

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

26 JUNE 2012

SUBJECT:	APPOINTMENT OF THE HIGHWAYS REPRESENTATION PANEL
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW, HR AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Committee to undertake a review of the Highways Representation Panel and to appoint members to serve on that panel if it is to be retained in 2012-2013. Standing Order 33 (1) requires that Committees should keep the need for panels under review and, in particular, the position must be reviewed at the first meeting of a Committee in each municipal year.

Unless appointed as full members, the Leaders and Deputy Leaders of the three largest political groups represented on the Council are entitled to attend meetings of all Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels, with the right to speak at the invitation of the Chair (Standing Order 25(5)).

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Panel's terms of reference are as follows:

- (i). To consider objections relating to all highway and traffic management matters governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, whether subject to a traffic regulation order or otherwise, including (but not limited to) the following:
 - waiting and parking restrictions;
 - speed limits;
 - one way traffic orders;
 - weight limits
 - prohibiting or restricting the use of heavy commercial vehicles;
 - signalised and non signalised pedestrian/cycle/horse crossings;
 - provision of off street parking and parking on roads, footpaths, pavements and verges;
 - traffic signs and traffic signals
 - bus lanes and taxi ranks
- (ii). unresolved petitions relating to highway and traffic management matters in accordance with Standing Order 34 (Petitions)"

- (iii). and to then make recommendations to the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 Membership

The membership of the Highways Representation Panel, since its establishment in 2009 has been three members, the Chair of the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the two Party Spokespersons, or their nominees. In 2011-2012 the membership was as follows:

	Members	Deputies
1 Conservative	J Hale (Chair)	D McCubbin S Williams A Sykes P Johnson K Wood P Hayes G Ellis
1 Labour	J Williams	P Hackett C Jones J Walsh S Whittingham
1 Liberal Democrat	R Wilkins	A Bridson A Brighthouse P Gilchrist T Harney M Johnston S Kelly D Mitchell P Williams

- 2.3 The Panel is an advisory panel and therefore does not need to be politically proportionate.
- 2.4 The Panel's recommendations are referred to the Sustainable Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The Committee may approve, amend, substitute or reject a Panel's recommendation(s). All approved and / or amended recommendations by the Committee are referred to the relevant Cabinet Member for a formal decision to be made.
- 2.5 Members should note that the panel usually meets during the daytime.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 The Panel was first appointed in June 2009 (minute 6 refers) to enable the streamlining of the decision making process and to hear public representations and receive officer reports.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 No other options were considered beyond those outlined in the report.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 It is for political groups to decide how they wish to allocate their Panel places.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No because there is no relevance to equality.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

12.1 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is requested –

- (1) confirm that the Highways Representation Panel be re-appointed for 2012-2013 with the terms of reference identified.
- (2) to appoint members to serve on the Highways Representation Panel in 2012-2013, including the appointment of the Chair and named deputies.

13.1 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To enable the appointment of a Highways Representation Panel to consider objections and unresolved petitions relating to all highway and traffic management matters.

REPORT AUTHOR: Andrew Mossop
Principal Committee Officer
telephone: (0151) 691 8501
email: andrewmossop@wirral.gov.uk

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Previous reports on the appointment of the Highways Representation Panel, minutes and the Council's Constitution.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Sustainable Overview and Scrutiny Committee	7 June 2011
Sustainable Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 June 2010
Sustainable Overview and Scrutiny Committee	9 June 2009