

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

Re- Allocation to Seats and Appointments to the Council Structure and Outside Bodies for 2017/18 and Revisions to Health & Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference

Summary

1. At its Annual General Meeting, Full Council considered the allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies for 2017/18 and made appointments for the current Municipal Year, based on the then proportionality of the Council with 45 elected Members and two vacancies, pending By-Elections. This report sets out details of the proposed new arrangements, as a result of the By-Elections held on 8 June 2017 for Hull Road and Micklegate wards.

Background

2. Council is required to make those appointments and to allocate those places on the committees and other bodies that it wishes to set up in order to run its business during the 2017/18 Municipal Year. These appointments were made in accordance with the political balance of the Council which pertained at the time of the Annual Meeting on 26 May 2017, in accordance with the requirements set out in the 1989 Local Government & Housing Act. As a general rule, Council has 47 elected Members but at the time of making those appointments, there were 2 vacancies.
3. On 8 June 2017, the Council held 2 By-Elections for Micklegate and Hull Road Wards, as a result 2 Labour Councillors were returned, altering the proportions on seats to be allocated to Committees.

Allocation of Seats

4. At the Annual Meeting on 26 May 2017, Full Council approved appointments to those available seats at the time to which the political balance rules apply under the terms of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989. Council also applied the rules to the remaining bodies it chose

to set up, in accordance with usual practice. The details approved at that meeting now need updating to take account of the By-Election results referred to above. The revised calculations relating to the proportional allocation of seats are set out in Annex A to this report.

Appointments to Committees, Working Groups & Outside Bodies

5. Further to the allocation of seats referred to above Full Council is asked to make the changes to appointments to those Committees now set out in Annex B. These revised appointments are proposed in accordance with nominations made by political groups, and Independent Members, as may be appropriate. These revised appointments also include replacements not affected by changes in proportionality but which are standard in year switches due to Members' commitments changing since the initial appointments were made.

Health & Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference

6. Since the changes agreed at the Annual Meeting to the above terms of reference, Health & Wellbeing Board are recommending some further slight improvements to the revised terms of reference. These are set out at Annex C to this report and itemized at paragraphs 2.1 and 9.9, to which Members' approval is sought.

Consultation

7. In accordance with the usual process for gathering nominations to available places on Committees etc, all relevant party Groups have been consulted and provided with the necessary information on available places.

Options

8. Options open to the Council are:
 - (i) to approve or not approve the allocation of seats in accordance with the revised arrangements set out in Annex A;
 - (ii) to make the revised appointments proposed at the meeting to Committees set out in Annex B or propose alternatives;

Council Plan 2015-19

9. Establishing an appropriate decision making and scrutiny structure, is essential in providing a framework through which the Council can make

decisions relating to the delivery of its core priorities set out in the Council Plan, effectively.

Implications

10. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members, namely to consider the allocation of seats and places to Committees and other bodies, including Chairs and Vice Chairs, together with the appointment of a Council Leader.
 - Financial
 - Human Resources (HR)
 - Equalities
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Property
 - Other

Legal Implications

11. The Council is statutorily obliged to make appointments to committees, advisory committees, sub Committees and certain other prescribed bodies in accordance with the political balance rules. These rules may only be waived where no Member votes against the proposal. At the Annual Meeting, Council waived those rules in relation to appointments to the Joint Standards Committee, in the interests of fairness, independence and equality on this Committee.

Risk Management

12. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report, other than the failure to meet the above legal requirements by reflecting its new proportionality in the allocation of seats.

Recommendations

13. Members are asked to consider the recommendations and annexes attached to this report and
 - (i) Agree the revised allocation of seats in accordance with Annex A; and
 - (ii) Approve appropriate revised appointments to Committees, as set out in Annex B, and

(iii) Approve the further revisions to the Health & Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference attached at Annex C.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's statutory and constitutional requirements.

Contact details:

Author:

Dawn Steel
Head of Civic &
Democratic Services
Tel: 01904 551030

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

Report Approved



Date 10 July 2017

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes:

Annex A – Revised Allocation of seats 2017/18

Annex B - Revised Appointments to Committees

Annex C – Further Revisions to Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference

Background Papers

None