

AGENDA ITEM

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

4 MAY 2010

CO-OPTED MEMBERS, ADDED MEMBERS AND SCRUTINY

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To report back to Members on the consultation with co-opted members of scrutiny committees, and to recommend implementation of the new arrangements relating to added members.

BACKGROUND

- 2 On 28 July 2009 the Overview & Scrutiny Board received a report regarding co-opted members and added members of Scrutiny Panels.
- 3 Members agreed the recommendations that:
 - (i) the Council would no longer appoint co-opted members to scrutiny committees, with the exception of the statutory Church and Parent Governor representatives.
 - (ii) the Council would introduce a system of 'added members' whereby non-elected members may be appointed to a scrutiny committee as a non-voting member of the committee for the duration of a particular scrutiny investigation.
 - (iii) up to two added members may serve at any one time on any scrutiny committee.
 - (iv) it is up to each scrutiny committee to decide whether an added member should be appointed. If so, then the appointment should be notified to and minuted by Overview & Scrutiny Board.
- 4 It was also agreed that officers should consult with the relevant parties (that is the non-statutory co-opted members) and report back to OSB. The relevant parties were Age Concern, the Learning & Skills Council, Teesside University and the Trades Unions.

4 The outcome of the consultation is as follows:

- ❑ The Learning & Skills Council was abolished on 31 March 2009
- ❑ Age Concern and the Trade Unions are both in agreement with the proposed changes
- ❑ No response has been received from the University in spite of a reminder following the original consultation letter.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the original recommendations outlined in paragraph 3 above and agreed by OSB on 28 July 2009 are now submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Council for implementation in the next Municipal Year.

Author

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Background Papers

Local Government Act 2000
Local Government Act 2003
Report to Overview & Scrutiny Board 28 July 2009