

## **CABINET**

**11 JULY 2023**

### **CABINET ADVISORY GROUPS**

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Vince Maple, Leader of the Council

Report from: Richard Hicks, Chief Executive

Authors: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services  
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#### Summary

The Cabinet is asked to agree to the establishment of the Cabinet Advisory Groups for 2023/2024.

1. Budget and Policy Framework
  - 1.1 The establishment and appointment to Cabinet Advisory Groups (groups) is a matter for Cabinet.
2. Background
  - 2.1 The Cabinet has previously established a number of Advisory Groups to provide assistance in a number of key areas. Following the local elections results in May 2023 and subsequent change of Administration, there has been a review of Cabinet Advisory Groups.
  - 2.2 These groups have no decision-making powers, although officers may have delegated powers that can be exercised following consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder and/or group, which may consist of both executive and non-executive Councillors. In some instances, they also include external representatives.
  - 2.3 Under the constitution, the Chief Executive has delegated authority to make any in-year changes to the membership of the Cabinet Advisory Groups as necessary, in consultation with the Group Whips.
  - 2.4 Appendix 1 to the report sets out the proposed membership and details of each of the groups as set out in Appendices 2-3.

### 3. Review

3.1 For 2022/23, the following Cabinet Advisory Groups (CAGs) were established by Cabinet on 7 June 2023:

- 3.1.1 Children and Adults Capital Programme Cabinet Advisory Group
- 3.1.2 Climate Change Member Advisory Group (and Active Travel Sub-Group)
- 3.1.3 Corporate Parenting Board
- 3.1.4 Development Plans Advisory Group
- 3.1.5 Future Hoo Delivery Board
- 3.1.6 High Needs Block Recovery Advisory Group
- 3.1.7 Innovation Park Medway Delivery Board
- 3.1.8 Medway Skills Partnership Board
- 3.1.9 Medway Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Partnership Board
- 3.1.10 Medway Youth Justice Partnership Board
- 3.1.11 Procurement Board
- 3.1.12 Regeneration, Culture, Environment Member Project Oversight and Advisory Board
- 3.1.13 Town Centres Board

3.2 The new Administration has reviewed the current list of CAGs and has proposed to make some changes. All CAGs except the Corporate Parenting Board and Town Centres Board will not be re-established for 2023/24. With regard to the Corporate Parenting Board, the new Administration has advised that an annual report shall be submitted to Full Council in recognition of the important work which is undertaken by this body.

3.3 With regards to the Medway Skills Partnership Board, Medway SEND Partnership Board and Medway Youth Justice Partnership Board, these Boards will continue to meet but will no longer be categorised as Cabinet Advisory Groups.

3.4 In the case of the ongoing work on the Council's response to climate change, this will be community led going forward along with a cross party Member working group on a 5:3:1 basis and this will continue to inform the work of the Cabinet.

- 3.5 There will also be a cross party Member working group to support the development of the Local Plan on a 4:3 basis.
- 3.6 Where Cabinet Advisory Groups are no longer being re-established Cabinet Members will continue to have the necessary dialogue with relevant Members, officers and partners as applicable, to inform the work of Cabinet.

#### 4. Financial and Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
- 4.2 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requirements concerning political proportionality do not apply to these Advisory Groups. It is a matter for Cabinet to establish and/or remove such groups as appropriate, as well as determine their size and composition.

#### 5. Risk Management

- 5.1 There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

#### 6. Recommendations

- 6.1 The Cabinet is asked to agree:
- a. the establishment of the Cabinet Advisory Groups for 2023/24 with the terms of reference set out in Appendices 2-3 to the report;
  - b. the appointment of Members to these groups, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, for 2023/24.
  - c. The establishment of the working groups and the appointment of Members to these groups, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, for 2023/24.
- 6.2 The Cabinet is asked to delegate authority to the Assistant Director, Governance and Legal, to make any consequential changes to the Council's constitution arising from the decisions made at 6.1.
- 6.3 The Cabinet is asked to note that an annual report shall be submitted to Full Council on the work of the Corporate Parenting Board.

#### 7. Suggested Reasons for Decisions

- 7.1 The re-establishment of these groups will support the Cabinet in decision-making and the development of policies.

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## Appendices

Appendix 1 – Cabinet Advisory Groups and Working Group memberships  
Appendices 2-3 – Cabinet Advisory Groups terms of reference

## Background papers

None