
Political Restricted Posts Policy and Guidance

Committee considering report:	Personnel Committee
Date of Committee:	21 October 2016
Portfolio Member:	Councillor James Fredrickson
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Forward Plan Ref:	PC3199

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Personnel Committee of the revised Politically Restricted Posts Policy and Guidance before it is taken to the Chief Executive for approval.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the revised policy.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** None
- 3.2 **Policy:** Revised to include a list of politically restricted posts that are either 'specified' or 'sensitive', and an appeal process for sensitive posts.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** None
- 3.4 **Legal:** Revised in line with s 30 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009; which amended the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** None
- 3.6 **Property:** None
- 3.7 **Other:** None

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 None. Local Authorities are required to maintain a list of Politically Restricted Posts. This document fulfils this requirement and sets out details of what political restriction means for employees in politically restricted posts.

5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as amended by the Local Democracy , Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, local authority employees in politically restricted roles are prevented from having any active political role either in or outside the workplace and are prohibited from acting in a way that could bring their political impartiality into question.
- 5.2 Before January 2010 roles above scp 44 were politically restricted. From 12th January 2010 salary level no longer determined whether a role is politically restricted. Political restriction now depends upon the duties the post holder is required to perform. Posts fall into two categories; either 'specified' or 'sensitive'. Only those in sensitive posts may appeal against the decision to class their role as politically sensitive.
- 5.3 The revised procedure reflects these changes, and lists those in specified and sensitive posts. It describes what political restriction means for those in politically restricted roles, and the appeal process for those in 'sensitive roles'.
- 5.4 The list of politically sensitive posts has been drawn up in consultation with Heads of Service.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Politically Restricted Posts Policy and Guidance are brought to Personnel Committee for information. It will be taken to the Chief Executive for approval.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A – The Politically Restricted Posts Policy and Guidance