

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL
24TH FEBRUARY 2010

Corporate Governance

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	-
CORPORATE PLAN AIM:	A Well Run and Responsive Council
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Anne Hingley
DIRECTOR:	Caroline Newlands Director of Legal and Corporate Services Ext.2715
CONTACT OFFICER:	Diana Glendenning Principal Committee Officer Ext. 2763 Email: Diana.glendenning@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
APPENDICES:	Appendix 1 Revised Political Balance

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To agree a revised political balance and note the change of name of a Programme Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 Approval be given to the revised political balance.
- 2.2 The name of the Centralised Office and Transformational Change Board be changed to The Transformation Board.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 15(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 sets out the principles for the allocation of seats on committees between the political groups on the Council.
- 3.2 Since the last political balance sheet was agreed at Council 30th September 2009, Councillor J A Shaw was elected as the Labour Member for Areley Kings and Councillor S C Meekings has become a Member of the Conservative Group.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Council is required under its constitution to consider any changes to terms of reference.
- 4.2 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 Section 15 2 (b) states that the Council is required to consider a revised political balance “as soon as practicable after any occasion on which the members of the committee are changed in consequence of a determination under this section.”

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are minor financial implications as a result of the revised political balance and minor amendments to committee membership.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The changes to Terms of Reference and political balance accord with relevant legislative requirements.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An equality impacts needs assessment has been undertaken but it is not considered there are any impacts on the six equality strands.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There are no significant risk management issues associated with the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference in the Council's Constitution.
- 8.2. The Council is required to produce a revised political balance as soon as practicable.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The amendments to the Terms of Reference and Political Balance have been carried out in accordance with the required legislative requirements.

10. CONSULTEES

- 10.1 The revised name of the Board was supported the Centralised Office and Transformational Change Board at its meeting on 26 January 2010, together with the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- The Local Government and Housing Act 1989
- Wyre Forest District Council's Constitution

Agenda Item No. 11
Appendix 1

Revised Political Balance following the election of Cllr Shaw and Cllr Meekings joining the Conservative Group.														
Proposed Changes: * Conservatives lose 1 Audit seat to Labour * ICHC lose 1 Appointment and Appeals seat to Labour														
		Conservative		ICHC		Lib		Labour		Lib Dem		Independent		Total
No. of Cllrs.			21		10		5		3		2	Ahmed	1	42
Percentage			50.00%		23.81%		11.90%		7.14%		4.76%		2.38%	100.00%
Executive Cttees	Membership													
Misc. Functions	8	4	4.00	2	1.90	1	0.95	0	0.57	1	0.38	0	0.00	8
Appts & Appeals	7	4	3.50	1	1.67	1	0.83	1	0.50	0	0.33	0	0.00	7
Audit cttee	9	4	4.50	2	2.14	1	1.07	1	0.64	1	0.43	0	0.00	9
Scrutiny														
Corporate Resources	14	7	7.00	4	3.33	1	1.67	1	1.00	1	0.67	0	0.00	14
Community & Regen	14	7	7.00	4	3.33	1	1.67	1	1.00	1	0.67	0	0.00	14
Regulatory														
Planning	12	6	6.00	3	2.86	2	1.43	1	0.86	0	0.57	0	0.00	12
Lic & Env	10	5	5.00	2	2.00	2	1.19	1	0.71	0	0.48	0	0.00	10
Total	74	37	37.00	18	17.62	9	8.81	6	5.29	4	3.52	0	0.00	74
Percentage		50.00%		24.32%		12.16%		8.11%		5.41%		0.00%		100.00%
Diff between % No of Cllrs & % No of Seats		0.00%		0.51%		0.26%		0.97%		0.64%				
Ethics & Standards														
9 Councillors	9	2		2		2		1		2				9
4 Independent														
2 Parish Cllrs														
1 Town Cllr														
Notes														
1. Each member is required to notify the Proper Officer which political group, if any, he or she wishes to be identified with. A group comprises of two or more members.														
2. Each Group Secretary is required to notify the Proper Officer which members of his or her groups he/she wishes to sit on each relevant committee or sub-committee.														
3. The allocation of seats required the rounding up or down of calculated figures to give whole numbers.														
4. Single party reps and independent members (who don't form part of a political group) aren't legally entitled to seats on Committee's to which the rules of proportionality apply.														