

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>15 JULY, 2010</b>
<b>TITLE OF THE REPORT</b>	<b>THE NEW PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To nominate 15 members in accordance with political balance and area balance on the new planning committee.</li> <li>2. To approve revisions to the Constitution as a consequence of establishing the new committee.</li> <li>3. To approve a special responsibility allowance for the Chairman of the committee.</li> </ol>
<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>Dilys Phillips, Monitoring Officer.</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO LEADER</b>	<b>Cllr. J. R. Jones, Senior Leader - Resources.</b>

### **Background.**

1. A report was submitted to the Principal Scrutiny Committee on 23 April 2010 on the Review of Planning Committees, when it was recommended to the Full Council to adopt one county planning committee. The decision was noted as follows:-

**“RESOLVED to recommend the proposed model for a single planning committee to the next meeting of the full Council in May, adding that the new committee should be based on area as well as political balance, and that there would be a presumption in favour of discussing the application locally.”**

2. The Annual Meeting met on 13 May 2010 and it was resolved:

**“to approve the recommendations of the Principal Scrutiny Committee and to adopt the single county planning committee procedure for the Council in accordance with the details in the appendices.”**

3. The appendices to the report contained a detailed model for the operation of the new planning committee.

### **Political and area balance.**

4. 15 members will serve on the new committee with political balance shared between the political group as follows:-

Plaid Cymru	7
Independent	4
Llais Gwynedd	2
Liberal Democrats	1
Labour	1

5. In order to ensure balance between the areas, five members would need to be nominated from each area.

6. As there was a need to seek to ensure political balance and balance between the three areas, it was concluded that the fairest way of nominating members for the new committee would be to ask the Business Group to discuss it.
7. The political groups were contacted and expressions of interest were requested from members with regard to serving on the new committee.
8. The Business Group met on 8<sup>th</sup> July and the results of the deliberations will be reported verbally.

#### **Revisions to the Constitution.**

9. In order to give effect to the Council's decision and enable the new committee to commence its duties, minor consequential revisions need to be made to the Constitution.

<b>The relevant part of the Constitution.</b>	<b>Effect of the revision.</b>
Article 7.02 (b)	Include the Planning Committee in the list of committees of which a Board member cannot be a member.
Article 8.03 and the Delegation Scheme for Committees (part Ch)	Delete the reference to the Central Planning Committee. Include the new committee - The Planning Committee - with the function of deciding on development control matters in accordance with the detailed planning delegation scheme. Include a clause to the effect that the new committee will have 15 members on the basis of area balance and that no member of the committee may also be a member of the Council Board.
Article 10.02 and the Delegation Schemes for Committees (part C)	Amend the role of the area committee by deleting clause (iv) dealing with development control functions.
The appendix to the Delegation Scheme for Committees.	Amend part A of the appendix (Functions which are not to be the responsibility of an Authority's Board) by substituting the Planning Committee in place of the Area Committee as the relevant body.
Procedure Rule 21	Paragraph 2(ii) - delete the last sentence relating to area committees. Paragraph 4 - add a development control matter to the list of exemptions.
Planning Code of Practice and Officers Delegated Powers.	Delete paragraphs 2.4 - 2.6 dealing with members of the committee who are also members of town/community councils. Delete paragraphs 4.1 - 4.2 dealing with lobbying. Delete part 8 - Site Inspections and include in its place paragraphs 20 - 34 of the model approved by the Council. Delete part 9 - Decisions contrary to recommendation. Delete part 10 - The Role of the Central Planning Committee Delete part 12 - Training. Delete appendix 2 - Protocol for the Site Visit Sub-Committee.
Protocol for Councillors	Include as an appendix to the Planning Code of Practice the protocol which was approved by the Council

### **Members Allowances Scheme.**

10. The Council is entitled to pay a special responsibility allowance to the Chair of the Planning Committee. Bearing in mind the workload it is recommended that an allowance be paid at the same rate as the chairs of the scrutiny committees which is £4,546.
11. As a result of the decision of the Independent Remuneration Panel it will no longer be permissible to pay an allowance to the chair of an area committee once the new planning committee is established. Chairs of area committees and the chair of the present Central Planning Committee should therefore be removed from the list of special responsibility allowance holders.
12. It is recommended that the revisions to the allowances scheme are implemented in October 2010 when the new committee begins its work.

### **Recommendation**

The Council is requested to:-

- i. adopt the political balance of the new Planning Committee in accordance with paragraph 4 above
- ii. authorise the Monitoring Officer to appoint members to the new committee in accordance with political balance and area balance, following the agreement of the Business Group (or if no agreement is reached following the declarations of interest received from Council members)
- iii. revise the Constitution in accordance with the table in paragraph 9 above
- iv. approve amendments to the members allowances scheme as outlined in paragraphs 10 - 12 above.