

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Audit, Governance and Standards Committee
30 October 2013

From: Director of Corporate Services

Subject: **POLITICALLY RESTRICTED POSTS**

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 As part of its functions the Committee is responsible for approving the list of politically restricted posts. This report asks the Committee to review the list because of re-organisation and changes in job titles within the Council.
- 1.2 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 certain posts within the Council are politically restricted. This means that persons within those posts are prevented from becoming or remaining Members of a Local Authority or indeed standing for election to parliament. Every Local Authority has to maintain a list of politically restricted posts. Certain categories of Officer are required to be on the list.
- 1.3 Those required to be the list on the list are:-
- (a) Head of the Authority's Paid Service;
 - (b) any Statutory Chief Officer;
 - (c) any Non-Statutory Chief Officer;
 - (d) a Deputy Chief Officer (Assistant Director or Head of Service);
 - (e) a Monitoring Officer;
 - (f) any Political Assistants;
 - (g) those posts where in the Council's opinion the Officer gives advice on a regular basis to the Council, the Cabinet or any Committee or Member of the Cabinet.
- 1.4 The Council is required to deposit the list with the Proper Officer and to deposit any subsequent lists with the Proper Officer. The Proper Officer is the person designated from time to time by the Council for that purpose (currently the Chief Executive).
- 1.5 It is also deemed to be a condition of the employment of all those in politically restricted posts that their political activities are restricted in accordance with the Act.
- 1.6 Attached as an Annex is the proposed revised list. This takes on board recent changes in staffing. In respect of the category of "Other Officers", the Committee needs to be satisfied that they give advice on a regular basis to the Council, Cabinet, Committees or Members of the Cabinet or they speak on behalf of the Council on a regular basis to journalists or broadcasters.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 It is recommended that the list at the Annex be approved.

MARTYN RICHARDS

Background papers: None

Author ref: JMR

Contact: Martyn Richards
Director of Corporate Services
Direct Line No: (01609) 767010

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989
POLITICALLY RESTRICTED POSTS – REVISED LIST

Chief Officers:

Chief Executive
Directors

Other Officers

Corporate Finance Manager
Improvement Manager
Design and Maintenance Manager
Communications Manager
Planning Manager
Development Manager
Major Developments Officer
Business and Community Manager
Legal Manager
Committee Team Leader
Committee Officer
Planning Policy Manager
Customer Services Manager
Business and Community Officer
Business Engagement Officer
Operations Manager
ICT Manager
Housing Manager