REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

DATE 8th July 2009
PORTFOLIO None
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Appointments to Committees, Working Groups, Panels and Boards 2009/10

PURPOSE

1. To consider the revised appointments to Committees, Working Groups, Panels and Boards for the 2009/2010 Municipal Year following the County Council elections, the Local by-election and a change in the Liberal Democrat Group.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Council are asked to:

   Appoint two Members to the Lancashire locals, one Executive Member and one non executive member.

   Appoint a substitute member to substitute for the Mayor on Lancashire Locals

   Appoint a member to replace Councillor Darren Reynolds on the Audit Committee.

   Appoint a Vice Chair for the Audit Committee for the remainder of the 2009/10 Municipal year

   Appoint one member to each the vacancies on the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Committee, the Licensing Committee and the Members Structures and Support Working Group for the remainder of the 2009/10 Municipal year:

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To ensure that the Council continues to have an effective decision making structure following the elections.
4. In May 2009 the Council considered the appointment of Committees, Working Groups, Panels and Boards for the Municipal year. The appointments were made on the basis of the statutory political balance calculation and 3 vacancies were left on the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Committee, the Licensing Committee and the Members Structures and Support Working Group as there was a vacancy on the Council which would not be filled until the by-election on 4th June 2009.

5. **Changes since the last Council meeting**
The following changes have occurred since the appointments were made and result in changes needing to be made to the appointments to Committees, Working Groups, Panels and Boards:

6. **Lancashire Locals**
The Council appointed the following members to the Lancashire Locals (which is a statutory joint Committee between the County Council and the Borough)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillors</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Harbour</td>
<td>Peter McCann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Lambert</td>
<td>Jeff Sumner</td>
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<td>Peter Doyle</td>
<td>Linda White</td>
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However Councillors Peter McCann and Jeff Sumner have since been appointed to the County Council and cannot serve as Borough Council representatives. As Lancashire Locals is appointed on the basis of the political balance calculation, these two places need to be filled by the Liberal Democrat Group, with one of the nominees being an Executive Member.

In addition, the constitution of Lancashire Locals states that:

Prior to the meeting the Secretary must be notified of the substitutions for the District Council Members made in accordance with that council’s normal procedures.

The normal procedures for the appointment of substitutes at this Council are that the Council would only appoint named substitutes and then only on an exceptional basis.

Having discussed this provision with Group Leaders the Council are recommended not to take up this provision for all Members, but to make a provision for the appointment of a substitute for the Mayor. This would require the Labour Group to make a nomination for a named substitute. This provision would be an exception and would only apply to this joint Committee and would not set any precedence for the appointment of substitutes to other Committees or working groups.

7. **Resignation of Vice Chair of the Audit Committee.**
The Vice Chair of the Audit Committee, Councillor Darren Reynolds has resigned from the Committee. The Liberal Democrat Group are, therefore required to make a replacement of one member on that Committee and the Council are required to appoint a new Vice Chair. The nominations for Vice Chair of the Committee are open to any
8. **Political Balance Calculation**
At the Last meeting of the Council appointments were made on the basis of the following Group proportions:

- Liberal Democrats – 22 seats
- Labour – 12 seats
- Conservative – 6 seats; and
- BNP – 4 seats

At the by election held on 4th June 2009 Councillor Iris Gates won the vacant seat and therefore the proportion of seats held by the Liberal Democrats increased to 23. However following the election, Councillor John Jones resigned from the Liberal Democrat Group and became an independent member.

The current situation is that Councillor Jones, on being informed that he was eligible to fill the 3 vacancies outlined in paragraph 4 above declined the vacancies. The political Balance calculation has therefore been re done based on Group proportions of 44 members instead of 45 to allow those places to be filled by other groups.

This has resulted in the following allocation of places to the vacancies:

- Environment and Housing Scrutiny Committee – 1 Liberal Democrat member
- Licensing Committee - 1 Labour member
- Members Structures and Support Working Group – 1 Liberal Democrat member

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

9. None

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

10. None

**DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

11. Members Structures and Support Working Group
    Group Leaders
12. None

FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:
ALSO: