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Date: 13 July 2016

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Dear Sir/Madam

**COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 14TH JULY, 2016**

Please find enclosed a report to be included for consideration at the meeting of Council on Thursday, 14th July, 2016 .


**11     Allocations of Seats on Committees (Pages 3 - 8)**

To consider the report of the Director of Governance which seeks to make appointments to the Committees for the 2016-2017 municipal year in light of the by-election in Appleby (Appleby) ward and following the vacancy in Alston Moor ward.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the appointment of Members to Committees as set out in this report be approved.
2. That a revised Allocation of Seats on Committees report be brought to Council, pending the organisation and outcome of a by-election in Alston Moor.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Neal  
Director of Governance

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**Distribution**

1. Reports to all Members of the Council for attendance.
2. Reports to Departmental Heads for information.

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Matthew Neal  
Director of Governance

3. Reports to all remaining Councillors for information.

**Eden District Council**

**Council**

**14 July 2016**

**Allocation of Seats on Committees**

**Reporting Officer: Director of Governance**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to make appointments to the Committees for the 2016-2017 municipal year in light of the by-election in Appleby (Appleby) ward and following the vacancy in Alston Moor ward.

**2 Recommendation:**

1. That the appointment of Members to Committees as set out in this report be approved.
2. That a revised Allocation of Seats on Committees report be brought to Council, pending the organisation and outcome of a by-election in Alston Moor.

**3 Report Details**

- 3.1 The seats on the Council's Committees should be allocated in accordance with the principles set out in the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989, to the political groups amongst the Members of the Council so far as is reasonably practicable. The principles seek to achieve proportionality in the allocation of seats. The principles, which are paraphrased, are in order of priority:
- a) all seats on a committee cannot be allocated to the same political group;
  - b) the majority of the seats allocated on any body, including each Committee, are allocated to the group, if any, which has a majority on the Council;
  - c) the number of seats on the total of all committees allocated to each political group bears the same proportion as the proportion the membership of that group has to the membership of the entire Council; and
  - d) the number of seats on each committee allocated to each group bears the same proportion as the proportion the membership of that group has to the total membership of the entire Council.
- 3.2 The political composition of the Council is:

Conservative Group	20
Independent Group	10
Liberal Democrat Group	7
Vacancy	1
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The Conservative Group has an overall majority.

3.3 As Members will be aware, a by-election took place on 7 July 2016 in the ward of Appleby (Appleby) with Karen Greenwood (Independent Group) duly elected.

3.4 Members will also be aware that there is a vacancy in Alston Moor ward following the resignation of David Hymers which must be factored in to the overall political balance of the Council. A date for the by-election has been set as the 4 August 2016. Following the result of this by-election a further allocation of seats report brought to Council to reflect the new political balance.

3.4 There are seventy-four seats on the seven Council Committees. The result of the by-election and the vacancy means that the Conservative group have forty seats. The Liberal Democrats have two seats on each Committee and the Independent Group make up the balance of seats.

3.5 The allocation of the seats to the political groups are as follows:

Conservative Group	40
Independent Group	20
Liberal Democrat	14
Vacancy	1

3.6 The Leader of the Council will be recommending changes to the Portfolio Holders on the Executive, which is considered elsewhere on the agenda. This has resulted in the Conservative Group having a vacancy on the Housing and Community Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee which will be filled by the group in due course.

#### **Accounts and Governance Committee – 9 Members**

Independent Group	2	Mrs M Robinson, K Greenwood
Conservative Group	5	Ms P Breen, A Hogg, S Jackson, J Lynch, Mrs S Orchard
Liberal Democrat Group	2	A Connell, J Tompkins

Standing Deputies	Mrs J Raine, M Temple W Patterson, M Smith J Derbyshire, V Taylor
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### Scrutiny Co-ordinating Board – 9 Members

Independent Group	2	Mrs M Robinson, M Smith
Conservative Group	5	Ms P Breen, I Chambers, Mrs S Orchard, Mrs J Raine, J Thompson
Liberal Democrat Group	2	A Connell, J Derbyshire
Standing Deputies		J Owen, R Sealby M Tonkin D Holden, J Tompkins

### Housing and Community Committee - 13 Members

Independent Group:	4	H Sawrey-Cookson, Miss M Clark, D Banks and Mrs M Robinson
Conservative Group	7	Mrs V Kendall, Ms A Meadowcroft, Mrs S Orchard, Mrs J Raine, R Sealby, M Temple, <b>plus one vacancy</b>
Liberal Democrat Group	2	J Derbyshire, V Taylor
Standing Deputies		A Armstrong, I Chambers, J Thompson T Ladhams, M Smith M Eyles, R Howse

### Environment and Economy Committee - 13 Members

Independent Group:	4	K Greenwood, T Ladhams, M Tonkin, W Patterson
Conservative Group	7	A Armstrong, Ms P Breen, I Chambers, A Hogg, S Jackson, J Thompson, <b>plus one vacancy</b>
Liberal Democrat Group	2	D Holden, R Howse
Standing Deputies		Mrs V Kendall, Ms A Meadowcroft, R Sealby D Banks, Ms P Godwin, H Sawrey-Cookson J Derbyshire, J Tompkins

### Human Resources and Appeals - 9 Members

Independent Group	2	T Ladhams, Ms P Godwin
Conservative Group	5	Mrs L Grisedale, Mrs V Kendall, J Lynch, G Nicolson, J Owen
Liberal Democrat Group	2	V Taylor, M Eyles
Standing Deputies		Ms P Breen, M Slee D Holden, A Connell

### Planning Committee - 11 Members

Independent Group	3	W Patterson, H Sawrey-Cookson, Miss M Clark
Conservative Group	6	A Armstrong, I Chambers, J Lynch, J Owen, R Sealby, J Thompson
Liberal Democrat Group	2	J Tompkins, D Holden
Standing Deputies		A Hogg, S Orchard

	M Smith, Ms P Godwin R Howse, M Eyles
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### **Licensing Committee - 10 Members**

Independent Group	3	D Banks, Miss M Clark, M Tonkin
Conservative Group	5	S Jackson, Mrs V Kendall, J Owen, Mrs J Raine, R Sealby
Liberal Democrat Group	2	R Howse, M Eyles
Standing Deputies		J Lynch, J Thompson H Sawrey-Cookson, W Patterson A Connell, V Taylor

## **4 Policy Framework**

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Decent Homes for All
- Strong Economy, Rich Environment
- Thriving Communities
- Quality Council

4.2 This report meets the Quality Council corporate priority

## **5 Implications**

### **5.1 Legal**

5.1.1 The legal implications in relation to political proportionality are set out in the body of the report.

### **5.2 Financial**

5.2.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2015-19 as agreed at Council on 17 September 2015.

There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources

### **5.3 Equality and Diversity**

- 5.3.1 The Council has to have regard to the elimination of unlawful discrimination and harassment and the promotion of equality under the Equality Act 2010 and related statutes.

### **5.4 Environmental**

- 5.4.1 The Council has to have due regard to conserving bio-diversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

### **5.5 Crime and Disorder**

- 5.5.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Council has to have regard to the need to reduce crime and disorder in exercising any of its functions.

### **5.6 Children**

- 5.6.1 Under the Children Act 2004 the Council has to have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the exercise of any of its functions.

### **5.7 Risk Management**

- 5.7.1 The allocation of seats should be conducted in so far as is reasonably practicable, with regard to the statutory principles to minimise any risk of error or challenge.

## **6 Reasons for decision/recommendation**

- 6.1 To comply with the Local Government and Housing Act (1989) and regulation in relation to appointments to Committees in accordance with the express wishes of the political groups to which seats have been allocated.

M Neal  
Director of Governance

#### **Governance Checks:**

Checked by or on behalf of the Chief Finance Officer	✓
Checked by or on behalf of the Monitoring Officer	✓

#### **Background Papers:**

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