

# WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE SELECTION PANEL

HELD ON 16 MAY 2023 IN THE BOARDROOM - CIVIC OFFICES

Present: Councillor Tahir Aziz  
Councillor Ann-Marie Barker  
Councillor Amanda Boote  
Councillor Josh Brown  
Councillor Kevin Davis  
Councillor Will Forster  
Councillor Anila Javaid  
Councillor Daryl Jordan

Julie Fisher (Chairman)  
Frank Jeffrey  
Gareth John  
Natalie Khan

### 1. Election of Chairman

Councillor Ann-Maire Barker moved and Councillor Amanda Boote seconded the election of Julie Fisher as Chairman of the Panel.

RESOLVED

That the Julie Fisher be elected Chairman of the Panel for the Municipal Year.

### 2. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

### 3. Principles of Proportionality.

The Members of the Panel considered a report which sought to provide an introduction to the principles of proportionality, setting out the provisions within legislation, the guidance of the Local Government Association and the practices of Woking Borough Council. The allocation of seats on Committees and other prescribed bodies had to be undertaken in accordance with the political balance rules set out in Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Local Government Regulations 1990.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**4. Proportionality 2023/24**

Panel Members had before them a report on proportionality of the Council. The State of the Parties for 2023/24 was noted as follows:

**State of the Political Groups**

Group	Members	% Proportionality
Liberal Democrat	20	67
Conservative	4	13
Labour	3	10
Independent	3	10
Totals	30	100

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**5. Appointment of Members to Committees and Sub-Committees 2023/24.**

The Panel was invited to consider the ‘proportionality’ of appointments to the Committees and Sub-Committees for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

**RECOMMENDED to Council**

**That the proportions for each Committee and Sub-Committee be settled as follows:**

**Committee Appointments**

Committee	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Appeals (3)	2	0	1	0
Licensing (10)	7	1	1	1
Overview and Scrutiny (10)	6	2	1	1
Planning (10)	7	1	1	1
Standards and Audit (6)	4	1	0	1

**Sub-Committee Appointments**

Committee	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Licensing Sub-Cttee A (3)	2	1	0	0
Licensing Sub-Cttee B (3)	2	0	1	0
Taxi Licensing Sub-Cttee (6)	4	1	1	0
Standards Panel (4)	3	0	0	1

**6. Appointment of Members to Working Groups 2023/24.**

Members of the Panel were presented with a report on the current list of working groups under the remits of the Council, the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny

## Actions

Committee. It was noted that a number of new Groups had been established in recent months.

It was proposed that that the HIF Housing Outputs Panel should be disbanded, noting that the Panel had last met in the summer of 2022. The Panel further agreed to recommend that the membership of the Military Covenant Advisory Panel should be increased from 6 to 7.

### RECOMMENDED to Council

- That (i) the HIF Housing Outputs Panel be disbanded;
- (ii) the membership of the Military Covenant Advisory Panel be increased by 1, creating a Panel of 7 Members;
- (iii) the proportions for each Group be settled as follows:

#### Working Groups Under the Remit of Council

Working Group	Lib	Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Appointments Panel (5)	3		1	1	0
Corporate Governance WG (3)	2		1	0	0
Freedom of the Borough WG (6)	5		0	0	1
Military Covenant Adv. Panel (7)	4		1	1	1
Sheerwater Regen. Delivery and Oversight Board (7)	4		1	1	1

#### Working Groups Under the Remit of the Executive

Working Group	Lib	Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Greener Woking WG (8)	5		2	1	0
Joint Infrastructure WG (7)	4		1	1	1
Leisure Partnership Board (5)	4		1	0	0
Local Dev. Framework WG (7)	4		1	1	1
Neighbourhood CIL WG (6)	3		1	1	1
Safer Woking Partnership (4)	3		0	0	1
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (2)	2		0	0	0
Woking Wellbeing Group (4)	3		0	0	1

#### Working Groups Under the Remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Working Group	Lib	Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Economic Development WG (7)	5		1	1	0
Finance WG (7)	4		1	1	1
HIF Housing Outputs WG (7)	5		1	0	1
Housing Working Group (7)	4		1	1	1

## 7. Appointment of Members to Ad Hoc Bodies 2023/24.

The Panel considered appointments of representatives to Ad Hoc Bodies and nominations to the Surrey Leaders' Group. It was noted that the Surrey Leaders Group was seeking nominations from each of the Borough and District Authorities and that any Members put

## Actions

forward would need to complete a nomination form in order to be considered.

### RECOMMENDED to Council

That the proportions for each appointment be settled as follows:

		LIB DEM	CON	LAB	IND
Ashford & St Peters Hospital NHS Trust (3 years to 2025)	1 rep	1			
Basingstoke Canal Jt Management Cttee (1 year)	2 reps	1	1		
	2 subs	1			1
Countryside Partnership Board. Sub appointed to the Local Liaison Group (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub		1		
Fairoaks Airport Consultative Cttee (1 year).	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			
Farnborough Airport Consultative Cttee (1 year).	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			
Friends of Woking Palace (1 year)	1 rep	1			
Maybury Centre Trust (4 years to 2026 and 2027 respectively)	2 reps	1 (2026)		1 (2027)	
Nat. Parking Adjud. Service Jt Cttee (2 years to 2025)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			
Police & Crime Panel (1 year)	1 rep	1			

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ShopMobility (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub				1
SE Employers (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub		1		
Sport Woking (1 year)	2 reps	1		1	
Surrey County Playing Fields Assoc. (1 year)	1 rep	1			
Sutton Green Village Hall Man. Cttee (1 year)	2 reps inc. 1 Ward Cllr	1	1		
Woking Access Group (1 year)	2 reps	1		1	
Woking Community Transport (1 year)	2 observers	1		1	
Woking People of Faith (5 years to 2026)	1 rep	1			
Woking Youth Council (1 year)	2 reps	1	1		
	1 sub				1

**8. Ex-Officio Appointments 2023/24.**

The list of current Ex-Officio appointments was considered by the Panel. A number of the appointments for the coming year would be confirmed once the Portfolio positions had been filled.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**9. Appointment of the Armed Forces Champion 2023/24.**

The Members of Selection Panel were asked to recommend to Council the appointment of the Authority's Armed Forces Champion for 2023/24 together with a substitute Member. It

## **Actions**

was noted that the current representative was Councillor Will Forster with Councillor Amanda Boote acting as substitute.

Councillor Forster proposed the appointment of Councillor Guy Cosnahan as the Authority's Armed Forces Champion and Councillor Amanda Boote offered to serve as substitute for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

### **RECOMMENDED to Council**

**That (i) Councillor Guy Cosnahan be appointed the Council's Armed Forces Champion for the 2023/24 Municipal Year; and**

**(ii) Councillor Amanda Boote be appointed the substitute member for the Armed Forces Champion for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.**

#### **10. Seating Arrangements 2023/24.**

The Groups had been invited to consider the proposed seating plan for Council in advance of the meeting on 18 May 2023. Proposed seating arrangements would be provided to Officers in due course.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

No further matters were discussed.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and ended at 8.11 pm