

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 10 DECEMBER 2008

REPORT BY HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

10. STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

'D' RECOMMENDATION – that the following parish councillors be appointed to the Standards Committee until the end of the 2010/11 Civic Year as Parish Council representatives:

To be advised.

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1.0 Background

1.1 Earlier this year Council agreed to establish the Standards Committee with, amongst others, two parish council representatives. In so doing it reappointed Councillor B Taylor to one of the two seats on the Committee allocated to parish council representatives. Councillor Taylor has recently resigned from the Committee. Accordingly, there are now two vacant parish seats on the Committee.

2.0 Contributions to the Council's Corporate Objectives

2.1 The proposal set out in this report will support all of the Council's corporate objectives.

3.0 Standards Committee

3.1 Council, at its annual meeting on 14 May 2008, established a Standards Committee consisting of three independent members, four District Councillors (of whom one should be from each political party with four or more Members), one Town Council Member and two Parish Council Members.

3.2 Parish councils were subsequently invited to submit nominations for election to the Committee. Four nominations were received by the deadline.

3.3 As there were more candidates than vacancies, a poll of parish councils was held. At the time of writing the poll has yet to close. The outcome of the poll will be reported orally at the meeting. Council will be invited to consider appointing the parish candidates who secured most support.

#### 4.0 Consultation

4.1 The appropriate consultation with Parish/Town Councils has taken place.

#### 5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 The proposals set out in this report accord with the statutory provisions for reviewing the Council's decision-making structure.

#### 6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 None.

#### 7.0 Human Resource Implications

7.1 None.

#### 8.0 Risk Management Implications

8.1 The Council needs to establish a robust and clear decision-making structure to enable it to function effectively and make decisions in an expeditious manner which is accountable to the electorate.

#### Background Papers

None

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