

meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

date 28 January 2010

agenda item number **9**

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the allocation of seats on the 3 Standing Committees.

#### Information and Advice

2. At the last meeting of Council on 17 December 2009, consideration was given to the allocation of seats on committees following Councillor Victor Bobo being no longer a member of the Independent Group and joining the Conservative Group.
3. The decision at 17 December meeting was not unanimous and did not accord with the political proportionality in relation to the 3 Standing Committees (Communities & the Environment; Education; and Health & Wellbeing). Under the regulations the allocation of seats has to be agreed unanimously if they do not accord with political balance. It is therefore necessary for Council to reconsider the allocation of seats on these 3 Committees.
4. The current political balance of the Council as at December 2009 is:-

	Number	%
Conservative	36	54.55
Labour	13	19.70
Liberal Democrat	9	13.64
Independent	8	12.12
TOTAL	66	
Vacancy (Mansfield South)	1	

5. The current 3 Standing Committees have a split as follows:-

Conservative	9
Labour	3
Independent	3

Liberal Democrat	2
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6. The political balance as at December 2009 for the 3 Standing Committees if they comprised 17 Members would be:-

Conservative	9
Labour	4
Liberal Democrat	2
Independent	2

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service and where such implications are material they have been described in the text of the report.

Following discussion with the Leader of the Council it is

### **RECOMMENDED**

8. That the allocation of seats on the 3 Standing Committees be:-

Conservative	9
Labour	4
Liberal Democrat	2
Independent	2

**Mick Burrows**  
**Chief Executive**

### **Service Director (Finance) Comments (MB 19/01/10)**

There are no specific financial implications arising from the report.

### **Legal Services Comments (SLB 19/01/10)**

Article 4 of the Council's Constitution states that the function of deciding the composition of Committees is reserved to Full Council. Full Council is therefore the appropriate body to consider the content of this report. By virtue of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the Council is under a duty to allocate seats to political groups in accordance with the principles of political balance.

**Background Papers Available for Inspection**

Nil

**Electoral Divisions Affected**

All