

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL - 20th January, 2016

REPORT BY: Solicitor to the Council

SUBJECT: Chairs of Scrutiny Committees

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Arising from a resignation by the Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee at the Council meeting in October, 2015, the Council is required to fill this vacancy.

2. FOR DECISION - APPOINTMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

2.1 The appointment of the Chairs of the 2 Scrutiny Committees needs to be in accordance with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (the Measure). **(See Appendix)**

2.2 Without oversimplifying the position the legislation provides that in situations such as those which exist in Powys in terms of the number of groups and scrutiny committees the allocation of scrutiny committee chairs is based firstly on working out the proportion of chairs which go to the "Executive" group(s) based on the proportion which the members of the Executive group(s) bear to the overall membership of the council.

2.3 The chairs left over after this first exercise are allocated to the "Opposition" group(s). A possible alternative under the Measure would be for both chairs to be allocated to the "Opposition" groups provided this had cross group support.

2.4 The current position is that in accordance with the Measure, the Executive Group is entitled to one of the scrutiny chairs and therefore the 1 chair is to be filled by Opposition Groups. The largest Opposition Group (the Welsh Conservatives) has the first entitlement to a scrutiny chair.

2.5 The position in respect of the Executive Group does not require consideration by the Council as there is no change. The only position that the Council needs to fill is the vacancy on the Place Scrutiny Committee which falls to the Welsh Conservative Group to nominate the person to fill that vacancy, namely County Councillor Graham Jones.

2.6 The Council is required to allocate the 1 scrutiny chair to the political group as indicated above and to note the appointment of Chair by that group as follows:

Place Scrutiny Committee Welsh Conservatives	County Councillor G.M. Jones
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This will require a proposer and seconder.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To allocate the 1 Scrutiny Committee Chair to the Political Group as set out in paragraph 2.6, and to note the political group's appointment in respect of Chair.	To comply with statutory requirements (including those concerning the need for political balance) and the Council's Constitution in relation to the allocation and appointment of committee seats and Chairs.

Person(s) To Action Decision:	Steve Boyd, Cabinet Manager.		
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:	20 th January, 2016		
Relevant Policy (ies):	Council's Constitution.		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y
Contact Officer:	Wyn Richards, Scrutiny Manager Tel: 01597 826375 Email: wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk		