



**REPORT of  
STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

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to  
**COUNCIL**  
**17 DECEMBER 2020**

**RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR E L BAMFORD AND ASSOCIATED  
VACANCIES**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To deal with associated vacancies following the resignation of Councillor Elaine Bamford as a District Councillor.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (i) That the Council agrees appointments to the Working Group and Outside body positions which have been left vacant following the resignation of Councillor Elaine Bamford;
- (ii) That where Committee positions have been allocated to a political Group, in line with political balance, to ratify the Group nominations.

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 Councillor E L Bamford has resigned as a Maldon District Councillor and her position for Tollesbury East will now remain vacant until a by-election can take place in May 2021, according to the Coronavirus Act 2020 and The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.
- 3.2 Councillor Bamford was the Leader of the Conservative Group, and therefore the Leader of the Opposition. The Conservative Group is meeting on Thursday 10 December 2020 to confirm replacement for this role and agree nominations for the associated Group places.
- 3.3 On reviewing the Local Government and Housing Act (LGHA) duty to allocate seats to political Groups and particularly 15.5.d (as detailed below) the Numbers that should allocated across all Committee as set out in the table overleaf.
- (d) subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority

Independent	33
Conservative	20
Democratic Alliance	9
Non-Aligned	2
	64

- 3.4 This means the vacant post on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be allocated to the Conservative Group, and the vacant post on the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee to the Independent Group. Their nominations for these seats are as set out below:

<b>Committee Vacancy</b>	<b>Group allocation</b>	<b>Group nomination</b>
Overview and Scrutiny	Conservative Group	
Investigating and Disciplinary	Independent Group	C Mayes

- 3.5 All Working Group and Outside Body positions associated with the Leader of the Opposition position will be filled by the replacement Leader of the Conservative Group.
- 3.6 Other Working Groups that will need appointment from the Conservative group are:
- Asset Management Working Group;
  - Bradwell 'B' Power Station Working Group;
  - COVID-19 Reset and Recovery Member Working Group;
  - Strategic Housing Board;
  - Strategies and Engagement Member Task and Finish Working Group.
- 3.7 The Outside Bodies that will need appointment from the Conservative group are:
- Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council;
  - Livewell Partnership Group.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The report seeks to address the vacancies associated with the recent resignation of Councillor E L Bamford.

#### **5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES**

- 5.1 Appointment to the associated vacancies will help with Member representation for delivery of our Strategic themes

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Not applicable (NA).
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – NA.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – Filling of the vacancies allows the Council to continue operating in a way that maintains good governance.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Ensuring member representation for the working groups and outside bodies may help with Resource-based decisions.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Ensuring member representation for the working groups and outside bodies may help with Resource- based decisions.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – NA.
- (vii) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** - Ensuring member representation for the working groups and outside bodies may help with Strengthening Communities.

Background Papers: None.

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