

# CHESHIRE EAST

## Council

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**Date of meeting:** 2 April 2009

**Report of:** Borough Solicitor

**Title:** **Appointment of Members to decision-making and other bodies**

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### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To determine the memberships, chairmanships and vice chairmanships of the Council's decision-making bodies and the appointment of those bodies.

### **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the bodies, as listed in Appendix Two of the previous agenda item, and their Memberships, as circulated at the meeting, be appointed; and
- 2.2 A Chairman and a Vice Chairman be appointed for each of these bodies, in accordance with the circulated material.

### **3.0 Legal Implications**

- 3.1 The previous report on the agenda dealt with the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, in respect of the political group representation on the authority's committees.
- 3.2 The Annual Meeting of Council appoints the Council's decision-making and other bodies and, their Memberships.
- 3.3 The 1990 Regulations require political Group Leaders to notify the Proper Officer of the Group's nominations to the bodies in question.

### **4.0 Risk Assessment**

- 4.1 Failure to comply with the Act and Regulations would leave the Council open to legal challenge.

## **5.0 APPOINTMENT TO OFFICES UNDER THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/10**

- 5.1 Annual Council is required to appoint its decision-making and other bodies, together with their Memberships. Council on 24<sup>th</sup> February agreed which bodies would form the Council's political structure and the Membership numbers.
- 5.2 The 1990 Regulations require political Group Leaders to notify the Proper Officer of the Group's nominations to the bodies in question. The Political Groups have therefore been invited to submit their nominations and a schedule of the proposed memberships will be circulated at or before the Council meeting. This will include any appointments already made, for completeness.
- 5.3 Council is also required to appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for each of the bodies in question.
- 5.4 Council should note the following:
  - 5.4.1 The Membership of the Strategic Planning Board was agreed at the February Council meeting. The Board has appointed its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as was required by the Shadow Council's Constitution.
  - 5.4.2 The Licensing Sub-Committees will be appointed by the Licensing Committee when required, as provided for by the Constitution.
  - 5.4.3 The appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Wirral Joint Scrutiny Committee will be determined at the first meeting of the re-constituted Committee to be held probably in June/July. Until then the existing Chairman (Councillor Flude) and Vice-Chairman (Councillor Bridson, Wirral MBC) will remain in Office. The chairmanship and vice-chairmanship will then rotate annually among the constituent authorities with no one authority holding both the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship in any year.
  - 5.4.4 The Council is required to appoint six Members to the Wirral Joint Scrutiny Committee and to nominate six reserve Members. This is the current practice with the existing constituent authorities.

## **5 Reasons for Recommendations**

6.1 To determine Memberships, Chairmanships and Vice Chairmanships of the Council's decision-making and other bodies, and their appointment.

### ***For further information:***

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***Background Documents: None***