



<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Item No.</b>
The Leader of the Council (Cllr Gibson) and the Chief Executive	Council	16 October 2014	10

## **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2014/15**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1** To comply with the requirement to formally report on changes to the political balance of the Council and, to enable the implications for appointments to committees to be considered.

### **2. Outcomes**

- 2.1** Effective arrangements to carry out the Council's non-executive decision making and advisory functions for the remainder of 2014/15.

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1** That the resignation of Cllr MacNaughton from the Conservative Group be noted.
- 3.2** That Cllr McKay be appointed to the Audit Committee, in place of Cllr MacNaughton for the remainder of the 2014/15 Council year.
- 3.3** That Cllr C. Birch be appointed to the Licensing Committee, in place of Cllr MacNaughton, for the remainder of the 2014/15 Council year.
- 3.4** That Councillor Jones be appointed as the Shaping Your Neighbourhood Lead Member for Thornton, in place of Cllr MacNaughton, for the remainder of the 2014/15 Council Year.

### **4. Background**

- 4.1** Councillor MacNaughton notified the Chief Executive on 12 September 2014 that he has resigned from the Group and is now an Independent Member. Cllr MacNaughton has also submitted his resignation as Shaping Your Neighbourhood Lead Member for Thornton.

- 4.2** Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that the allocation of places on non-executive Committees of the Council be allocated to reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole. The detailed criteria on which the calculations must be made were set out in the report submitted to the Annual Meeting of Council on 8 May 2014, when the allocation of places on Committees for 2014/15 was initially agreed. At that meeting Cllr MacNaughton was appointed, as a nominee of the Conservative Group, to the Audit Committee and the Licensing Committee.
- 4.3** Cllr MacNaughton was also appointed as Shaping Your Neighbourhood Lead Member for Thornton at the Council meeting on 24 January 2013
- 4.4** Under the provisions of the above Act, single non-aligned independent members (of which the Council now has two) do not constitute a “group” and are not, therefore, automatically entitled to any seats on Committees.
- 4.5** The resignation of Cllr MacNaughton from the Conservative Group therefore has no significant impact on the overall political balance of the Council or the allocation of committee places between the Conservative and Labour Groups.

## **5. Key Issues and Proposals**

- 5.1** The Conservative Group does not intend to voluntarily ‘give-up’ any of its places to Cllr MacNaughton. Alternative appointments are proposed in the recommendations of this report.

<b>FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
Finance	The Special Responsibility Allowance paid to the Leader of the Conservative Group will be reduced slightly as a consequence of Cllr MacNaughton’s resignation from the Group.
Legal	The proposals in this report are in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

### **OTHER RISKS/IMPLICATIONS: CHECKLIST**

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

<b>Implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
Community Safety	x
Equality and Diversity	x
Sustainability	x
Health and Safety	x

<b>Risks/Implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
Asset Management	x
Climate Change	x
Data Protection	x

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<b>List of Background Papers:</b>		
<b>Name of Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Where available for inspection</b>
None	-	-

### **LIST OF APPENDICES**

None.

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