

Council/Committee:	Full Council
Report Title	Executive arrangements – Cabinet Member Portfolios and appointments 2025/26
Date of Meeting	13 May 2025
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Wards Affected	N/A
Appendices (if any)	1. Cabinet Member Portfolios and appointments

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report confirms the establishment of Cabinet Member portfolios and responsibilities.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in the report, it is recommended that Full Council note the decision of the Council Leader to –

- 2.1 establish Cabinet Member portfolios and responsibilities; and
- 2.2 appoint Councillors to the positions of Statutory Deputy Leader, non-statutory Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member portfolios detailed in the appendix.

3. Proposals – Reasons for the recommendations

- 3.1 The Council operates a ‘Leader and Cabinet’ model of executive arrangements, as required under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended).

- 3.2 These executive arrangements grant powers to the executive Leader to determine Cabinet Member portfolio responsibilities and to appoint up to nine Cabinet Members, one of which is to be designated as Statutory Deputy Leader of the Council.
- 3.3 Under the Council's current Leader and Cabinet Executive (England) model, Full Council elects the Leader of the Council. The Leader in turn is responsible for:
- 3.3.1 determining the membership size of the Cabinet (which can be between 3 and 10 excluding the statutory Deputy Leader);
 - 3.3.2 determining and allocating portfolios or areas of responsibility to individual Cabinet Members, Cabinet, Committees of the Cabinet, and/or officers;
 - 3.3.3 appointing Cabinet Members;
 - 3.3.4 allocating decision-making powers to the Cabinet and to individual Cabinet Members, Cabinet, Committees of Cabinet and officers; and
 - 3.3.5 removing and replacing Cabinet Members.
- The development of Cabinet Member portfolios has been informed taking account of current and emergent policy objectives to maximise the efficient and accountable operation of the Council. Crucially, this will provide a laser focus on sustained transformation and improvement as the Council journeys towards efficiency and excellence and resets its relationships with residents, communities, businesses, and stakeholders.

Cabinet portfolios

At the time of preparing this report, the structure and arrangements for Cabinet have not been confirmed. Details of the portfolio responsibilities, their relationship with the Council Plan Strategic Themes and the appointment of Cabinet Members will therefore be reported by the Leader of the Council as Appendix 1 to this report. The Appendix will be circulated prior to the meeting.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 The recommendations are in line with the Council's constitution.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 No consultation required.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no strategic resource implications arising from this report. The Council has in place an approved Members' Allowances Scheme.

7. Legal and Governance Implications

- 7.1 The Council is subject to statutory obligations under the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) and successor legislation to elect a Leader of the Council under the Leader and Cabinet Executive model with the Leader determining the size of Cabinet and portfolio responsibilities to enable effective decision making. This report discharges those obligations.

8. Risks

- 8.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications (including the public sector equality duty)

- 9.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

10. Other Relevant Implications

- 10.1 There are no other implications arising directly from this report.

11. Background Documents

- 11.1 No background documents.

12. How does this deliver the objectives of the Strategic Themes?

- 12.1 All executive functions vest in the Leader of the Council, who together with Cabinet Members, the Cabinet and officers discharge those functions.