



Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
The Leader of the Council (Cllr Gibson) and the Chief Executive (G. Payne)	Annual Council	10 May 2012	7

ESTABLISHMENT OF AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2012/13
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To enable Members to be appointed to the Council's Committees and other Panels and Groups for the 2012/13 Council Year.

2. Outcomes

2.1 Effective arrangements to carry out the Council's non-executive decision making and advisory functions.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the following Committees be appointed for 2012/13, with the allocation of 70 places as set out below, in accordance with the statutory political balance rules described in paragraph 4.3 of this report.

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lab</u>
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (14)	11	3
Planning Committee (14)	10	4
Licensing Committee (14)	10	4
Audit Committee (14)	10	4
Employment and Appeals Committee (10)	7	3
Senior Officers Appointments Committee (4)	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>51</u>	<u>19</u>

3.2 That Conservative and Labour Members be appointed to the Committees in paragraph 3.1 as listed in Appendix 1.

3.3 That the existing Standards Committee be reappointed, with its current membership (as listed in Appendix 2) and its current terms of reference for the period until 30 June 2012.

- 3.4** That the intention to appoint at the Council meeting on 14 June a new Standards Committee, with revised terms of reference and membership in accordance with the requirements Localism Act 2011, for the period from 1 July 2012 until 8 May 2013, be noted.
- 3.5** That the following other bodies, to which the statutory political balance rules do not apply, also be appointed for 2012/13.
- (a) Housing Benefit & Council Tax Review Board Panel (Panel of 10 from which 3 Members will be appointed for each hearing).
 - (b) Councillor Development Group (12).
 - (c) Wyre 3 Tier Forum (8)
 - (d) Planning Policy Group (15 including 1 Executive Member)
- 3.6** That, appointments be made to the panels and groups set out in paragraph 3.5 as listed in Appendix 3.

4. Background

- 4.1** The Council's Constitution currently requires that: "At the Annual Meeting, the Council will appoint at least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a Standards Committee and such other Committees as the Council considers appropriate to deal with matters, which are neither reserved to the Council, nor are Executive functions."
- 4.2** However, the requirement to have a Standards Committee, with a specified number of independent members and a specified number of Parish Council members, embodied in Section 55 of the Local Government Act 2000, will cease from 1 July 2012. As reported to Council on 26 April 2012, fundamental changes have been made to the system of regulation of standards of conduct for elected and co-opted Councillors by the Localism Act 2011. A further comprehensive report seeking approval for a new Code of Conduct and new local procedures for dealing with allegations of breaches of the code will be submitted to the Council meeting on 14 June 2012. That report will also include recommendations on a new role; for and membership of the Standards Committee. The new changes will then come into effect from 1 July 2012. However, in the meantime, it is proposed that the current Standards Committee be re-appointed for the period until 30 June 2012, with its existing terms of reference and composition.
- 4.2** Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act requires that the allocation of places on non-executive Committees of the Council be allocated on the following criteria:

- (a) that not all seats on a body are allocated to the same Political Group;
- (b) that the majority of seats on a body is allocated to a particular Political Group, if the number of persons belonging to that Group is the majority of the Authority's membership;
- (c) subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees of a relevant Authority which are allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary Committees of that Authority;
- (d) subject to paragraphs (a) - (c) above, that the number of seats on a body which are allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the number of all seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that Group in membership of the Authority.

4.3 There have been no changes to the political composition since the elections on 5 May, 2011, which remains as:

Conservative	40 members
Labour	15

The total proportion of Conservative members is, therefore 72.73% and the total proportion of Labour Members is 27.27%.

5. Proposals

5.1 The application of the political balance rules set out in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3, means that the Conservative Group is entitled to 51 of the total of 70 places available on the Committees and Panels listed in paragraph 3.1. The Labour Group is entitled to a total of 19 places on those Committees. These allocations are unchanged from 2011/12.

5.2 However, the application of the relevant percentages to each committee to which the rules apply, results in the following allocations, which again are unchanged from last year:

	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lab</u>
Overview and Scrutiny	10	4
Planning	10	4
Licensing	10	4
Audit	10	4
Employment & Appeals	7	3
Senior Officers Appointments	3	1
	50	20

- 5.3** The rounding of the figures when making those calculations means that, in total, the Conservative Group is under represented by 1 place and the Labour Group is over represented by 1 place. The Conservative Group is therefore entitled to take 1 additional place on 1 Committee from the Labour Group. That additional place has currently been taken on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, giving an 11-3 split on that Committee.
- 5.4** The nominations of individual Councillors to each of the Committees received from the Conservative Group and the Labour Group are listed in Appendix 1.
- 5.5** The statutory political balance rules do not have to be applied to the allocation of places on the bodies listed in Appendices 2 and 3, but, the nominations to those Committees are, nevertheless proportionate.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	None.
Legal	The proposals in this report are in accordance with legal requirements.
Community Safety	None.
Equality and Diversity	None.
Sustainability	None.
Health and Safety	None.
Risk Management	None.
Asset Management	None.
Climate Change	None

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List of Background Papers:		
Name of Document	Date	Where available for inspection
None.	-	-

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Nominations for Membership of Statutory Committees.

Appendix 2: Membership of the Standards Committee until 30 June 2012

Appendix 3: Nominations for Membership of other Panels and Groups to which the political balance rules do not apply.

APPENDIX 1

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF STATUTORY COMMITTEES 2012/13

Note: Membership of these Committees has to be politically balanced in accordance with the requirements of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (14)

Conservative Councillors (11)	Anderson, Birch, Cocker, M Gandhi, Hodgkinson MacNaughton Pimbley, Perkin, V Taylor, Walmsley and Williams
Labour Councillors (3)	Martin, Lees and Shewan

AUDIT COMMITTEE (14)

Conservative Councillors (10)	Amos, Balmain, Brooks, Collinson, Greenhough, Kay, MacNaughton, Moon, Turner and Wilson .
Labour Councillors (4)	Anderton, Hewitt, Rogers and T. Taylor.

EMPLOYMENT AND APPEALS COMMITTEE (10)

Conservative Councillors (7)	Amos, Bridge, Cocker,, Pimbley, Robinson, Turner and Wilson.
Labour Councillors (3)	I. Duffy, R. Duffy and Martin.

PLANNING COMMITTEE (14)

Conservative Councillors (10)	Lady Atkins, Bannister, Birch, Catterall, Greenhough, Henderson, Moon, Newsham, Perkin, and Williams
Labour Councillors (4)	E. Anderton, Rogers, Shewan and T Taylor.

LICENSING COMMITTEE (14)

Conservative Councillors (10)	Bridge, Collinson, R. Gandhi, Hargreaves, Hodgkinson, Ormrod, Pimbley, Robinson, Swift, and M. Vincent,
Labour Councillors (4)	M. Anderton, Beavers, Smith and Treece-Birch

SENIOR OFFICERS APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (4)

Conservative Councillors (3)	Cllr Gibson, A. Vincent and Murphy
Labour Councillors (1)	Cllr C Grunshaw

APPENDIX 2

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (6 Councillors)

Current Membership, as listed below, to be re-appointed for the period until 30 June 2012

Conservative Councillors (4)	Collinson, M. Gandhi, V. Taylor and Bridge
Labour Councillors (2)	M. Anderton and Lees.
Independent Members (3)	John Shaw, Anthony Egerton and Bob Jones
Parish and Town Councils Representatives (3)	Phil Orme, David Sharples and June Jackson

**NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF NON-STATUTORY COMMITTEES,
PANELS AND GROUPS* 2012/2013**

HOUSING AND COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT REVIEW BOARD (10)

Conservative Councillors (7) Anderson, Bannister, Cocker, Collinson,
Hargreaves, A. Turner and Williams

Labour Councillors (3) M. Anderton, J. Grunshaw and Martin

COUNCILLOR DEVELOPMENT GROUP (12)

Conservative Councillors (9) Amos, Balmain, Bannister, R. Gandhi, Murphy,
Newsham, Perkin, Swift and Ormrod.

Labour Councillors (3) Hewitt, Smith and Treece-Birch

PLANNING POLICY GROUP (14)

Economy Portfolio Holder McCann
Planning C'tee Chairman Henderson
Planning C'tee V. Chairman Greenhough

Conservative Councillors (8) Balmain, Birch, Brooks, Cocker, Newsham, Perkin,
Pimbley, and Walmsley.

Labour Councillors (3) Lees, Shewan and T. Taylor.

WYRE 3 TIER FORUM (8)

Conservative Councillors (6) Lady Atkins, R. Gandhi, Murphy, Newsham,
Robinson and Walmsley.

Labour Councillors (2) P. Martin and T. Taylor

**Please note that Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 relating to political balance arrangements, does not apply to these Committees/Panels/Groups.*