputy Leader of the Council.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 As required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Director of Legal and Governance has been notified that the compositions of the political Groups on the Council are as follows

Conservative Group (9)	Leader	Councillor S J N Morgan
	Members	Councillors: D O Bown J R Burrell-Cook M F L Durham W J Laybourn C P Morley R G Pratt M E Thompson L L Wiffen
Liberal Democrat Group (7)	Leader	Councillor J Driver
	Members	Councillors: S J Burwood S Dodsley K Jennings N D Spenceley P L Spenceley N J Swindle
The Maldon District Independent Group (5)	Leader	Councillor R H Siddall
	Members	Councillors: M G Bassenger A Fittock J C Hughes E L Stephens

District Support Group (4)	Leader	Councillor J C Stilts
	Members	Councillors: L J Haywood K M H Lagan W Stamp, CC
Reform UK (2)	Leader	Councillor A S Fluker
	Members	Councillor M G Neall

3.2 A further four members of the Council are not aligned to a political group. They are:

- Councillor V J Bell
- Councillor A M Lay
- Councillor U G Siddall-Norman
- Councillor S White

3.3 In accordance with the Council's Political Parties and Associated Arrangements, Councillor S J N Morgan is therefore recognised as Leader-designate.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The information is provided for Members to appoint to the posts of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

5.1 The posts of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council work across all corporate priorities but specifically help to contribute to the governance guiding principle, with Maldon District Council working with partners.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The Leader of the Council will be the Council's figurehead and promote customer engagement.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Appointment to posts underpins good governance and reduces risk.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – Appointment to these posts provides member leadership that supports devolution and reorganisation discussions

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to: Emma Holmes Director of Legal and Governance & Monitoring Officer.



**REPORT of
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**to
ANNUAL COUNCIL
14 MAY 2026**

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To appoint serving Members to Committees for the Municipal year to May 2027.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the Member nominations set out in **APPENDIX A**, be approved;
- (ii) That where nominations have not been received, Members are appointed to these Committee seats as set out in **APPENDIX A**.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Under Section 15(1)(b) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council is required at its Annual Meeting to review the representation of different Political Groups on Committees of the authority.

3.2 In carrying out such a review and in making appointments to Committees following that review, the Council is under a duty only to make such appointments as give effect to the principles contained in Section 15(5) of the above Act. In essence, this requires local authorities to review Committee membership and political representation annually. By law, seats on Committees must be allocated in proportion to the political composition of the Council. In addition, the total number of seats across all of the Committees must reflect the overall political balance of the Council.

3.3 Notification has been made to me of five Political Groups constituted for the purposes of the political balance provisions namely:

Conservative Group (9)	Leader	Councillor S J N Morgan
	Members	Councillors: D O Bown J R Burrell-Cook M F L Durham W J Laybourn C P Morley R G Pratt M E Thompson L L Wiffen

Liberal Democrat Group (7)	Leader	Councillor J Driver
	Members	Councillors: S J Burwood S Dodsley K Jennings N D Spenceley P L Spenceley N J Swindle
The Maldon District Independent Group (5)	Leader	Councillor R H Siddall
	Members	Councillors: M G Bassenger A Fittock J C Hughes E L Stephens
District Support Group (4)	Leader	Councillor J C Stilts
	Members	Councillors: L J Haywood K M H Lagan W Stamp CC
Reform UK (2)	Leader	Councillor A S Fluker
	Members	Councillor M G Neall

- 3.4 There are a further four elected Members that are not part of a political group:
- Councillor V J Bell
 - Councillor A M Lay
 - Councillor U G Siddall- Norman
 - Councillor S White
- 3.5 Each Member number accounts for 3.22% of membership and seat allocation.
- 3.6 No Political Group has a majority of the Members of the Council (51% or more) so that it would have a right to request a majority on every Committee.
- 3.7 In accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 Part IV, Paragraph 16(a), the membership of the Area Planning Committees is confirmed in the attached **APPENDIX A**.
- 3.8 Draft Regulations currently set out that from the 30 September 2026 Planning Committees will be restricted to a maximum number of 13 Seats. A future report to vary the Constitution will be presented to the Performance Audit and Governance Committee in due course. Training will be required under the regulations for all Councillors sitting on this committee prior to its implementation. Therefore, the Council is requested to appoint 13 members to the District Planning Committee which will take effect from 30 September 2026.
- 3.9 Chairperson training will be available to those appointed to Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson positions, on either 18 May 2026 at 6pm or 21 May 2026 at 2.30pm.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Group nominations for allocated Committee seats are provided, and where nominations have not been received, Members are asked to appoint Committee seats as set out in **APPENDIX A**.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

5.1 Elements of all areas of Corporate Plan delivery are covered in the activities of the Committees.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Customer delivery is driven by some of the Committee activity.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Risk management is covered in some of the Committee activity.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Financial management is covered in some of the Committee activity.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – None.

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to: Emma Holmes Director of Legal and Governance.

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Committees and Political Balance

	Councillor nominations from:						Non-Aligned	Non-Members
	Conservative Group	District Support Group	Liberal Democrat Group	The Maldon District Independent Group	Reform UK			
Performance, Governance and Audit Committee (10)	D O Bown R G Pratt M E Thompson	W Stamp CC	S Dodsley N D Spenceley	J C Hughes R H Siddall	M G Neall	One Member <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	Independent Person D Smith	
Strategy and Resources Committee (11)	J R Burrell-Cook M F L Durham S J N Morgan	K M H Lagan	S Dodsley J Driver P L Spenceley	M G Bassenger A Fittock	A S Fluker	One Member <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	-	
Licensing Committee (10)	M F L Durham S J N Morgan M E Thompson	L J Haywood J C Stilts	K Jennings N D Spenceley	M G Bassenger E L Stephens	-	One Member <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	-	
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (10) <i>(including Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting as the Crime and Disorder Committee)</i>	J R Burrell-Cook M F L Durham C P Morley	L J Haywood	N D Spenceley N J Swindle	R H Siddall E L Stephens	A S Fluker	One Member <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	-	

	Councillor nominations from:							
	Conservative Group	District Support Group	Liberal Democrat Group	The Maldon District Independent Group	Reform UK	Non-Aligned	Non-Members	
Page 10 Joint Standards Committee (8 plus 3 Non-Voting Members)	S J N Morgan M E Thompson	J C Stilts	S J Burwood P L Spenceley	M G Bassenger	-	Two Members <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	Two Parish / Town Councillors: Parish Councillor Michael J Hall and Town Councillor S C Stratton Independent Person J Mitchell K Payne (deputy)	
Investigating and Disciplinary Committee (5)	M E Thompson	W Stamp CC	P L Spenceley	-	-	Two Members <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>	-	
Investigating and Disciplinary Panel (pool of 10)*	J R Burrell-Cook M F L Durham S J N Morgan	K M H Lagan	S Dodsley N D Spenceley	M G Bassenger R H Siddall	-	Two Members <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>		
*Minimum of five Members of the Council – politically balanced – of which three have not served on the initial investigation carried out by the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee. In addition, two or three Independent Persons appointed by the Council to assist the Joint Standards Committee under the Localism Act 2011.								

APPOINTMENTS BOARD (6):

Conservative Group	District Support Group	Liberal Democrat Group	The Maldon District Independent Group	Reform UK	Non-Aligned
Councillors to be appointed following confirmation of all other Committee Membership, including Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, taking into consideration the following.					
Appointments Board Membership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader of the Council (or Deputy) • Opposition Leader (or Deputy) • Chairperson (or Vice-Chairperson) of the Strategy and Resources Committee • Chairperson (or Vice-Chairperson) of the Performance, Governance and Audit Committee • PLUS two other named Members appointed by the Council (political balance provisions shall apply). 					

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	Councillor nominations from:					
	Conservative Group	District Support Group	Liberal Democrat Group	The Maldon District Independent Group	Reform UK	Non-Aligned
District Planning Committee (31)	All Members	All Members	All Members	All Members	All Members	All Members
District Planning Committee (13) <i>From 30 September 2026</i>	M F L Durham S J N Morgan M E Thompson L L Wiffen	L J Haywood J C Stilts	S Dodsley J Driver P L Spenceley	M G Bassenger A Fittock	A S Fluker	One Member <i>(Appointment of the Council)</i>

APPENDIX A

In accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 Part IV, Paragraph 16(a), the membership of the Area Planning Committees is confirmed as follows:

	Conservative Group	District Support Group	Liberal Democrat Group	The Maldon District Independent Group	Reform UK	Non-Aligned
Central Area Planning Committee (11)	J R Burrell-Cook	K M H Lagan J C Stilts	S J Burwood S Dodsley J Driver K Jennings N D Spenceley P L Spenceley N J Swindle	-	-	A M Lay
North Western Area Planning Committee (9)	M F L Durham S J N Morgan C P Morley M E Thompson L L Wiffen	-	-	J C Hughes R H Siddall E L Stephens	-	S White
South Eastern Area Planning Committee (11)	D O Bown W J Laybourn R G Pratt	L J Haywood W Stamp CC	-	M G Bassenger A Fittock	A S Fluker M G Neall	V J Bell U G C Siddall-Norman



REPORT of CHIEF EXECUTIVE

to
ANNUAL COUNCIL
14 MAY 2026

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OUTSIDE BODIES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of representatives to serve on the Local Government and Outside Bodies for the Municipal Year to May 2027.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the appointment of representatives to Local Government and Outside Bodies, as detailed in **APPENDIX 1** nominated by the respective Political Groups, be agreed for the Municipal Year to May 2027;
- (ii) That where vacant Outside Body seats are not nominated to Members appoint to these;
- (iii) That Members appointed as representatives to Local Government and Outside Bodies are responsible for sharing Minutes of meetings attended, to be stored centrally on the Modern.Gov library as per the details in section 3.3 below.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 A list of the proposed appointments to Local Government and Outside Bodies is attached at **APPENDIX 1**. These appointments are distinct from those made from within individual Committee memberships, which will be referred to Committees at their first meetings.
- 3.2 Attention is drawn to the Outside Bodies detailed below and the changes that have become apparent over the past year:
- The District Council network has been renamed Local Councils network.
 - Crouch Valley Coastal Community Group was dissolved in November 2025. No representative is therefore required.
 - Maldon High Street Focus Group is no longer required as this group has been integrated into the Maldon District Tourism Group.
 - The appointment to the Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners will begin from June 2026 and is a three-year appointment. This appointment will be for the full three-years and will continue until June 2029.

- The Mid Essex Joint Committee is a new Committee which will consist of six representatives from Essex County Council, two from Maldon District Council, two Members from Chelmsford City Council and two Members from Brentwood Borough Council. The Committee will oversee and coordinate the transition to the new unitary authority. It has a time-limited role to make key implementation decisions, ensure cooperation between councils, and drive progress until the shadow authority takes over following elections.
- The NHS Mid and South Essex Alliance has been renamed the Mid Essex Alliance.
- One Maldon District is now named One Maldon District Partnership.
- Following the Council restructure the Lead Officer for a number of groups has been changed to reflect this.

3.3 At the Statutory Annual Meeting in November 2020, to enable Member visibility, it was resolved that where papers are not private and confidential, and subject to agreement by the relevant body, they would be stored on the central Modern.Gov library for all Members to access. The appointed Member representative(s) is asked to use the following FreshService link to submit papers - <https://maldon.freshservice.com/support/catalog/items/105>.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 This report provides a list of Local Government and Outside Bodies for the Council and seeks Member appointment for the municipal year to May 2027.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

5.1 Representation on outside bodies will support our corporate plan priorities.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Representation on some of the outside bodies listed will support our customers.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Attendance limits risk, as Maldon District Council is aware of what is going on in wider partner context.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Officer and Member time taken to attend Local Government and Outside Bodies.
- (vi) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – None.

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to: Emma Holmes Director of Legal and Governance.

Representatives to Outside Bodies

Local Government Bodies:

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	REPRESENTATIVE
Local Government East (previously East of England LGA)	Chief Executive	Leader of the Council
Local Government Association	Chief Executive	Leader of the Council
Local Councils network	Chief Executive	Leader of the Council

Outside Bodies (not appointed by Maldon District Council but involve Members of the Council):

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	REPRESENTATIVE
Essex Leaders and Chief Executives Group NB: currently where Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) work sits	Chief Executive	Leader of the Council
Essex Partnership Board (Mid Essex Representative)	Chief Executive	Leader of the Council

Representatives to Outside Bodies made by the Council:

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	TO BE APPOINTED	2026/27 Nominations
A12 Widening Member Group (Essex County Council (ECC))	Director Place Planning and Growth	One Ward Councillor from Great Totham and Wickham Bishops	J C Hughes S J N Morgan
Action for Family Carers Liaison Board	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	One Member of Council	P L Spenceley
Blackwater Estuary Siltation Steering Group – Annual meeting	Head of Assets, Coast and Countryside	One Member of the Council (Same Member as Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners Representative – from June 2026)	A S Fluker (See note in Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners)
Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council	Director of Strategy and Improvement	One Member of the Council	M G Neall
Dementia Friendly Community	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	One Member of the Council	P L Spenceley

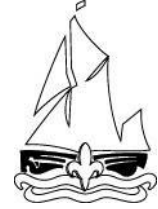
BODY	LEAD OFFICER	TO BE APPOINTED	2026/27 Nominations
Digital Essex Steering Group	Director of Strategy and Improvement	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee
Drapers Farm Sports Club Committee	Head of Asset, Coast and Countryside	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	N D Spenceley <i>Substitute: P L Spenceley</i>
Essex Civilian and Military Partnership Board	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	One Member of the Council	S J N Morgan
Essex Coastal Forum	Head of Asset, Coast and Countryside	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	A Fittock <i>Substitute: To be nominated</i>
Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Joint Committee	Head of Environmental Health, waste Environment and Sustainability / Head of Community Safety & Customer Services and Community Protection Manager	One Member of the Council	M F L Durham
Essex County Council Climate Summits (twice yearly)	Head of Environmental Health, Waste, Environment and Sustainability	Leader of the Council	Leader of the Council
Essex Flood Partnership Board	Head of Environmental Health, Waste, Environment and Sustainability	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	P L Spenceley <i>Substitute: N D Spenceley</i>
Essex Future of Leisure Board	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	One Member of the Council	L J Haywood

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	TO BE APPOINTED	2026/27 Nominations
Essex Planning Portfolio Holders Group	Director Place Planning and Growth	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee <i>Substitute: Vice-Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee</i>	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee <i>Substitute: Vice-Chairperson Strategy and Resources Committee</i>
Essex Police Fire and Crime Panel <i>(The Substitute must be from the same Political Group)</i>	Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	J R Burrell-Cook <i>Substitute: S J N Morgan</i>
Essex Waste Member Partnership Board	Waste Commissioning and Contracts Manager / Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee <i>Substitute: Vice-Chairperson Strategy and Resources Committee</i>	Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee <i>Substitute: Vice-Chairperson Strategy and Resources Committee</i>
Livewell Partnership Group	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	Six Members of the Council	M G Bassenger L J Haywood K M H Lagan N D Spenceley <i>To be nominated</i> <i>To be nominated</i>
Maldon Coastal and Flooding Meeting	Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	Leader of the Council <i>And One Member of the Council</i>	Leader of the Council P L Spenceley
Maldon District Tourism Group	Head of Economic Development	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	L J Haywood <i>Substitute: K Jennings</i>

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	TO BE APPOINTED	2026/27 Nominations
Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners <i>This position is an appointment as a Commissioner for a minimum period of three years (appointment will continue even if Member leaves the Council)</i>	Head of Assets, Coast and Countryside	One member of Council (same as Blackwater Estuary representative)	A S Fluker
Mid Essex Joint Committee	Chief Executive	Two Members of the Council	Leader of the Council <i>To be nominated</i>
NHS Mid Essex Alliance	Director of Strategy and Improvement / Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	Leader of the Council	Leader of the Council
North Essex Economic Board (NEEB)	Director of Strategy and Improvement / Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	Leader of the Council	Leader of the Council
One Maldon District Partnership	Director of Strategy and Improvement / Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	Leader of the Council One Opposition Leader	Leader of the Council J Driver
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Adjudication Joint Committee (annual meeting)	None	One Member of the Council	R G Pratt
Plume Educational Trust <i>(Four yearly appointment)</i>	None	Two Members of the Council	N D Spenceley (from 15 June 2025) K Jennings (from 15 June 2023 to 14 June 2027)
Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) (Community Safety)	Community Protection Manager / Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	P L Spenceley J C Stilts <i>Substitute: K M H Lagan</i>
Safer Essex Group	Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	One Member of the Council	J C Stilts

BODY	LEAD OFFICER	TO BE APPOINTED	2026/27 Nominations
South Essex Parking Partnership – Joint Committee	Community Protection Manager / Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	One Member of the Council <i>Substitute: One Member of the Council</i>	R G Pratt <i>Substitute: S J N Morgan</i>
Southend Airport Consultative Committee	Head of Economic Development	One Member of the Council	D O Bown
Stow Maries Aerodrome Consultative Committee (Appointed 20/12/18)	Director of Finance	Two Members of the Council	K M H Lagan <i>To be nominated</i>
The Thomas Plume Library Charitable Incorporated Organisation	None	One Member of Council	N D Spenceley

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**REPORT of
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**to
ANNUAL COUNCIL
14 MAY 2026**

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON WORKING GROUPS OF THE COUNCIL

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To appoint Members to serve on Working Groups of the Council for the Municipal year to May 2027.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That Members approve the nominations for the Working Groups provided by the respective Political Groups (**APPENDIX 1**);
- (ii) That where there are vacancies to Working Groups, Members appoint to these.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 A list of proposed nominations has been received from the respective Political Groups in respect of the Council's Working Groups and these are detailed in **APPENDIX 1** to this report.
- 3.2 An annual housekeeping review of the Working Groups has taken place with senior officers as part of the process, as a result the following changes are recommended this year:
- The Hythe Quay Desilting Task and Finish Group to be closed as the works have been completed.
 - The Member and Officer Net Zero Working Group to be renamed the Environmental and Sustainability Working Group to reflect the wider focus of the working Group.
 - Strategic Asset Group to be renamed Strategic Asset Working Group to confirm this is a Working Group.
 - Strategic Housing Board to be renamed Strategic Housing Working Group to confirm this is a Working Group.
- 3.3 Additional Working Groups that are specific to a Committee will be dealt with at the first meeting of that Committee.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The report and **APPENDIX 1** provides a list of Member Working Group appointments for approval for the Municipal Year to May 2027

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

- 5.1 Working group activity will help inform areas of Corporate plan delivery.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Some Working Group activity links to customers.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Working Group activity helps to bring forward informed reports and reduces operational risks
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Some Working Group activity links to Council finances.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – Working Group has been established to support member input on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation.

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to: Emma Holmes Legal and Governance Director.

Member Working Groups

Appointed by the Council

Member Working Group	Lead Officer	To appoint	2026/27 nominations
Environmental and Sustainability Working Group (previously Member and Officer Net Zero Working Group)	Head of Environmental Health, Waste, Environment and Sustainability	Eight Members of the Council	8 Members: D O Bown S Dodsley L J Haywood K M H Lagan R H Siddall P L Spenceley E L Stephens J C Stilts
Finance Member Group	Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer)	Ten Members of the Council consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Group Leaders • Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee (S&R) • Vice-Chairperson of the S&R • Chairperson of the Performance, Governance and Audit Committee (PGA) • Vice-Chairperson of the PGA 	Political Group Leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative Group (S J N Morgan) • District Support Group (J C Stilts) • Liberal Democrat Group (J Driver) • Reform UK (A S Fluker) • The Maldon District Independent Group (R H Siddall) Chairperson of the S&R (<i>to be appointed</i>) Vice-Chairperson of the S&R (<i>to be appointed</i>) Chairperson of the PGA (<i>to be appointed</i>) Vice-Chairperson of the PGA (<i>to be appointed</i>) One Member: A Fittock N D Spenceley M E Thompson

Member Working Group	Lead Officer	To appoint	2026/27 nominations
Leisure Partnership Board (Working Group)	Head of Health Integration and Wellbeing	Eight Members of the Council (plus Places Leisure representatives)	8 Members: M F L Durham L J Haywood A S Fluker K M H Lagan A M Lay R H Siddall P L Spenceley E L Stephens
Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution Working Group	Chief Executive	Ten Members of the Council, inclusive of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader of the Council • Opposition Leader(s) 	10 Members: <u>Leader of the Council</u> <i>To be appointed</i> <u>Opposition Leader(s):</u> <i>To be confirmed</i> <u>Members:</u> J Driver A S Fluker R H Siddall P L Spenceley W Stamp CC M E Thompson <i>To be nominated</i> <i>To be nominated</i>
Member Training and Development Member Working Group	Director of Legal and Governance	Eight Members of the Council	8 Members: L J Haywood S J N Morgan P L Spenceley E L Stephens M E Thompson <i>To be nominated</i> <i>To be nominated</i> <i>To be nominated</i>

Member Working Group	Lead Officer	To appoint	2026/27 nominations
Planning Policy Working Group	Director of Place, Planning and Growth	Eight Members of the Council	8 Members: M G Bassenger J R Burrell-Cook J Driver A Fittock A S Fluker S J N Morgan P L Spenceley W Stamp CC M E Thompson
Strategic Asset Working Group (previously Strategic Asset Group)	Director of Neighbourhood Services and Communities	Ten Members of the Council	10 Members: S Dodsley J Driver A Fittock A S Fluker L J Haywood K M H Lagan S J N Morgan R H Siddall P L Spenceley M E Thompson
Strategic Housing Working Group (previously Strategic Housing Board)	Head of Housing and Building Control	Nine Members of the Council	9 Members: S Dodsley K Jennings R H Siddall P L Spenceley E L Stephens J C Stilts M E Thompson <i>To be nominated</i> <i>To be nominated</i>

PANEL (not a Working Group)

Panel	Lead Officer	Panel Details	2026/27 nominations
<p>Where Quality of Life Matters Assurance Panel (Appointed by the Council on 10 July 2025 – Minute No. 148 refers)</p>	<p>Director of Strategy and Improvement</p>	<p>Role: To provide final ratification of the applications proposed for support by the Scoring Panel.</p> <p>Rationale: To offer an additional later of validation, ensuring medium and large grant applications meet the Council's strategic needs and the protection of public funds</p>	<p>Leader of the Council (<i>to be appointed</i>)</p> <p>Chairperson of the Strategy and Resources Committee (<i>to be appointed</i>)</p> <p>R H Siddall L J Haywood P L Spenceley M E Thompson</p>