

Report to Middleton Township Committee



Date of Meeting	18 th June 2020
Portfolio	Councillor Daalat Ali (Cabinet Member for Resources)
Report Author	Alison James
Public/Private Document	Public

Middleton Township Delegation Arrangements and Appointments 2020/2021

Executive Summary

1. At the first meeting of the municipal year, the Township Committee is required to confirm its delegated decision making arrangements for the forthcoming year, as detailed at Appendix 1 to this report and to make appointments to Township Sub-Committees (including the Chair and Vice Chair) and other bodies as detailed at Appendix 2 to the report.

Recommendation

- 2.1 That approval is given to the Sub-Committee structure of the Middleton Township Committee, comprising the Middleton Township Devolved Funding and Services Sub-Committee, and the Middleton Township Delegated Sub-Committee and to approve the terms of reference for the two Sub-Committees, as detailed at Appendix 1 to this report;
- 2.2 That appointments made to the Township Committee, Township Sub-Committee and other bodies be retained as in the previous Municipal Year 2019/20, as detailed in Appendix 2.

Reason for Recommendation

3. The Council has established and appoints Township Committees that may exercise both executive and non-executive powers as set out in the Responsibility for Council Functions in Part 3 of the Constitution, which states that: appointments to Township Sub-Committees, Township Working Parties, Partnership Arrangements and Local Outside Bodies shall be made at the first meeting of the appropriate Township Committee in the new Municipal Year'.

The Sub-Committee exercises either delegated powers or acts on any matter detailed in the Committee's Terms of Reference on which it is essential to take a decision.

The proper appointment of Sub-Committees is required to permit the undertaking of delegated functions in accordance with statutory and procedural requirements, and appointments to Working Groups and Other Bodies are required to enable the Township Committee to undertake and to respond to the full range of issues relevant to the Township.

The Committee has delegated powers to make appointments to a number of other bodies as detailed in Appendix 2.

Key Points for Consideration

4. The Middleton Township Devolved Funding and Devolved Services Sub-Committee currently exercise formal powers, as detailed at Appendix 1, as a Sub-Committee for dealing with making grant approvals and decisions on devolved budgets and Township Funds and the Middleton Delegated Sub-Committee can, as and when required, make 'urgent' issues on behalf of the Township Committee and for making grant approvals and decisions on devolved budgets and Township Funds.

Alternatives Considered

4. The Committee could choose not to appoint sub-committees and undertake all delegated functions themselves but this may have a detrimental impact on the ability to progress Township priorities or deal with urgent items of business. The Committee could also, if it chose to do so, adopt alternative Sub-Committee arrangements.

Costs and Budget Summary

5. There are no direct financial implications to this report.

Risk and Policy Implications

6. The Township Committee is requested to confirm its delegation arrangements to ensure that decisions are made in accordance with relevant and statutory procedural requirements. Not to appoint to the Sub-Committee and the working groups might limit member involvement in key initiatives for the Township.

Consultation

7. Not required.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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8. There are no background papers associated with this report.	
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Appendix 1

Middleton Devolved Funding and Services Sub-Committee

To consider and determine the use and allocation of funds devolved to the Middleton Township Committee, following appropriate local consultation i.e.

- a. Middleton Township Fund
 - b. Middleton Township Capital Allocation
 - c. Voluntary Sector Grants (where devolved to Township) i.e. Middleton Community Centres;
 - d. Future devolved funding where referred to it by Middleton Township Committee
- To ensure that all requirements and restrictions place on any devolved funding are met, or are capable of being met, before any decisions are made;
 - To refer any matter to the Middleton Township Committee for a decision where the Sub-Committee considers it appropriate;
 - To review external funding opportunities and monitor the impact of secured external funding, such as Lottery or other external agencies;
 - To liaise with the other Middleton Township sub-groups and other groups to help harmonise the impact of available Township funding to meet the Middleton Township Plan, regeneration and social inclusion priorities;
 - To consider and comment on feedback reports on how previously awarded grants have been used;
 - To approve and undertake commissions for services/projects linked to the implementation of the Middleton Township Plan priorities;
 - To implement the corporate devolution strategy;
 - To implement devolution in the identified devolved services, i.e. Highways and Engineering, Development Control, Environmental Management (part), Community Centres and Libraries;
 - ensure service plans reflect Middleton needs in respect of devolved services;
 - To ensure influence is brought to bear on the preparation of service plans to better fit Middleton's needs in respect of the influenced services i.e. Schools, Child Care, Learners and Young People, Adult Care, Planning and Regulation, Bereavement Services, Waste and Recycling, Regeneration, Leisure Trust, Strategic Housing, Revenues and Benefits and Customer Services.
 - To approve all proposals made by the identified sub-groups, including any commissioning or plans to move resources, or extra funding implications, linked to any aspect of the implementation of the Middleton Township Plan;
 - To monitor the implementation of the rest of the Middleton Township Plan via the sub-groups of the township;
 - To compile future versions of the Middleton Township Plan for approval by the Middleton Township Committee.

Middleton Township Delegated Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee currently exercises a small range of formal powers derived from the Scheme of Delegation as an 'urgency' Committee for the Township Committee.

Appendix 2

Members are asked to consider appointments to the following Sub-Committees and to appoint Chairs and Vice Chairs for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

Middleton Devolved Funding and Devolved Services Sub-Committee

All Members of the Township Committee were appointed in 2019/20.

Councillor Donna Williams – Chair
Councillor Smith – Vice-Chair

Middleton Township Delegated Sub-Committee

This Sub-Committee was not appointed in 2019/20 and the matters and functions were delegated to the Middleton Devolved Funding and Devolved Services Sub-Committee or the Chair and Vice Chair of the Township Committee as necessary.

The Township Committee is asked (if required) to appoint substitute Members to the Township's Sub-Committees.

Substitute Members

The options available to the Township Committee for substitution arrangements for Members of Township Committees comprise: -

- (a) An absent Member may only call for a substitute Member from the same political group
- (b) Where appointments are made on a Ward basis, to allow for a Ward substitute from any political group to be identified by the absent Member
- (c) To allow for a substitute Member from any political group to be identified by the absent Member.

The Township Committee is asked to indicate its determined substitution arrangements when appointing Sub-Committee memberships.

In any event, the number of substitute Members appointed by a political group to a Sub-Committee cannot exceed the number of substantive Members appointed, up to a maximum of three.

Township Working Groups

Middleton Township Environment and Culture Forum

All Middleton Township Committee Members were appointed in 2019/20.

Councillor Donna Williams (Chair)

Middleton Regeneration and Transport Working Party

All Middleton Township Committee Members were appointed in 2019/20.

Councillor Donna Williams (Chair)

Other Bodies

Langley Estate Strategy Group

In 2019/20, Councillor Smith was appointed and the Substitute Member was Councillor Burke

Middleton Town Centre Management Company and Middleton Market Company:

Councillors Donna Williams and Nolan were appointed in 2019/20

Brentwood Day Centre – Management Committee

Councillor Donna Williams was appointed in 2019/20

Highways Champion

Councillor West was appointed in 2019/20

Township Planning Panel

Councillors Smith, Robinson, Dale, Boriss, Nolan and West were appointed in 2019/20