

REPORT OF THE
Chief Executive
PART I

1. PROPORTIONALITY AND APPOINTMENTS

1. The County Council's proportionality table ("the Proportionality Table') was approved by the County Council in accordance with Standing Orders at its Annual Meeting on 19 May 2011. Following approval of the Proportionality Table, the Community and Green Group has however been formed. Formation of this additional group requires the County Council by law to further review the Proportionality Table.

2. Formation of the new Community and Green Group means that there are now three political groups within the County Council, and one individual Independent Member. Members will recall that the County Council asked, when approving the revised Constitution, that as a matter of good governance a review of County Council business practices and statutory requirements should be done as and when new issues arose, to ensure best practice, and continued compliance with statutory requirements.

The opportunity has therefore been taken to review the law regarding proportionality and political balance on Committees and Outside Bodies, and to also consider the practice of other Authorities in this regard.

3. Members will recall that at the time of the last County Council meeting on 15 September 2011, the matter of appointments was subject to ongoing discussion between the three Group Leaders, and that it was agreed that the Chief Executive would meet with the Group Leaders, and that thereafter a further report would be prepared for the Extraordinary County Council Meeting on 13 October 2011. At the time of despatch of these papers, these discussions are however ongoing, and the outcome, together with a revised Proportionality Table, will be reported at the Extraordinary Meeting.

2. APPOINTMENTS

1. In respect of outside bodies, the County Council is invited to appoint two Members to the newly formed South East Employers Local Democracy and Accountability Network for Councillors. Members will recall that this item was deferred at the County Council meeting on 15 September 2011. Nominations will be considered at the Extraordinary Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the County Council:

- (a) Reviews and approves the Proportionality Table submitted to the Extraordinary Meeting, and makes any necessary appointments to Outside Bodies to ensure that the County Council has full representation on such bodies in accordance with its entitlement.

- (b) Approves the appointment of two County Councillors to the newly formed South East Employers Local Democracy and Accountability Network for Councillors as set out in Paragraph 2.1 above.