

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL OR REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

12th May 2010

MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Geoff Denaro
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 This report asks the Council to consider increasing the number of members of the Standards Committee by including an additional elected Member.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the membership of the Standards Committee be increased from 8 to 9, the additional member being an elected Member; the Committee therefore to comprise:**

- **4 elected Members, being 2 Members of the controlling political group and 2 Members who are not members of the controlling political group;**
- **3 Independent Members;**
- **2 Parish Representatives**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The current composition of the Standards Committee includes 3 elected Members, being 2 from the controlling political group and 1 who is not a member of the controlling political group. In the past, the Leader of the Opposition or his/her nominee has filled the seat allocated to the opposition groups.
- 3.2 The Standards Committee has 4 sub-committees, Assessment Sub-Committees A and B and Review Sub-Committees A and B, and it is a statutory requirement that an elected Member must sit at each and every sub-committee meeting.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 In the interests of fairness and the efficient working of the Committee and Sub-Committees it is proposed that it would be beneficial to increase the number of elected Members of the Committee.

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- 4.2 Council is therefore being requested to increase the number of elected Members on the Standards Committee to 4, to include 2 members who are not of the controlling political group.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended gives local authorities the power to appoint committees.

- 5.1 The requirement for political balance in section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 does not apply to standards committees or their sub-committees.

The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 set out the statutory requirements for the composition of standards committees and their sub-committees.

7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This requires full Council approval.

8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

- 8.1 N/a

9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

No significant risks arising from this report have been identified, but any minor risks arising are being managed as follows:

Risk Register: Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services

Key Objective Ref No: 2

Key Objective: Effective ethical governance

10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 N/a

11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None

12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

12.1 N/a

13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY

13.1 N/a

14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

14.1 None

15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

15.1 Governance implications are set out in the report

16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

16.1 None

17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

17.1 None

18. LESSONS LEARNT

18.1 N/a

19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

19.1 N/a

20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
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Chief Executive	Yes
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	No
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural, Environmental and Community Services	No
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	No
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Resources	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Corporate Procurement Team	No

21. WARDS AFFECTED

All wards

22. APPENDICES

None

23. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

24. KEY

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