

REPORT TO:	GENERAL PURPOSES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE 7 December 2017
SUBJECT:	Appointments to Vacancies
LEAD OFFICER:	Jacqueline Harris-Baker Director of Law and Monitoring Officer
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON: N/A	
FINANCIAL IMPACT: There are no financial implications arising from this report.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Agree a revised composition and appointments to the Corporate Parenting Panel as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report and to delegate authority to appoint named representatives to the Executive Director People in consultation with the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel;
- 1.2 Note the recent appointments made under either delegated powers or the Leaders' authority as detailed in paragraphs 4.1- 4.7 of the report; and
- 1.3 Recommend to full Council that the appointments detailed in paragraph 4.8 to 4.9 be made.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of a number of changes to appointments following in-year vacancies made by the Leader of the Council under executive powers and by the Council Solicitor under delegated powers respectively.
- 2.2 The report further seeks the Committee's approval to use its powers of urgency on the recommendation of the Chief Executive to amend the composition of the Corporate Parenting Panel and appoint a number of additional stakeholders to the panel.
- 2.3 The report also seeks the Committee's approval to recommend further appointments to a non-executive joint committee and to a consultative body to the next ordinary meeting of the full Council.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

- 3.1 At its meeting on 8 November 2017, the Corporate Parenting Panel considered a report that detailed a number of recommendations to strengthen its governance arrangements.
- 3.2 One of the recommendations agreed by the Panel was to seek formal approval to extend its membership to include appointed non-voting representatives of:
- i) The Children in Care Council (x1);
 - ii) Care leavers (x1);
 - iii) Foster carers (x1); and
 - iv) Health commissioners(x1).
- 3.3 The Panel reached this recommendation following consideration of best practice identified at other local authorities, the new requirements of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the recommendations of the recent Ofsted inspection in Croydon.
- 3.4 Changes to the composition of the Panel are a matter for full Council under Part 2 Article 4.1 of the Constitution. However, the terms of reference of this Committee include power within Part 3 Article 2.3 to determine any matter reserved to the Council which requires on the recommendation of the Cabinet, the Chief Executive or an Executive Director action as a matter of urgency.
- 3.5 “Urgency” for decision making is defined in Part 2 Article 13.2(c). The Chief Executive considers that the Council would be prejudiced if a decision on the composition of and appointments to the Panel were not taken until the next scheduled ordinary meeting of full Council.
- 3.6 The Committee is therefore asked to agree these changes to the composition of the Panel and the additional appointments using the powers of urgency described in paragraph 2.3 (4) of Part 3 of the Constitution on the recommendation of the Chief Executive. The reasons for urgency are to respond to the recommendations of the recent Ofsted report as promptly as possible and that the next ordinary meeting of the Panel will take place before the next meeting of the Council available to consider these changes.
- 3.7 The Committee is also asked to delegate authority to the Executive Director of People in consultation with the Chair of the Panel to appoint named representatives of the groups set out in paragraph 3.2 for the remainder of the current municipal year.

4. APPOINTMENTS TO VACANCIES

Appointments to Vacancies by the Leader:

- 4.1 A number of changes to appointments have recently been made with effect from 15 November 2017.
- 4.2 Changes to Executive appointments made by the Leader in accordance with Part 2 Article 7.7 of the Constitution are:

- To appoint Councillor Trakas-Lawlor as the Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury; and
- To appoint Councillor Chowdhury as the Deputy Cabinet Member for Homes and Regeneration.

4.3 The Leader has also made further changes to his appointments taking effect from 8 December 2017 as follows:

- To appoint Councillor Patsy Cummings as the Deputy Cabinet Member for Families, Health and Social Care

4.4 Any such Deputies are not Executive Members and may not exercise the powers of the Executive or vote on any matter for decision at a Cabinet or Cabinet Committee meeting.

4.5 Finally, the Leader has further nominated Councillor Patsy Cummings to a vacancy arising on the Health and Wellbeing Board to replace Councillor Young.

Appointments to Vacancies under delegated authority by the Council Solicitor

4.6 Following consultation with the party whips, and pursuant to Part 2 Article 4.1(f) of the Constitution, the following in-year appointments to vacancies have been made by the Council Solicitor:

- To appoint Councillor Chowdhury to both the Planning Committee and Planning Sub-Committee to replace Councillor Trakas-Lawlor;
- To appoint Councillor Trakas-Lawlor to the Pension Committee to replace Councillor Wentworth;
- To appoint Councillor Chowdhury and Councillor Lewis to the Licensing Committee to replace Councillors Pelling and Young;
- To appoint Councillor Canning to the Pensions Committee to replace Councillor Pelling;
- To appoint Councillor Patsy Cummings to the Adult Social Services Review Panel and the Croydon Adult Social Services User Panel to replace Councillor Young in both instances.

4.7 These changes are reported to the Committee for noting.

Appointments for recommendation to Full Council:

4.8 The establishment of joint arrangements to exercise non-executive functions is a matter for full Council under Part 2 Article 11.2 (a) of the Constitution. In respect of an appointment to a Joint Committee of the Council, namely the Pensions Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) Sectoral Joint Committee, the Committee is asked to recommend to full Council that the following change be effected:

- To appoint Councillor Trakas-Lawlor and Councillor Patricia Hay-Justice to the Pensions Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) Sectoral Joint Committee to replace Councillor Wentworth and Councillor Pelling

4.9 The Committee is further asked to recommend to full Council an appointment to the Tenants' and Leaseholders' Panel as follows:

- To appoint Councillor Chowdhury to the Tenants' and Leaseholders' Panel to replace Councillor Trakas-Lawlor.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the content of this report.

Approved by Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk and Deputy S151 Officer.

CONTACT OFFICER: Stephen Rowan, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None.