

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Annual Council Meeting
17 May 2011

From: Chief Executive

Subject: ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

1.0 SUMMARY:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to facilitate the appointment of Committees and Outside Bodies.

2.0 COMMITTEES FOR 2011/12:

2.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Council is requested to appoint the Committees as shown in Annexes 'A' and 'B'.

3.0 ALLOCATION OF SEATS:

3.1 Committees must be constituted on the basis of available seats being allocated on the Council's overall political proportionality (so far as is "reasonably practicable") unless some other basis of allocation has been approved without any Member voting against the proposal.

3.2 Normally, the allocation of seats on Committees must be in accordance with the principles set out below. In summary they provide that:-

- (i) representation on Committees must, so far as possible, be proportional to the number of Members any political Group has on the Council as a whole;
- (ii) because seats on Committees and Sub-Committees are allocated to Groups proportionally to the Group's size, the remaining seats on Committees need to be allocated to Members who are not part of a Group. However, there are currently no Members who are not part of a Group.

3.3 The allocation of seats is a two-stage process:-

- (i) Council determines seat allocation to each Group further to the rules of proportionality. The allocation is largely self-determining and depends on the size of each Group. Final adjustment is required by Council to ensure that no Group is over represented. These adjustments are decisions of the Council, which the views of Groups may assist;
- (ii) when the Council has determined the allocation of seats between Groups, the Council must decide which Members sit on which Committees. In carrying out this process the Council must follow the wishes expressed by Groups and can consider (but is not compelled to follow) the wishes of Members who are not part of a Group.

3.4 All political Groups have been notified of their proposed allocations across all Committees as described in this report which represents the best proportional fit and have been asked to express their wishes as to which Member sits on which Committees.

3.5 The total number of seats allocated to each particular Group on all Committees must be in the same proportion as is borne by the number of Members of that Group on the Council. There are currently 68 seats on Committees of the Council to which the proportionality rules would normally apply. This means seats are allocated to the political Groups on the following proportional basis:-

Conservatives	= 88% of seats	60 seats
Liberal Democrats	= 5% of seats	3 seats
Independents	= 7% of seats	5 seats

3.6 Therefore seat allocations for a total of 69 seats on Committees would be:-

Conservatives	60
Liberal Democrats	3
Independents	5

3.7 Proportionality does not apply to the appointment of the Cabinet.

3.8 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees are constituted on the basis of twelve places each. However the Leader of the Conservative Group has suggested that places be increased to Scrutiny 1 (15) and Scrutiny 2 (14.) in order to accommodate those Members who wish to take part. The North Yorkshire Police Authority has previously had a representative of the Authority co-opted as a non-voting member on Scrutiny to assist with its role in scrutinising crime and disorder matters. It is therefore recommended that the Authority's representative be co-opted on to either Scrutiny Committee when it is determined which will fulfil this particular role.

3.9 The Appeals Committee is constituted on the basis of nine places. However the Leader of the Conservative Group has suggested that places be decreased to eight.

3.10 Area Forums comprise of Members based on the Market Towns and their hinterlands, together with the relevant North Yorkshire County Council Member for the Hambleton Area. It is requested that the Council waive the requirements for political proportionality on these Forums. Current membership is shown in Annex 'B.'

3.11 The Licensing Hearings Panel comprises the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and three Members of the Licensing and Environmental Protection Committee selected on a rota basis. It will be necessary to waive the requirement for political proportionality on this Panel.

3.12 Nominations from each of the Groups are contained in Annex 'C' to this report.

4.0 STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

4.1 The proportionality rules do not apply to the Standards Committee. Nevertheless the Standards Board for England recommends that one party does not have the majority of the elected Member seats.

4.2 This would give two Conservative Group places and it is suggested two for the Independent and one for the Liberal Democrat Groups.

4.3 The Council's constitution also provides for three Independent Members of the Standards Committee. The following three people have previously been appointed to be Members of the Committee:-

- Mr B Ferguson of Great Broughton
- Mr R C Pennington of Faceby
- Mr J E White of Thirsk

4.4 The Constitution also requires the Standards Committee to have three Parish Council representatives. Following an exercise involving all Parish Councils the following three nominees have previously been appointed:-

- Councillor Caroline Artingstoll of Sutton-under-Whitestonecliffe Parish Council
- Councillor Janet Crampton of Scruton Parish Council
- Councillor Edward Dennison of Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council.

4.5 The term of office for both the Independent and Parish representatives is for a four year period in line with the term of office for District and Parish Councillors.

5.0 OUTSIDE BODIES:

5.1 The constitution of the Council sets down the main role and responsibilities of Members representing the authority on Outside Bodies.

5.2 A list of the Outside Bodies which require an appointment to be made is attached at Annex 'D'.

5.3 The appointee(s) will serve on the Outside Body until the next election of the full Council unless the governing rules of the Outside Body determine a different period.

6.0 REPRESENTATION ON THE NORTH YORKSHIRE BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP AND THE NORTH YORKSHIRE AUDIT PARTNERSHIP

6.1 The North Yorkshire Audit Partnership is a Joint Committee involving Hambleton and other North Yorkshire Councils. Hambleton has two Members on the Board. It is therefore recommended that the Deputy Leader and the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee be appointed as representatives on the Partnership.

6.2 The North Yorkshire Building Control Partnership is a Joint Committee involving Hambleton and other North Yorkshire Councils. Hambleton has one Member on the Board. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member for Partnerships be appointed as the representative on the Partnership.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

7.1 It is recommended that:-

- (1) the Council appoints the Committees indicated at Annexes 'A' and 'B';
- (2) proportionality rules be waived in respect of the membership of the Licensing Hearings Panel and in respect of the Area Forums to enable the membership to be as shown in Annex 'B';
- (3) the Council appoints Members to the Standards Committee on the basis of two Conservative Group Members, two from the Independent Group and one from the Liberal Democrat Group;

- (4) Membership of the Committees be that shown at Annex 'C';
- (5) the Council appoints Mr B Ferguson, Mr R C Pennington and Mr J E White as the Council's independent members of the Standards Committee and Councillors Ms C Artingstoll, Ms J Crampton and Mr E Dennison as Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee;
- (6) the Council appoints Members as the Council's representatives on Outside Bodies detailed within Annex 'D';
- (7) a representative of the North Yorkshire Police Authority be co-opted as a non voting Member of either Scrutiny Committee;
- (8) the Deputy Leader and the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee be appointed as representatives on the North Yorkshire Audit Partnership;
- (9) the Cabinet Member for Partnerships be appointed as the representative on the North Yorkshire Building Control Partnership.

PETER SIMPSON

Background papers: None
Author ref: CMcK
Contact: Callum McKeon
Assistant Director

ANNEX 'A'

Committee	Conservative	Independent	Liberal Democrat	TOTAL
Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	13	1	1	15
Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	12	1	1	14
Planning Committee	12	1	1	14
Licensing and Environmental Protection Committee	10	0	0	10
Appeals Committee	7	1	0	8
Audit and Governance Committee	6	1	0	7
	60	5	3	68

Committee	Conservative	Independent	Liberal Democrat	<u>Total:</u>
Standards Committee	2	2	1	5
Licensing Hearings Panel	N/A	N/A	N/A	5

AREA FORUMS – WARDS

Bedale:

Bedale
Crakehall
Leeming
Leeming Bar
Tanfield

Stokesley:

Broughton and Greenhow
Great Ayton
Rudby
Stokesley
Swainby
North Yorkshire County Council Members

Easingwold:

Easingwold
Helperby
Huby and Sutton
Shipton
Stillington
Tollerton
White Horse
North Yorkshire County Council Member

Thirsk:

Sowerby
Thirsk
The Thorntons
Topcliffe
Whitestonecliffe
North Yorkshire County Council Members

(Tanfield and White Horse)

Northallerton:

Brompton
The Cowtons
Morton-on-Swale
Northallerton Broomfield
Northallerton Central
Northallerton North
Osmotherley
Romanby
North Yorkshire County Council Member

(Rudby)

Scrutiny 1 (15)

<u>Conservative</u> (13)	<u>Independent</u> (1)	<u>Liberal Democrats</u> (1)
D Adamson R A Baker K Billings D M Blades Mrs C S Cookman G W Ellis R W Hudson J D Hugill J Noone M S Robson C R Rooke Mrs S A Shepherd A W Wood	D H Smith	Mrs J A Griffiths

Scrutiny 2 (14)

<u>Conservative</u> (12)	<u>Independent</u> (1)	<u>Liberal Democrats</u> (1)
P Bardon A W Barker Mrs F M Greenwell K G Hardisty N A Knapton Mrs C Patmore M J Prest Mrs I Sanderson Mrs M Skilbeck J N Smith A Wake S Watson	M Rigby	B Griffiths

Audit and Governance Committee (7)

<u>Conservative</u> (6)	<u>Independent</u> (1)	<u>Liberal Democrats</u> (0)
D E Adamson K Billings Mrs C S Cookman G Dadd R W Hudson J N Smith	M Rigby	

Standards Committee (5)

<u>Conservative (2)</u>	<u>Independent (2)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats (1)</u>
C A Les P G Sowray	J Coulson M Rigby	B Griffiths

Planning Committee (14)

<u>Conservative (12)</u>	<u>Independent (1)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats (1)</u>
G W Ellis Mrs B S Fortune M J Prest A Robinson M S Robson C R Rooke Mrs I Sanderson Mrs M Skilbeck P G Sowray T Swales D A Webster A W Wood	J Coulson	Mrs J A Griffiths

Licensing and Environmental Protection Committee (10)

<u>Conservative (10)</u>	<u>Independent (0)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats (0)</u>
R A Baker D M Blades S P Dickins Mrs F Greenwell K G Hardisty N A Knapton C A Les J Noone A Robinson Mrs S A Shepherd		

Licensing Hearings Panel (5)

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Licensing and Environmental Protection Committee plus 3 Members of that Committee selected on a rota basis by the Chief Executive.
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Appeals Committee (8)

<u>Conservative (7)</u>	<u>Independent (1)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats (0)</u>
P Bardon G W Dadd A W Hall M J Prest S Watson D A Webster A P Wake	D H Smith	

Term of Office Expires May 2012 Unless Stated or Otherwise Specified by the Outside Body

List of Outside Bodies for 2011/12 to be ratified with effect from the Annual Meeting, May 2011

Name of Body	No of Places	Representative or Independent	Appointee 2011/12
Broadacres Housing Association - Board of Management	2	Independent	Appointed from September 11 Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning Councillor P Sowray
Captain Cook Schoolroom Museum Trust	1	Independent	Councillor Mrs F M Greenwell
Hambleton and Richmondshire Joint Strategic Forum	1	Representative	Leader or Cabinet Member
Hambleton Arts	1	Representative	Term expires AM 2015 Cabinet Member for Leisure and Health
Hambleton Citizens' Advice Bureau (Board of Trustees)	1	Independent	Appointed until Oct/Nov 11 Councillor A W Hall (on Board of Trustees)
Hambleton Community Safety Partnership	1	Representative	Term expires 2011 (term of the Strategy) – Cabinet Member for Partnerships
Hambleton Over 50s Forum	1	Representative	Cabinet Member for Partnerships
Local Government Association	1	Representative	Leader of Council
Local Government Association Rural Commission	1	Representative	Leader of Council
Local Government North Yorkshire and York	1	Representative	Leader of Council Substitute: Deputy Leader
Local Government North Yorkshire and York Transport Member Board	1	Representative	Deputy Leader of Council
Local Government, Yorkshire and Humber	1 + Sub	Representative	Leader of Council

Name of Body	No of Places	Representative or Independent	Appointee 2011/12
Local Government, Yorkshire and Humber Employers' Forum	1	Representative	Deputy Leader
North York Moors National Park Committee	1	Representative	Term expires AM 2015 – Councillor D Hugill
North Yorkshire County Council Hambleton Area Committee	4	Independent	4 Year Term expires AM 2013 Councillors: D E Adamson M J Prest D H Smith A Wake
North Yorkshire Culture	1	Independent	Cabinet Member for Leisure and Health
North Yorkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel	1	Representative	Deputy Leader
North Yorkshire Scrutiny of Health Committee	1 + 2 sub	Representative	Councillors Mrs S Shepherd Substitutes: Councillors: P Bardon D Blades
Northallerton and District Voluntary Services Association	1	Representative	J Noone
Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Yorkshire and The Humber	1	Representative	Councillor Mrs B S Fortune 5 Year Term expires March 2015 Member must be under 70
Strategic Housing Board	1	Representative	Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning (Ongoing)
Supporting People Group	1	Representative	Term expires AM 2015 Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Name of Body	No of Places	Representative or Independent	Appointee 2011/12
Thirsk and Sowerby Swimming Baths Charity	8	Representative	Councillors: D A Adamson R A Baker P Bardon N D Clack G Dadd N W Huxtable M Robson D A Webster
Welcome to Yorkshire	1	Independent	Term expires AM 2015 Cabinet Member for Partnerships
Yorkshire Energy Partnership Ltd (formerly Sustainability 4 Yorkshire)	1	Representative	Councillor Mrs C Patmore