

# County Council

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## Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	23 April 2015
Officer	Chief Executive
Subject of Report	<b>Appointments to Committees of the County Council, Joint Committees and the Dorset Fire Authority for 2015/16</b>
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"><li>(i) determine the allocation of seats to political groups and to make appointments to committees of the County Council for the year 2015/16;</li><li>(ii) determine the County Council's allocation of seats and to appoint members to serve on joint committees for the year 2015/16; and</li><li>(iii) determine the allocation of seats and to appoint members to serve on the Dorset Fire Authority and the Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority for the year 2015/16.</li></ul> <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 2014/15.
	Budget: This report has no 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>
	<p>Other Implications: N/A</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That seats on committees of the County Council be allocated to political groups, as set out in paragraph 2.6, for the year 2015/16.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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 2015/16.</li> <li>4. That members be appointed to serve on joint committees for the year 2015/16 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>6. That seats on the Dorset Fire Authority and the Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority be allocated to political groups for the year 2015/16, as set out in paragraph 5.3 of this report.</li> <li>7. That members be appointed to serve on the Dorset Fire Authority and the Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority for the year 2015/16 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders.</li> <li>8. That members be appointed to serve on other organisations for the year 2015/16 in accordance with the nominations of the Group Leaders.</li> <li>9. That members be appointed to serve as Member Champions for the year 2015/16, as set out in paragraph 7.1 of this report.</li> <li>10. That delegated authority be granted to the Leader of the Council, after consultation with group leaders, to appoint Member Champions in future years</li> </ol>
<p>Reason for Recommendation</p>	<p>To comply with the County Council's Procedure Rules (Standing Orders).</p>
<p>Appendices</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Background Papers</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Report Originator and Contact</p>	<p>Name: Lee Gallagher, Democratic Services Manager          Tel: (01305) 224191          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
Children's and Adult Services Appeals*	3	1	1	-	5
Environment Overview	7	3	2	-	12
Personnel Appeals*	3	1	1	-	5
Regulatory	9	4	2	-	15
Ad Hoc Accounts	5	3	1	-	9

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

\* Plus reserve members

## 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:
- Cabinet Member for Communities, Health and Wellbeing
  - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
  - Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth (reserve member)
- 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+
Local Pension Board	1	-	-	-	1
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	-	-	-	3

+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 and Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue 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 In 2015/16 the Dorset Fire Authority will continue to be responsible for the delivery of fire and rescue services in Dorset whilst at the same time a Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority will be responsible for putting in place a new combined Dorset and Wiltshire Authority from 1 April 2016. It is therefore necessary to appoint members to the Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority on the same basis as the allocation in paragraph 5.3 as the Council's level of representation is maintained in the new Dorset and Wiltshire Authority. The Chairman of the Dorset Fire Authority and the Chief Fire Officer have asked that where the Council maintain the appointment of its current members to the existing authority and the shadow authority to provide continuity and as seamless transition as possible.

5.5 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.

## 7. Member Champions

7.1 The role of Member Champion is included within the Members' Job Description as follows:

Members maybe appointed as required from time to time to undertake the role of designated Member Champion for a specific service area or initiative by:-

- (i) finding ways to sustain a high profile for the initiative, both in the public domain and internally within the County Council;
- (ii) keeping yourself informed about relevant key developments;
- (iii) seeking ways to motivate staff to reach targets; and
- (iv) using your influence as a County Councillor for the allocation of appropriate priority status for the initiative, in the context of the Council's overall objectives.

7.2 Members are asked to consider the appointment of Member Champions for the year 2015/16 for:

- Carer's Champion
- Children, young people and adults who are disabled (0 - 25 years)
- Corporate Sustainability Programme
- Community Services (incorporating cultural services, community safety, health improvement, adult learning and the voluntary sector)
- Customer Services
- Data Transparency Champion
- Diversity (including disability)
- Domestic Violence
- Economic Growth and Development
- Learning Disabilities
- Mental Health Services
- Military/Civilian Integration
- Older People
- Promotion of learning through life
- Physical Activity
- Risk
- Trading Standards
- Fair Trade (new)
- Participation: children, young people, families, parents and carers (new)

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

**Debbie Ward**  
Chief Executive  
April 2015