

County Council

15

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	24 April 2014
Officer	Chief Executive
Subject of Report	Appointments to Committees of the County Council, Joint Committees and the Dorset Fire Authority for 2014/15
Executive Summary	<p>Procedure Rule (Standing Order) 50 as set out in the County Council's Constitution states that at their annual meeting the Council shall appoint to the standing committees.</p> <p>The Council is therefore invited to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) determine the allocation of seats to political groups and to make appointments to committees of the County Council for the year 2014/15;(ii) determine the County Council's allocation of seats and to appoint members to serve on joint committees for the year 2014/15; and(iii) determine the allocation of seats and to appoint members to serve on the Dorset Fire Authority for the year 2014/15. <p>The nominations of the Group Leaders will be tabled at the meeting.</p>
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: N/A
	Use of Evidence: Appropriate use of evidence has been used in the compilation of this report by utilising the membership details of Committees during 2013/14.

	Budget: This report has not budget or VAT implications.
	<p>Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:</p> <p>Current Risk: LOW</p> <p>Residual Risk: LOW</p>
	Other Implications: N/A
Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That seats on committees of the County Council be allocated to political groups, as set out in paragraph 2.6, for the year 2014/15. 2. That members of political groups be appointed to serve on the committees of the County Council to reflect the nominations of the Group Leaders. 3. That County Council seats on joint committees be allocated to political groups as set out in paragraph 4.9 of this report for the year 2014/15. 4. That members be appointed to serve on joint committees for the year 2014/15 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders. 5. That the Leader be asked to confirm his appointments to the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee, Public Health Joint Committee and the Dorset Health and Well-being Board. 6. That seats on the Dorset Fire Authority be allocated to political groups for the year 2014/15, as set out in paragraph 5.4 of this report. 7. That members be appointed to serve on the Dorset Fire Authority for the year 2014/15 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders. 8. That members be appointed to serve on other organisations for the year 2014/15 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders
Reason for Recommendation	To comply with the County Council's Procedure Rules (Standing Orders).
Appendices	None
Background Papers	None
Report Originator and Contact	<p>Name: Lee Gallagher, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>Tel: (01305) 224191</p> <p>Email: l.d.gallagher@dorsetcc.gov.uk</p>

1. Political Groups and Percentage Entitlement

1.1 All members of the County Council except Mr Ian Smith (UKIP) belong to one of the three political groups of the County Council.

1.2 The number of members of political groups and the percentage entitlement is therefore as follows:-

<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
27 (60.00%)	12 (26.67%)	5 (11.11%)	1 (2.22%)	45 (100%)

2. Committees of the County Council

2.1 The entitlement to seats on the ordinary Committees of the County Council which are allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to the total of those seats as the number of members of each group is to the membership of the County Council. This excludes the Cabinet and the Standards and Governance Committee for which the political balance rules do not apply, and the Staffing Committee for which the County Council has decided similarly that the rules should not apply.

2.2 In addition, where a political group has a majority of seats on the County Council, it must also have a majority on each individual body to which appointments are made.

2.3 However, the Council may waive political balance rules for any committee where the Council wishes to appoint an alternative number of members from political groups. In order for political balance to be waived no member must object to this, an objection by a single member would make it necessary to apply strict proportionality.

2.4 Standards and Governance Committee

The membership of the Standards and Governance Committee comprises the Chairman of the County Council and five other members nominated by the Group Leaders following discussions between them.

2.5 Staffing Committee

The membership of the Staffing Committee comprises five members to include the Chairman of the County Council, Leader of the County Council and three other members (to be nominated by the Group Leaders on each occasion). It is suggested that members continue to be appointed annually to this Committee subject to the membership being varied at the request of Group Leaders to deal with any appointment of the Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive/a Director under their terms of reference.

2.6 'Ordinary' Committees

The table below shows the number of seats on 'ordinary' committees to be allocated to political groups:

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
Audit and Scrutiny	5	2	1	-	8
Adult and Community Services Overview	7	3	2	-	12
Children's Services Overview+	7	3	2	-	12
Environment Overview	7	3	2	-	12
Public Health Overview**	7	3	2	-	12
Children's and Adult Services Appeals*	3	1	1	-	5
Licensing and Registration	3	1	1	-	5
Personnel Appeals*	3	1	1	-	5
Planning	6	3	1	-	10
Roads and Rights of Way	6	3	1	-	10
Ad Hoc Accounts	5	3	1	-	9

+ Plus four co-opted voting members (on education matters only)

* Plus reserve members

** Appointments are subject to consideration of the future of the Public Health Overview Committee by the Standards and Governance Committee and the County Council on 24 April 2014.

The Standards Committee and the Staffing Committee

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
Standards	3	1	1	-	5*
Staffing	1	1	1	-	3+

* Chairman of the County Council plus 3 members and 4 independent members

+ Leader of the Council and Chairman of the County Council plus 3 members

3. **Appointments to Committees**

3.1 Group Leaders have been asked for their nominations to committees in accordance with the allocations set out in paragraph 2.6. These will be tabled at the meeting. It is for the County Council to make these appointments.

4. **Joint Arrangements**

4.1 The Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee consists of 12 members, of whom six are appointed by the County Council and one appointed by each of the six district/ borough councils in Dorset. The Constitution provides that every effort should be made to include one county councillor from each district/borough council area.

4.2 Arrangements for the Dorset Police and Crime Panel were agreed by the County Council on 26 April 2012 to establish a Panel following the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012. The Panel consists of two members from the County Council, one member from Bournemouth Borough Council (+3 co-opted), one member from Borough of Poole (+2 co-opted), one member from each

district/borough council in Dorset, and two independent members. The County Council is therefore invited to appoint two members to the Panel.

- 4.3 The Pension Fund Committee consists of five members of the County Council (with no more than one being a member of the Cabinet), one nominated by Bournemouth Borough Council, one nominated by the Borough of Poole, one representing district councils within the County and a scheme member representative.
- 4.4 The membership of the Dorset and South Wiltshire Planning and Transportation Joint Committee includes one member to be appointed by the County Council.
- 4.5 The County Council agreed the governance arrangements in relation to Public Health at its meeting held on 14 February 2013, which included the formation of a Joint Public Health Committee.
- 4.6 Those members appointed to the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee and the Joint Public Health Committee must be members of the County Council's Cabinet as these are executive decision-making bodies. These appointments are made by the Leader of the County Council. In addition to the two cabinet members the County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole are each entitled to appoint a non-cabinet member from one of the opposition groups to attend meetings of the Joint Public Health Committee with observer status.
- 4.7 The Council is asked to appoint the following members to the Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board:
- Leader of the Council
 - Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health
 - Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services
 - Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Families.
- 4.8 As far as the County Council membership is concerned, the allocation of seats follows the political balance of the County Council, giving the following allocations:

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee	4	1	1	-	6
Dorset Police and Crime Panel	1	1	-	-	2
Pension Fund Committee	3	1	1	-	5+
Dorset and South Wiltshire Planning and Transportation Joint Committee	1	-	-	-	1*
Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee	2	-	-	-	2*
Joint Public Health Committee	2	1#	-	-	2*
Dorset Health and Well-being Board	4	-	-	-	4

+plus a scheme member representative

*plus reserve members in the same number

observer status

- 4.9 The nominations received from the Group Leaders will be tabled at the meeting.

5. Dorset Fire Authority

- 5.1 The Dorset Fire Authority consists of 15 members drawn from Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole. Under the Combination Order which established the Fire Authority each council is entitled to

places on the Authority in proportion to its share of the total electorate for the combined area.

5.2 The allocation of seats relates directly to the balance of the electorate amongst the three councils. As far as the County Council's appointments are concerned, the allocation of seats to political groups follows the political balance of the County Council.

5.3 This gives the following allocation:

<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
5	2	1	-	8

5.4 The nominations received from the Group Leaders will be tabled at the meeting.

6. **Other Organisations**

6.1 The County Council is entitled to places on the following organisations which, with the exception of the Rural Commission and the South West Strategic Leaders Board, again have previously been allocated in accordance with political proportionality.

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Total</u>
Local Government Association - General Assembly	3	1	-	-	4
County Council's Network (CCN)	3	1	-	-	4
South West Councils	1	-	-	-	1
South West Councils Employers Panel	1	-	-	-	1

The nominations of Group Leaders will be tabled at the meeting.

Debbie Ward
Chief Executive
April 2014