

# REPORT TO COUNCIL

**REPORT OF: HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**REPORT NO: LDS029**

**DATE: 7<sup>TH</sup> July 2011**

<b>TITLE:</b>	Appointments to Committees and Policy Development Groups	
<b>KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:</b>	N/A	
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:</b>	N/A	
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<b>INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:</b>	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below N/A	Full impact assessment Required: N/A
<b>Equality and Diversity</b>		
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:</b>	This report is publicly available via the Your Council and Democracy link on the Council's website: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">www.southkesteven.gov.uk</a>	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	The Council's Constitution	

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the postponed election for the Deeping St. James ward on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011, The Council appoints Members of the Committees, Policy Development Groups, in accordance with the legislative provisions regarding political balance.

## 2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to detail the Committees and Policy Development Groups to which appointments must be made.

## 3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 At its annual meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011, The Council appointed members to the various Committees and Policy Development Groups in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations which requires seats on politically balanced Committees to be allocated according to the respective size of the political groups represented on the Council. Under

these regulations to constitute a political group, members have to sign to state that they wish to be treated as a member of a political group and to inform the Chief Executive who the leader of that group is. The regulations mean that members who do not align themselves to a political group (i.e. non-aligned members) do not have any right to be appointed to any Council Committee or Policy Development Group. The decision made by members regarding their membership of any group on this Council is entirely unrelated to any membership of any national political party or to any statement on their nomination form/ballot paper.

- 3.2 This report has been prepared on information available at the time of writing which indicated that one member of the Conservative Group, one member of the Independent Group and one unaligned member had been elected on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011. Following this alignment of new members, the composition of the Committees and Policy Development Groups is shown at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The current membership of Committees and Policy development Groups as determined at the Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011 is shown at Appendix 2. The changes required to the composition of the Committees and Policy Development Groups to reflect the new political balance are shown in red at Appendix 1. Members are required to de-select one member of the Conservative Group from the Development Control and Licensing Committees, de-select one member of the Labour Group from the Policy Development Group and appoint one member from the Independent Group for each of the Development Control Committee, Licensing Committees and Policy Development Group.

Appointments to the Development Control and Licensing Committees must undertake mandatory training.

3

Consideration of other options may be required depending on the alignment of members to political groups.

## **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no additional resource implications. Appropriate budget provision has been made for the appointments detailed.

## **6. RISK AND MITIGATION**

The Committees and Policy Development Groups are required to be politically balanced

## **7. ISSUES ARISING FROM EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

No issues arising from this report. Political balance is a legal requirement.

## **8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

None

**9. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**10. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

The structure of the Council and its meetings is determined by the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government Act 2000 as amended by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This structure as set out in the Constitution has been determined by Council.

**11. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES**

None applicable

**12. APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 - composition post 23.6.11

Appendix 2 – composition before 23.6.11