

# Item 7

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

## REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 - THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS) REGULATIONS 1990**

#### **Summary**

This report amends the allocation of seats on committees to political groups as a result of recent changes in political balance in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. The report details the membership of political groups at Appendix 2.

Nominations have been received from political groups in respect of representation on the committees effected by the revised allocation of seats. These are set out at Appendix 3 for formal agreement by Council.

#### **Recommended:**

1. That the allocation of seats to political groups be in accordance with the schedule at Appendix 1
2. That the membership of political groups at Appendix 2 be noted.
3. That the nominations received from political groups detailed at Appendix 3 be approved.

#### **Background**

1. In order to comply with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 a review of the allocation of seats on Committees to political groups should be undertaken:-
  - (a) At the Annual Meeting of the Council
  - (b) Upon receipt of a request from a political group, given that one month has expired since the previous review.
  - (c) Upon the election of a Member following a by-election.
  - (d) At any other such time as the Secretary of State may specify.
2. Under the political management arrangements embodied in the Constitution and in order to comply with the Regulations, political balance must be applied to the following bodies of the Council:-

Overview & Scrutiny Committees  
Audit Committee  
Development Control Committee,

Licensing Committee 1 and 2  
 Standards Committee  
 Appeals/Review Panel  
 Chief Officers Appointments Panel  
 Employment Issues Panel  
 Personnel Appeals Panel.

The Cabinet, Area Forums and the Borough/Parish Relations Working Party are excluded from the scope of the political balance regulations.

3. The allocation of seats on committees and panels in accordance with political balance is set out in Appendix 1. Committees effected by the revised allocation of seats are marked with an asterisk (\*). Appendix 2 sets out the membership of political groups
4. Nominations have been sought from political groups in respect of representation on the committees effected by the revised allocation of seats. In addition a nomination has been sought to fill the vacancy on the Standards Committee. These are set out at Appendix 3 for formal agreement by Council.
5. The Borough/Parish Relations Working Party, being an informal liaison group rather than a committee of the Council, does not come within the scope of the political balance regulations. The Alliance 2003 Group is however required to refresh its representation on the Working Party as a consequence of changes to political groups. The Alliance 2003 Group's nomination to this Working Party is included in Appendix 3.

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**Ward(s)** Not ward specific

### Background Papers

1. Local Government Act 1989.
2. The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
3. The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Amendment Regulations 1991

### Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989  
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS)  
REGULATIONS 1990**

	<b>Total Seats</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>2003 Alliance</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Co-opted members</b>	<b>Parish/ Town Council Reps</b>
Strategic Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11	5	4	1	0	1	-	-
* Healthy Borough with Strong Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12 (+2 non- voting Co- opted)	6	3	2	1	0	2	-
* Prosperous and Attractive Borough Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12	6	3	2	1	0	-	-
Audit Committee	6	4	1	1	0	0	-	-
Development Control Committee	50	30	11	6	2	1	-	-
* Licensing 1	19	12	4	2	1	0	-	-
* Licensing 2	15	9	3	2	1	0	-	-
Standards Committee	10	2	1	1	1	0	3	2
* Appeals/Review Panel	19	12	4	2	0	1	-	-
Chief Officers Appointments Panel	7	4	1	1	1	0	-	-
* Employment Issues Panel	7	4	1	1	1	0	-	-
* Personnel Appeals Panel	12	7	3	1	0	1	-	-

\* Indicates allocation of seats has been amended. See also Appendix 2 for nominations to these Committees received from Political Groups



## MEMBERSHIP OF POLITICAL GROUPS

### Labour

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Armstrong ( <i>Leader</i> )	Councillor A. Hodgson
Councillor B.F. Avery, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels
Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman	Councillor Mrs. H. J. Hutchinson
Councillor J. Burton	Councillor Mrs. S. J. Iveson
Councillor V. Chapman	Councillor J.M. Khan
Councillor D. Chaytor	Councillor B. Lamb
Councillor Mrs K. Conroy	Councillor C. Nelson
Councillor Mrs. P. Crathorne	Councillor D.A. Newell
Councillor V. Crosby ( <i>Deputy Leader</i> )	Councillor Mrs. E. M. Paylor
Councillor T.F. Forrest	Councillor Mrs. C. Potts
Councillor Mrs. B. Graham	Councillor J. Robinson J.P.
Councillor A. Gray	Councillor A. Smith
Councillor G.C. Gray	Councillor B. Stephens
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray	Councillor T. Ward
Councillor J.E. Higgin	Councillor W. Waters

### Alliance 2003

Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp ( <i>Leader</i> )	Councillor Mrs. I. Hewitson
Councillor T.D. Brimm	Councillor P. Gittins
Councillor D. Farry	Councillor Mrs. L. Cuthbertson
Councillor T. Hogan ( <i>Deputy Leader</i> )	Councillor D. Brown
Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh	Councillor A. Warburton
Councillor B. Haigh	

### Liberal Democrat

Councillor G.M.R. Howe	Councillor B.M. Ord ( <i>Leader</i> )
Councillor J.G. Huntington ( <i>Deputy Leader</i> )	Councillor K. Thompson
Councillor Mrs. E. Maddison	Councillor Mrs. E.M. Wood

### Not Affiliated to a Political Group

Councillor D.M. Hancock  
Councillor Ms. I. Jackson



**HEALTHY BOROUGH WITH STRONG COMMUNITIES  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

12 Non Cabinet Members (6 Labour, 3 Alliance 2003, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent)  
Plus 2 Co-optees (Non-voting)

**Chairman :** Councillor J.E. Higgin  
**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor Mrs. P. Crathorne

**Members :** Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp  
Councillor D. Bowman  
Councillor J. Burton  
Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh  
Councillor Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson  
Councillor Ms. I Jackson  
Councillor K. Thompson  
Councillor A. Warburton  
Councillor T. Ward  
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Wood

Plus 2 Co-optees (non-voting)

**PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE BOROUGH  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

12 Non Cabinet Members (6 Labour, 3 Alliance 2003, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent)

**Chairman :** Councillor G.C. Gray  
**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor B. Lamb

**Members :** Councillor Mrs. L. Cuthbertson  
Councillor P. Gittins  
Councillor D.M. Hancock  
Councillor Mrs. I. Hewitson  
Councillor G.M.R. Howe  
Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson  
Councillor Mrs. E. Maddison  
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor  
Councillor B. Stephens  
Councillor A. Smith

### **LICENSING COMMITTEE 1**

19 Members (12 Labour, 4 Alliance 2003, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent)

**Chairman :** Councillor C. Nelson

**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor T. Ward

**Members :** Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp  
Councillor Mrs. P. Crathorne  
Councillor Mrs. L. Cuthbertson  
Councillor Mrs. B. Graham  
Councillor A. Gray  
Councillor D.M. Hancock  
Councillor Mrs. I. Hewitson  
Councillor J.E. Higgin  
Councillor A. Hodgson  
Councillor T. Hogan  
Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels  
Councillor J.G. Huntington  
Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson  
Councillor J.M. Khan  
Councillor B. Lamb  
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor  
Councillor K. Thompson

### **LICENSING COMMITTEE 2**

15 Members (9 Labour, 3 Alliance 2003, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent)

**Chairman :** Councillor T. F. Forrest

**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor Mrs. J. Gray

**Members :** Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman  
Councillor J. Burton  
Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy  
Councillor P. Gittins  
Councillor G.C. Gray  
Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh  
Councillor G.M.R. Howe  
Councillor Ms. I Jackson  
Councillor Mrs. E. Maddison  
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor  
Councillor Mrs. C. Potts  
Councillor A. Warburton  
Councillor W. Waters



## **APPEALS/REVIEW PANEL**

Housing Matters

Pool of 19 Members, one from each Borough Ward (12 Labour, 4 Alliance 2003, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Vacancy)

A Panel of 3 Members, will be selected as and when required by the Chief Executive

**Chairman :** To be appointed at each meeting.

**Members**

- Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp
- Councillor T. Brimm
- Councillor V. Chapman
- Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy
- Councillor Mrs. P. Crathorne
- Councillor V. Crosby
- Councillor D. Farry
- Councillor G. C. Gray
- Councillor Mrs. J. Gray
- Councillor Mrs. I. Hewitson
- Councillor G.M.R. Howe
- Councillor J.G. Huntington
- Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson
- Councillor J. M. Khan
- Councillor C. Nelson
- Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor
- Councillor Mrs. C. Potts
- Councillor T. Ward

Plus Vacancy

## **EMPLOYMENT ISSUES PANEL**

7 Members (4 Labour, 1 Alliance 2003, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent)

**Chairman:** Councillor A. Hodgson

**Members:**

- Councillor A. Gray
- Councillor G. C. Gray
- Councillor D.M. Hancock
- Councillor B. Haigh
- Councillor Mrs. E. Maddison
- Councillor A. Smith

## **PERSONNEL APPEALS PANEL**

12 Members - 3 Cabinet Members and 9 Non Cabinet Members (4 Labour, 3 Alliance 2003, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Vacancy)

**Chairman:** Councillor Mrs. A. Armstrong

**Members**  
Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp  
Councillor V. Chapman  
Councillor P. Crathorne  
Councillor V. Crosby  
Councillor Mrs. B. Graham  
Councillor G.C. Gray  
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray  
Councillor B. Haigh  
Councillor T. Hogan  
Councillor B. M. Ord

Plus Vacancy

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

8 Members including 1 Cabinet Member, 4 Non-Cabinet Members (1 Labour, 1 Alliance 2003, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Vacancy)

**Chairman** Mr L. Petterson (Independent Co-optee)

**Members**  
Councillor A. Gray  
Councillor T. Hogan  
Councillor Mrs. L. Howvels  
Councillor I. Jackson  
Councillor Mrs. E. Maddison  
Mr I. Jamieson (Independent Co-optee)  
Mr. B. Argyle (Independent Co-optee)

Plus 2 Parish/Town Council Representatives

## **BOROUGH/PARISH RELATIONS WORKING PARTY**

14 Members of Sedgefield Borough Council (9 Cabinet Members, Mayor and Deputy Mayor, 1 Labour, 1 Alliance 2003, 1 Liberal Democrat)

**Chairman:** To be appointed at the first meeting of the Working Party

**Vice Chairman:** To be appointed at the first meeting of the Working Party

### **Members:**

Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong  
Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy  
Councillor V. Crosby  
Councillor Mrs. B. Graham  
Councillor Mrs. L. Howvels  
Councillor A. Hodgson  
Councillor T. Hogan  
Councillor J.G. Huntington  
Councillor Mrs. S. J. Iveson  
Councillor J.M. Khan  
Councillor D.A. Newell  
Councillor J. Robinson, J.P.  
Councillor A. Smith  
Councillor W. Waters

Plus representatives of all Town and Parish  
Councils/Meetings.

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