



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

8 SEPTEMBER 2008

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Chief Executive's

Report Title	Appointments to West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee
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1. Summary

To confirm the appointment of Councillors Church, Hollis, Woods and P D Varnsverry (Councillors Beardsworth and Collins as substitutes) to The West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee and to appoint two further substitutes.

2. Recommendations

1. That Councillors Church, Hollis, Woods and P D Varnsverry be confirmed as the Council's representatives on The West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee with Councillors Beardsworth, Collins, J. Conroy and Meredith to act as substitutes.

3. Report Background

Council, at its meeting on 22 May 2008, appointed as part of the Appointments to Outside Bodies report, Councillors Church, Hollis, Woods, P D Varnsverry, Beardsworth (substitute) and Collins (substitute) to The West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Group. The Statutory Instrument (No 1572 The West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee Order 2008, attached) came into effect on 25 July 2008 and formally creates the Joint Committee, which now becomes the joint decision making body on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council, Northampton Borough Council, Daventry District Council and South Northamptonshire District Council in respect of the Joint Local Development Scheme and any local development documents specified in it.

The Council is entitled to appoint four representatives to the Committee (the County Council 2, Daventry 3 and South Northants 3) and it is proposed that the members and substitutes appointed by Council on 22 May 2008 to the Joint Planning Group now be confirmed as the appointees to the Joint Committee. It is also intended that there should now be four substitute members.

It is understood that as the Labour party has no representation on the Joint Committee, the political make up of the constituent authorities being such that this is not possible, it has been agreed that Councillor K Davies will also attend the Joint Committee meetings as a non-voting observer. This observer status has also been granted to West Northamptonshire Development Corporation and Wellingborough Borough Council.

Appointments to the Joint Committee will be for three years unless a member resigns, is replaced by their constituent authority or ceases to be a member of their constituent authority. After three years members will be eligible for reappointment.

Meetings of the Joint Committee will be in public and the agendas, reports and minutes for it will be published in accordance within normal committee rules.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Resources and Risk

Appointments to the Joint Committee need to be properly constituted so as to avoid legal challenge as to its competency.

4.2 Legal

There is a formal legal requirement for full Council to nominate the Council's representatives onto the Joint Committee, to enable them to fully participate in its work.

4.3 Other Implications

None.

5. Background Papers

SI 2008/1572 The West Northamptonshire Joint Committee Order 2008

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