

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
COUNCIL	21 NOVEMBER 2012

Report template revised June 2008



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
Appointment of Committees - Proportionality	Leader	Martin O'Loughlin	11

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report deals with amendments to the appointment of the Council's Committees to meet the proportionality requirements.

The provision of an effective proportionate democratic structure underpins the delivery of all the council's corporate objectives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Membership of Committees be amended to increase the Labour representation on Standards Committee and the Boundary Committee by one seat on each Committee. (Names to be submitted at Council).

DETAILS AND REASONING

Members will recall that in May, in accordance with the recommendations of the report on the new Standards arrangements, the membership of the Standards Committee was as set until the commencement date of the new regulations following which the 3 independent & 3 parish/town council members would cease to be members.

Following the changes to the Standards Regime, the Standards Committee is no longer exempt from the Committee proportionality rules. Consequently the total number of seats that need to be proportional has increased and this has had an impact on Committee membership.

The result of this that in order to bring the total number of seats back into proportion it is proposed to increase the size of the Standards Committee from 6 (Con 4 Lab 2) to 7 (Con 4 Lab 3) and to increase size of the Boundary Committee from 9 (Con 6 Lab 3) to 10 (Con 6 Lab 4).

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas listed below, and the table shows any implications in respect of each of these. The risk assessment which has been carried out forms part of the background papers to the report.

FINANCIAL	There are no financial implications arising from the appointments.
LEGAL	The appointments to Committees are made in accordance with relevant legislation and, in particular, with regard to the proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 where these apply.
RISK	Failure to have in place a robust and effective decision making structure could leave the council's decisions open to challenge. This risk is addressed by the proposals within the report.
THE IMPACT ON EQUALITY	The proposals address the issues of equality arising from the changes to the Standards Regime which means that the Standards Committee is no longer exempt from the Committee proportionality rules.

OTHER (see below)	
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<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.