

CTE060

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Wednesday 21 May 2003

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JOINT AUTHORITIES

Report of Committee Services Manager

This report is submitted in connection with the item re the appointment of representatives on other Committees, Outside Bodies etc.

The Council is entitled to appoint four Members under the Local Government Act 1985 to each of the Joint Authorities. The Members appointed at the last Annual Meeting of the Council were:-

	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CONSERVATIVE
1. West Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority - 2002/2003			
Councillors			
	H Fox	M Granger M Sarwar	R Light
2. West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority - 2002/2003			
Councillors			
	S May	D Ridgway K Hussain	K Iqbal

In making the appointments the Council is reminded of the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989, which sets out the principles for ensuring that, so far as possible, the balance of political groups currently represented on the Council is reflected in the appointments made to these bodies.

The following membership is suggested for 2003/2004.

West Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority

2 Liberal Democrats, 1 Labour and 1 Conservative

West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority

2 Liberal Democrats, 1 Labour and 1 Conservative

West Yorkshire Police Authority

The nine Elected Members of the Police Authority are appointed by a Joint Committee made up of the five District Council Leaders or their representatives. The appointments have to reflect "the balance of parties for the time being prevailing among the Members of the relevant Councils take as a whole." (Police Act 1996 - Schedule 2).

Generally speaking, all appointments are indeed for a four year term albeit Elected Members cease to be a Member of the Police Authority if they cease to be a member of the Council from which they came. More significantly, the Joint Committee may remove from office (Councillor) member of a Police Authority with a view to appointing another in his/her place if it considers that to do so would further the object of balance of parties. This requires the Joint Committee to convene shortly after each municipal election to assess the political balance throughout West Yorkshire and make such adjustments as may be required to reflect the balance in the membership of the Police Authority. All subsequent appointments are for four years unless otherwise determined by the Joint Committee - which may decide to align all subsequent appointments to a common expiry date for the sake of consistency. The Joint Committee will have to consider this point whenever it meets to make a new appointment.

Provisional arrangements have been made for the Joint Committee to meet on Friday 30 June 2003 to consider appointments. The Council has two representatives serving on the Police Authority and it is likely that this Council's representation will continue to be one Liberal Democrat and one Labour Member.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Council is asked to agree the proposed allocation of seats between the Groups for the appointment of Members to the West Yorkshire Joint Authorities for the year 2003/2004 and to refer the matter to the Group Business Managers for determination.
2. The Council is asked to note arrangements in hand for the election of Members to the Police Authority.

Michael Butler
Committee Services Manager

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Background Papers: None

13 May 2003