



## City of Westminster

# Report to full Council

<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 September 2020</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>For General Release</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Changes to the Planning and City Development Committee</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Policy Context:</b>	<b>Management of the Council</b>
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	<b>The proposals in this report will, if agreed, result in an additional SRA payment from the Members Allowances Budget of £1398.04.</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Law</b>

### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report concerns proposals to amend the size of the Planning & City Development Committee by increasing its membership from 14 members to 15 from the 1 October 2020.

### **2. Recommendations:**

- 2.1 That full council agrees to amend the size of the Planning and City Development Committee from 14 members to 15 members from the 1 October 2020.

### **3. Reasons for Decision**

- 3.1 The increase in the size of the Committee would ensure there was an additional member available to sit on the Planning Sub-Committee meetings. This will ensure that there is sufficient membership capacity to attend meetings and undertake effective decision making.

### **4. Background Information**

- 4.1 The rationale for these changes was that currently some members of the Planning and City Development Committee sit on more than one Planning Sub-Committee. An increase in the membership of the Committee by one member will permit a more even division of duties at Planning Sub-Committee meetings.

- 4.2 It is proposed to increase the membership of the Committee by one from its current total of 14 members to 15. The Committee currently has a proportionality of 9 majority party members and 5 minority party members. The increase will permit a new proportionality of 10 majority party members and 5 minority party members. This new proportionality accords with the principles of the Committee proportionality agreed by the Council.
- 4.3 In accordance with standing orders relating to committees, the membership will be appointed by the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups. There will be a further full review reported to the next Annual Council meeting.

## **5. Financial implications**

- 5.1 The appointment of an additional member of the Committee from 1 October 2020 would lead to an additional Special Responsibility Allowance from the Members Allowances budget of £1398.04 to the 31 March 2020. This will be off-set by underspends elsewhere in the Members Allowances Scheme.

## **6. Legal Implications**

- 6.1 As set out in section 3 of the report.

## **7. Consultation**

- 7.1 The proposals in this report have been circulated to the Party Whips who have raised no objections to them.
- 7.2 Consultation on the proposals has also been undertaken with the General Purposes Urgency Sub-Committee by way of the written urgency procedures who also have expressed support for them.
- 7.3 No outstanding issues remain as a result of this consultation.

**If you have any queries about this report please contact Reuben Segal:**

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- None