

Report to: **Council**

Date: **27 March 2018**

Title: **APPOINTMENT TO JOINT LOCAL PLAN  
JOINT STEERING GROUP AND FORMAL  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FINANCIAL  
STABILITY REVIEW GROUP**

Portfolio Area: **All**

Wards Affected: **All**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken:  
(e.g. referral on of recommendation or  
implementation of substantive decision) **Immediately  
following this  
meeting.**

Author: **Darryl White**  
**Senior Specialist**  
**- Democratic**  
**Services**

Contact: [darryl.white@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:darryl.white@swdevon.gov.uk)

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council RESOLVES, with immediate effect and for the remainder of the 2017/18 Municipal Year, that:**

- **Cllr G Parker be appointed to serve on the Joint Local Plan Joint Steering Group;**
- **the Conservative Group vacancy on the Hub Committee remain unfilled pending the outcome of the Political Structures Working Group review;**
- **approval be given to the formal establishment of the Financial Stability Review Group with Cllrs R Cheadle, M Davies, C Edmonds, N Jory, R Oxborough and J Yelland being appointed to serve on this Group; and**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>the draft Terms of Reference for the Financial Stability Review Group (as detailed at Appendix A) be approved.</b></li></ul> |
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## **1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 Members will be aware that, at the last Council meeting on 20 February 2018, Cllr Graham Parker tendered his resignation from both the Hub Committee and the Joint Local Plan Joint Steering Group (Minute CM 57 refers).
- 1.2 In light of these two vacancies, this report provides an update on the latest position.
- 1.3 This report also seeks to formally establish the Financial Stability Review Group and approve appointments to this Group and its Terms of Reference.

## **2. Background**

### **Joint Local Plan Joint Steering Group**

- 2.1 By definition, the Council's two appointed representatives on the Joint Local Plan Joint Steering Group are not subject to political balance provisions;
- 2.2 As a result, both Group Leaders have been invited to submit their nominations to fill this vacancy;
- 2.3 Following this invite, Cllr Parker has been nominated by the Leader of Council to be re-appointed on to the Steering Group. No other nominations have been forthcoming.

### **Hub Committee**

- 2.3 As part of the Budget setting process, the Council has tasked the Political Structures Working Group with undertaking a review of the Hub Committee size and roles and responsibilities in time for the start of the 2018/19 Municipal Year;
- 2.4 Since the Hub Committee vacancy is the entitlement of the Conservative Group, the Leader of the Council has been invited to put forward a nomination;
- 2.5 The Leader has confirmed his wish to leave this vacancy unfilled pending the outcome of the Working Group review that is due to be considered at the Annual Council meeting on 17 May 2018;

## **Financial Stability Review Group**

- 2.6 At its meeting on 13 March 2018, the Hub Committee considered an agenda item titled: 'Financial Stability Update' (Minute HC 73 refers);
- 2.7 In so doing, the Committee noted the contents of the report and approved its use as the basis for Member workshops to discuss the Medium Term Financial Strategy as soon as possible in the next financial planning cycle;
- 2.8 The Committee also recommended that the Council formally approve the establishment of a 'Financial Stability Review Group to:
- *Oversee and coordinate activity to reduce costs and generate income as set out in the report and as identified in the future;*
  - *Act as a forum for generating and developing ideas for reducing costs and generating income;*
  - *Link the ideas and activities of Members and officers in this area;*  
*and*
  - *Report to the Hub Committee as appropriate.*
- 2.9 As a Review Group, political balance provisions do not need to be applied for any appointments to serve on this Group. Both Group Leaders have been contacted and the following nominations have been received:-
- Conservative Group: Cllrs Davies; Jory, Oxborough and Yelland;  
and
  - Independent Group: Cllrs Cheadle and Edmonds.
- 2.10 To underpin the work of this Review Group, a draft set of Terms of Reference has been developed and is attached at Appendix A.

## **3. Options available and consideration of risk**

- 3.1 Whilst the Annual Council meeting is only two months away, there are a number of key milestones before this time that necessitate the need for the vacancy to be filled on the Joint Steering Group;
- 3.2 Such are the complexities associated with the Joint Local Plan, that the proposal to re-appoint Cllr Parker will ensure both continuity and that his experience and expertise are fully utilised;
- 3.3 The establishment of the Financial Stability Review Group is considered by the Hub Committee to be a means of examining all aspects of the Council's finances in order to ensure that the authority has a sustainable and secure future and is able to continue to deliver services to residents.

#### 4. Implications

Legal/Governance		The Council Constitution requires that all such appointments are determined by the full Council.
Financial		The recommendation to retain a vacancy on the Hub Committee will result in a saving of one Special Responsibility Allowance (£3,856 per annum).
Risk		There are no additional risks directly related to this report.
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		There are no equality and diversity implications directly related to this report.
Safeguarding		There are no safeguarding implications directly related to this report.
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		There are no community safety or crime and disorder implications directly related to this report.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		There are no health, safety and wellbeing implications directly related to this report.
Other implications		N/A

#### **Supporting Information**

##### **Appendices:**

A: Financial Stability Review Group – Draft Terms of Reference

##### **Background Papers:**

Council Constitution;  
Hub Committee agenda and minutes – 13 March 2018; and  
Political Balance Provisions.