

Subject	Membership, Political Balance, and Appointments to Committees	Status	For Publication
Report to	Authority	Date	9 th June 2022
Report of	Clerk		
Equality Impact Assessment	Not Required	Attached	No
Contact Officer	Gill Richards Governance Officer	Phone	01226 666412
E Mail	grichards@sypa.org.uk		

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve appointments to the Authority's Committee's for the 2021/22 Municipal Year in line with the political balance rules applying to the Authority.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are recommended to:
- a. **Note the members appointed to the Authority by the District Councils.**
 - b. **Note the members appointed to answer questions in the meetings of the District Councils' Full Council.**
 - c. **Provide nominations to serve on the two Committees**
 - d. **Approve the terms of reference for the proposed Impact Investment Working Group set out in Appendix A and provide nominations to serve on the Working Group**

3 Link to Corporate Objectives

- 3.1 This report links to the delivery of the following corporate objectives:
Effective and Transparent Governance

To uphold effective governance showing prudence and propriety at all times.

4 Implications for the Corporate Risk Register

The actions outlined in this report relate to risks around legal compliance contained in the Corporate Risk Register.

5 Background and Options

Membership

5.1 The following Councillors have been appointed to the Authority by each of the District Councils for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

Barnsley MBC 2 Members	Doncaster MBC 3 Members	Rotherham MBC 2 Members	Sheffield CC 5 Members	Non-Voting Co- opted Members 3 Members
R Bowser	S Cox	D Fisher	S Clement-Jones	N Doolan (Unison)
M Stowe	J Mounsey	M Havard	B Curran	D Patterson (Unite)
	D Nevitt		A Dimond	G Warwick (GMB)
			A Sangar	
			G Weatherall	

5.2 The following members have been designated by the District Councils as the s41 Members whose role is to answer questions about the work of the Authority in meetings of the relevant full Council.

	Barnsley MBC	Doncaster MBC	Rotherham MBC	Sheffield CC
S 41 Member	M Stowe	D Nevitt	M Havard	G Weatherall

Political Balance and Appointment of Committees of the Authority

5.3 While, in distinction to the District Councils, a system of political groups does not operate within the Pensions Authority, it is made up of elected councillors appointed in line with the relevant political balance rules and the Authority must also follow those rules in appointing to any committees which it chooses to create.

5.4 The Authority's Constitution provides for two Committees.

- Audit Committee – This is chaired by the Vice Chair. The terms of reference mirror those of Audit committee's generally including responsibilities for the approval of the accounts, receiving reports from internal and external auditors, dealing with the risk management framework and related issues. The Committee meets 3 times per municipal year.
- The Staffing Appointments and Appeals Committee – This is chaired by the Chair and has comprised largely of s41 members together with a proportionate number of non-Labour Councillors. The terms of reference cover dealing with significant staffing changes (affecting more than 5 FTE), other staffing policy issues which require member consideration, the appointment of the Director and other officers and of the independent investment advisers and various appeals functions. The Committee meets on an ad-hoc basis but given known business two meetings have been scheduled this year.

5.5 At its last meeting the Authority endorsed the principle of creating a member working group with a particular focus on supporting the development of the plan which the Authority will, in due course be required to prepare in relation to investment directed to support the “levelling up” agenda. A proposed set of terms of reference for such a working group is set out at Appendix A. In line with the other Committees, it is proposed to set the membership of this Working Group should be set at 6 members as membership at this level will work more easily with the overall political balance of the Authority. The Non-Voting co-opted members of the Authority will be invited to attend the Working Group and participate in its debates but will not formally be members of the Group.

5.6 The table below provides the current balance of membership of the Authority following the appointments after the 2022 local elections, reflecting the political balance across South Yorkshire.

	Con	Green	Ind	Lab	Lib Dem	Total
Barnsley				2		2
Doncaster	1			2		3
Rotherham	1			1		2
Sheffield		1		2	2	5
Total	2	1	0	7	2	12
% of Total - Authority	16.7%	8.3%	0.0%	58.3%	16.7%	100.0%

5.7 This leads to the allocation of seats on Committees and Working Groups shown below:

	Con	Green	Ind	Lab	Lib Dem	Total
Committees						
Audit	1			4	1	6
Staffing Etc	1			4	1	6
Impact Investment Working Group	1	1		3	1	6
Total	3	1		11	3	18
Total Seats	5	2	0	18	5	30
% of Total Seats	16.7%	6.7%	0.0%	60.0%	16.7%	100.0%

5.8 The above represents the closest approximation to exact political balance possible given the number of seats available and aims to ensure that all strands of opinion within the Authority are represented on the Impact Investment Working Group. This is likely to be beneficial given the more developmental focus of the Group.

5.9 Members are invited to make nominations for the Committees and Working Group at this meeting.

6 Implications

6.1 The proposals outlined in this report have the following implications:

Financial	None – the members allowance scheme caters for committee membership within the calculated allowances
Human Resources	None
ICT	None
Legal	Maintaining political balance in appointments to committees is a legal requirement.
Procurement	None

Sarah Norman

Clerk

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection