

Report of the Head of Legal Services

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Purpose of report

1. To consider the allocation of seats on Committees to political groups, appointments to those Committees and to outside bodies (insofar as is necessary).

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Authority:

- i) *notes the appointment of the following Members from Herefordshire Council:*

Conservative	Cllr. R. Philips
Green Party	Cllr. T. Marsh
Herefordshire Independents (2)	Cllr. S. Bowen [vacancy to be confirmed]
Liberal Democrat	Cllr. L. Stark
It's Our County	Cllr. K. Hey

- ii) *notes the number of seats on each Committee and determines the allocation of those seats to political groups:*

[Note - an updated table will be provided at the meeting once group memberships have been confirmed]

- iii) *appoints the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the following Committees:*
 - a. *Appointments Committee*
 - b. *Audit and Standards Committee*
 - c. *Policy and Resources Committee;*
- iv) *authorises the Head of Legal Services to make other appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes notified by the Group Leaders;*
- v) *appoints any non-aligned members to seats on either Audit & Standards Committee or Policy & Resources Committee;*
- vi) *appoints one Member to the Health and Safety Committee; and*

- vii) appoints a Chairman to the Young Firefighters' Association Executive Committee.**
- viii) the current practice for representation and voting on the Local Government Association as set out in Appendix 2 be continued;**
- ix) the place and vote on the Local Government Association Fire Commission continues to be exercised by the Chairman of the Authority; and**
- x) the Chairman of the Authority continues as the Member representative on the Place Partnership Ltd. Shareholder Group.**

Political Groups and Committee Appointments

2. Where the Members of the Authority are divided into political groups the Authority must review the allocation of seats to political groups either at its annual meeting or as soon as practical thereafter.
3. Members should note the following rules governing Committee appointments:
 - (i) Group Leaders, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, out-going Chairman of the Authority and Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee are not eligible to serve on the Audit and Standards Committee.
 - (ii) Subject to the rules on political balance, the Authority Chairman, the Policy and Resources Committee Chairman and the Audit and Standards Committee Chairman will serve on the Appointments Committee.
4. Applying the requirements of political balance, the number of seats on each committee allocated to each Group is as set out in recommendation (i) of this report. It is recommended that the Head of Legal Services make appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes notified by the Group Leaders and that the Authority determines any appointments of non-aligned Members to seats on committees.

[For information, Appendix 1 details the previous Committee Memberships].

Outside Bodies

5. The Local Government Association (LGA) works with local authorities to ensure local government has a voice with national government. This Authority has corporate membership of the LGA and is entitled to appoint up to 4 representatives to serve on the General Assembly. The arrangements determined previously by the Authority are attached at Appendix 2.
6. All Fire and Rescue Authorities are entitled to a place and a vote on LGA Fire Commission. The Authority has previously appointed the Chairman or his nominee to the Commission and to exercise the vote on behalf of this Authority.
7. As Members are aware, Place Partnership Ltd. brings together the respective estates functions of partner organisations. The Authority is currently

represented on the Shareholder Group by the Chairman and the Assistant Chief Fire Officer.

Conclusion/Summary

8. The above arrangements have proven to be effective and it is recommended that the Authority continue as set out above.

Corporate Considerations

Resource Implications (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	The Authority has approved a Members' Allowances Scheme for 2019/20 which sets out special responsibility allowances for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority, Committee Chairmen and Political Group Leaders. This will be met within existing budgets. There may be some costs associated with travel by appointees to meetings of outside bodies. This will be met within existing budgets
Strategic Policy Links (identify how proposals link in with current priorities and policy framework and if they do not, identify any potential implications).	None directly.
Risk Management / Health & Safety (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	None directly.
Consultation (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)	None.
Equalities (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)	An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out as the report does not contain a recommendation to approve a policy.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Political Groups and Committee Memberships

Appendix 2 - Local Government Association - representation and voting

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