

## Notice of Meeting

# General Purposes Committee

**Date:** Monday 8 January 2024

**Time:** 5.30 pm

**Venue:** The Annexe, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey, Hampshire,  
SO51 8GL

**For further information or enquiries please contact:**

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**Legal and Democratic Service**

Test Valley Borough Council,  
Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road,  
Andover, Hampshire,  
SP10 3AJ

[www.testvalley.gov.uk](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk)

The recommendations contained in the Agenda are made by the Officers and these recommendations may or may not be accepted by the Committee.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEME**

*If members of the public wish to address the meeting they should notify the Legal and Democratic Service at the Council's Beech Hurst office by noon on the working day before the meeting.*

### Membership of General Purposes Committee

#### MEMBER

#### WARD

Councillor K North (Chairman)

Andover Romans;

Councillor S MacDonald (Vice-Chairman)

Mid Test;

Councillor N Adams-King

Blackwater;

Councillor K Brooks

Andover Romans;

Councillor Z Brooks

Andover Millway;

Councillor J Burnage

Romsey Cupernham;

Councillor A Dowden

Valley Park;

Councillor C Dowden

Valley Park;

Councillor M Flood

Anna;

Councillor P North

Bourne Valley;

Councillor S Yalden

Ampfield & Braishfield;

## **General Purposes Committee**

Monday 8 January 2024

### **AGENDA**

**The order of these items may change as a result of members  
of the public wishing to speak**

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Public Participation**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Urgent Items**
- 5 Minutes of the previous meeting** **4 - 5**  
  
To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2023.
- 6 Appointment of General Purposes Sub-Committees** **6 - 7**  
  
To appoint Sub-Committees to deal with appeals and ethic matters.

**ITEM 5** Minutes of the **General Purposes Committee**  
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**  
held in Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover  
on Monday, 16 October 2023 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

**Councillor K North (Chairman)**

**Councillor S MacDonald (Vice-Chairman)**

Councillor N Adams-King

Councillor M Flood

Councillor K Brooks

Councillor P North

Councillor Z Brooks

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**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Burnage, A Dowden, C Dowden and Yalden.

256

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

257

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

258

**Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items for consideration.

259

**Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 4 September 2023 were approved by Councillor K North and seconded by Councillor MacDonald. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

**Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

260      **Annual Health and Safety Performance Report 2022-2023**

Test Valley Borough Council's Corporate Health and Safety Policy requires an annual report on health and safety performance and planning to be taken to the General Purposes Committee.

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Health and Safety Manager that demonstrated Test Valley Borough Council's commitment to:

- Making public the Council's performance on health and safety, by publishing health and safety performance data;
- The ongoing effective implementation of the Council's health and safety policy, organisation and its associated arrangements;
- Monitor and measure health and safety performance, with a view to highlighting areas where the Council performs well and also areas for improvement;
- Openness and accountability in all the council services; and
- Responsibility for ensuring a safe and healthy environment for service users, members of the public, employees, and contractors.

The following recommendation was proposed by Councillor K North and seconded by Councillor MacDonald and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

**Resolved:**

**That the Annual Health and Safety Report 2022-2023 be approved.**

(The meeting terminated at 6.00 pm)

## **ITEM 6 Appointment of General Purposes Sub-Committees**

Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

### **Recommended:**

- 1. That a Redundancy Appeals Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committee be established comprising four members, and that Councillors Z Brooks, Burnage, A Dowden, and K North be appointed to the Sub-Committee.**
- 2. That an Employment Appeals and Ethics Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committee be established comprising five members, and that Councillors Adam King, C Dowden, Flood, MacDonald and Yalden be appointed to the Sub-Committee.**

#### **SUMMARY:**

To establish General Purposes Sub-Committees to deal with appeals and ethics matters as set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

### **1 Background**

- 1.1 It is necessary to establish Sub-Committees of the General Purposes Committee to deal with a range of duties as set out in the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 This report recommends that the General Purposes Committee establishes and appoints Members to the Sub-Committees reflecting political proportionality for this purpose.
- 1.3 Part of the role of these Sub-Committees is to hear appeals. The Dispute Resolution Regulations 2004 and other legalisation introduce statutory discipline and dismissal procedures which extends the right of appeal to employees whose posts have been made redundant or dismissed.
- 1.4 Whilst the Cabinet may make some decisions in relation to redundancies, some members of the Cabinet are also members of the General Purposes Committee. It would not therefore be appropriate for those members to hear appeals against redundancy.
- 1.5 The Employment Appeals and Ethics Sub-Committee will be able to hear appeals relating to dismissal for staff with a minimum of two years' service and appeals relating to early payment of pension as a consequence of ill-

health for current and former employees.

**2 Options and Option Appraisal**

Option 1 – to not establish and appoint to the Sub-Committees

- 2.1 If the Sub-Committees were not established and appointed to then the necessary powers and duties of the General Purposes Committee and its Sub-Communities would not be fulfilled.

Option 2 – to establish and appoint to the Sub-Committees

- 2.2 This is the recommended option.

Establishing and appointing members to the Sub-Committees will ensure that they are able to fulfil their powers and duties as set out in the Constitution.

**3 Conclusion**

- 3.1 It is necessary to establish Sub-Committees of the General Purposes Committee to deal with a range of duties as set out in the Council’s Constitution. It is proposed that the Sub-Committees are appointed to as set out in the recommendations to this report.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
None			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	None	File Ref:	N/A
(Portfolio: Democracy and Governance) Councillor N Lodge			
Officer:	Karen Dunn	Extension:	8401
Report to:	General Purposes Committee	Date:	8 January 2024