

## **Planning Committee Membership**

Report by Chief Executive

**Summary:** This report recommends the appointment of three members to the Planning Committee on an interim basis until the Authority's Annual Meeting in July.

### **Recommendations**

- (i) Until the Annual Meeting in July the size of the Planning Committee be increased from 11 to 12 and Cllr. James Bensly, Mr Bruce Keith and Cllr Lana Hemsall are appointed to the Committee with immediate effect.
- (ii) Officers are asked to research the methods used by the National Park Authorities to appoint members to Committees and other bodies with a view to bringing an options paper on this and other relevant matters to the next meeting.

## **1 Appointments to the Planning Committee**

- 1.1 The current membership of the Planning Committee stands at ten with one vacancy (Cllr Hayden Thirtle replaced Cllr Brian Iles as one of the two appointed members by Norfolk County Council at the end of November 2017).
- 1.2 While the current size of the Planning Committee stands at 11, there is no requirement for it to be a specific number and over the last ten years it has varied from 11 to 14 as shown in the following table.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Planning Committee Members</b>
2008	12
2009	14
2010	14
2011	13
2012	13
2013	14
2014	14
2015	11
2016	11
2017	11

- 1.3 Three members of the Authority have expressed an interest in joining the Committee, James Bensley, Bruce Keith and Lana Hemsall. It is proposed that all three be appointed until the Authority's Annual Meeting in July.

Current Membership	Proposed Membership
Cllr. Mike Barnard	Cllr. Mike Barnard
Prof. Jacquie Burgess	Cllr. James Bensley
Mr Bill Dickson	Prof. Jacquie Burgess
Sir Peter Dixon (Term ends 31.3.2018)	Mr Bill Dickson
Cllr. Gail Harris	Cllr. Gail Harris
Cllr. Paul Rice	Cllr. Lana Hemsall
Cllr. Haydn Thirtle	Mr Bruce Keith
Cllr. Vic Thompson	Cllr. Paul Rice
Cllr. John Timewell	Cllr. Haydn Thirtle
Cllr. Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro	Cllr. Vic Thompson
	Cllr. John Timewell
	Cllr. Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro

## 2 Process for Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

- 2.1 The Peer Review Report stated the following:

*"The peer team found that some members would welcome a more open and transparent process for appointments to committees. Having clear guidelines around the processes that are in place across the organisation will help all members understand selections."*

In order to take this forward in a timely manner and in advance of the Authority's annual appointment process in July it is proposed that officers research the methodologies used by the National Park Authorities and prepare an options report for consideration at the next Authority meeting in May. The report should also cover other relevant matters such as the size of the Planning Committee and options for the future role of the Financial, Scrutiny and Audit Committee.

Background papers: None  
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Appendices: None