

To the Chair and Members of the COUNCIL

**APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER AND A VICE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW
AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report seeks a nomination for a replacement Member to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) and a nomination for a Member to serve as the Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) as a consequence of the former Vice-Chair, Councillor Nightingale, being appointed as a Cabinet Member.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Council determines:-
 - The appointment of a Member to serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee as a replacement for Councillor Jane Nightingale;
 - The appointment of a Vice-Chair to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
 - Any appointment(s) to the standing Overview and Scrutiny Panels that may arise from the above appointment.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

3. The Council has a legal requirement to appoint a Chair and Vice-chair to all of its Committees. Ensuring that appointments are made to Council Committees will help ensure they operate effectively and support high standards of governance.

BACKGROUND

4. At the Annual Meeting of Council, appointments are made to the membership and Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council, including Overview and Scrutiny Panels, for the ensuing Municipal Year.
5. Councillor Nightingale was appointed as the Vice Chair of OSMC at the Annual Meeting of Council on 22nd May 2015 but has subsequently been appointed as a Member of the Mayor's Cabinet with effect from 1st September 2015. As a member of the Executive is not eligible to serve as a member of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Panel this has resulted in a vacancy on the OSMC.

6. When Council established the membership of OSMC and the standing Panels at its Annual meeting on 22nd May 2015 it disapplied proportionality to encourage greater cross party participation. Currently the political make up of the OSMC is 4 Labour Members, 2 Conservative, 1 Independent and 1 vacancy. In seeking a replacement for this vacancy Council may therefore consider nominations from any political Group.
7. Council is also asked to note that if a Member who currently serves on an Overview and Scrutiny standing Panel is elected to this vacancy they may choose to carry out both roles. Alternatively they may vacate their position on the Panel in which case Council will also need to consider an appointment to the Panel vacancy.
8. Council is also asked to determine the appointment of a replacement Vice-Chair of the Committee for the remaining period of the current municipal year commencing from 24th September, 2015.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

9. **Option 1** - To appoint a replacement Member to the OSMC and to appoint a replacement Vice Chair of the Committee.
Option 2 – Not to make these appointments.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

10. To ensure the Council has effective governance arrangements in place and the OSMC can operate effectively it is recommended that Council make the appointments as detailed in Option 1 above.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing</i> 	

	down the cost of living	
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	Council services are modern and value for money.	
	Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.	Ensuring the membership and Vice Chair of OSMC are appointed will help ensure the Committee operates effectively and supports strong leadership and governance. Committee is

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

11. Failure to appoint a replacement Member and Vice Chair may lead to a weakening of current governance arrangements. Ensuring the Overview and Scrutiny function is fully represented and there is a consistency of chairing and management of the Committee by a Chair and Vice Chair appointed by Council will help support good governance and effective decision making.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Sections 15, 16 and 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended) sets out the duties of the Local Authority and the allocation of seats to political groups on Committees to ensure political balance.
13. The cumulative effect of these duties is to require "proportionality" across the formal activities of the Authority, representing the overall political composition of the Authority, so that there can for example, be no one party Committees so far as they are constituted as formal Committees or Sub-Committees of the Council.
14. The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, provide the mechanism by which the wishes of Political Groups are to be ascertained.

15. Exceptions to these requirements of political balance may be made where arrangements are approved by the Council without any Member of the Council or a Committee, voting against them. Council agreed at its Annual Meeting on 22nd May 2015 that it would disapply proportionality on OSMC and the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

16. The Members' Allowances Scheme makes provision for Special Responsibility Allowances to be paid to the Vice-Chair of the OSMC which is currently £3030 per annum.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

17. There are no human resource implications associated with this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

18. There are no technology implications associated with this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

19. There are no specific equality implications arising from this report.

CONSULTATION

20. Mayor Ros Jones and Group Leaders have been consulted in respect of these appointments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Reports to Annual Council 22nd May 2015

- Local Government And Housing Act 1989 - Review Of The Allocation Of Seats On Committees And Sub-Committees.
- Appointment Of Chairs And Vice-Chairs Of Committees And Sub-Committees

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