

**Report Title: Appointment of Representatives to Serve on the Ashton Memorial Fund and the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors**

Date of meeting:	6 February 2025
Report to:	Cabinet
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member – Communities and Partnership Engagement
Wards affected:	All
Included in Forward Plan:	No
Is this a key decision:	No
Exempt/confidential report:	No

### Summary:

To consider the appointment of two additional representatives to serve on the Ashton Memorial Fund; and a change in representation on the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors.

### Recommendation: That

- (1) Councillor Chris Page and Reverend Dr Matt Davis be appointed as representatives to serve on the Ashton Memorial Fund until 31 May 2027; and
- (2) Councillor Julia Garner replace Councillor Laura Lunn-Bates as the Council's representative on the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors until 1 September 2026.

### 1. The Rationale and Evidence for the Recommendations

- 1.1 The Cabinet has delegated powers, as set out in Chapter 5, Paragraph 40, of the Council's Constitution to appoint the Council's representatives to serve on outside bodies.
- 1.2 At its meeting held on 23 May 2024, the Cabinet considered the annual report to appoint Members to serve on outside bodies.
- 1.3 **Ashton Memorial Fund**  
As part of the process referred to in 1.2 above, the Cabinet appointed Councillor Killen to serve on the Ashton Memorial Fund until 31 May 2027.
- 1.4 The Charity Commission website indicates that the charitable objects of the Ashton

Memorial Fund are for the general benefit of the poor; and that the area the charity can operate in, as set out in its governing document, is Formby St. Luke.

- 1.5 The Council's electronic records show that from 2008/09 to 2010/11, Cabinet appointed three representatives to the charity, one of whom was an elected member.
- 1.6 From the 2011/12 municipal year to date however, Cabinet has only appointed one representative and as mentioned above, the latest appointment is Councillor Killen until 31 May 2027.
- 1.7 A request has now been received from the charity requesting the Council to consider the appointment of two additional representatives to serve on the Ashton Memorial Fund; and that one such representative be Reverend Dr Matt Davis. Contact has been made with Councillor Jan Grace, Labour Group whip and Councillor Chris Page has been nominated.
- 1.8 The purpose of this report is to comply with the request of the charity and to seek the consideration of the appointment of two additional representatives.

### 1.9 **The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors**

As part of the process referred to in 1.2 above, the Cabinet appointed Councillor Lunn-Bates to serve as the Council's representative on the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors until 1 September 2026.

- 1.10 A request has now been received from Councillor Jan Grace, Labour Group whip, that Councillor Julia Garner be appointed to replace Councillor Lunn-Bates as the Council's representative on the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors.
- 1.11 The purpose of this report is to determine the request of the Labour group whip.

## 2. **Financial Implications**

None arising directly from this report. Appointments to the Ashton Memorial Fund and the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors do not attract any special responsibility allowance. Travel expenses incurred in attending meetings where they are held outside Sefton, may be reimbursed, but this is considered highly unlikely bearing in mind the area within in which the Ashton Memorial Fund charity operates. Any travel expenses incurred in attending Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors meetings can be contained within existing budgets.

## 3. **Legal Implications**

The Cabinet has delegated powers, as set out in Chapter 5, Paragraph 40, of the Council's Constitution to appoint the Council's representatives to serve on outside bodies.

## 4. **Corporate Risk Implications**

None directly. Not approving the recommendation could result in the Council not being represented on the Ashton Memorial Fund and the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors.

## 5 **Staffing HR Implications**

None

## 6 **Conclusion**

The Cabinet has delegated powers set out in Chapter 5, Paragraph 40 of the Constitution to appoint the Council's representatives to serve on outside bodies. The Cabinet is requested to comply with the request of the Ashton Memorial Fund and to consider the appointment of two additional representatives to serve on the charity; and the request of the Labour Group whip regarding the change in representation on the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors.

### Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

<b>Equality Implications:</b> There are no equality implications.
<b>Impact on Children and Young People:</b> The Ashton memorial Fund and Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors could consider matters that affect children and young people.
<b>Climate Emergency Implications:</b> The recommendations within this report will have a Neutral impact. There are no direct climate emergency implications arising from this report.

### What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

#### (A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD7890/24) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD5990/24) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Labour Group whip

#### (B) External Consultations

Ashton Memorial Fund

#### Implementation Date for the Decision:

Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Cabinet decision.

Contact Officer:	Paul Fraser
Telephone Number:	0151 934 2068
Email Address:	<a href="mailto:paul.fraser@sefton.gov.uk">paul.fraser@sefton.gov.uk</a>

#### Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

**Background Papers:**

There are no background papers available for inspection.