



# Local Government Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 22

### PART III

#### CONDUCT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

### CHAPTER I

#### CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

##### *Standards committees*

#### **53 Standards committees.**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), every relevant authority must establish a committee [<sup>F1</sup>or, with one or more other relevant authorities, a joint committee] which is to have the functions conferred on it by or under this Part.
- [<sup>F2</sup>(1ZA) Subsections (1ZB) and (1ZC) apply for the purposes of subsection (1).
- (1ZB) Where a relevant authority is a corporate joint committee—
- (a) the reference to establishing a committee is to be read as a reference to establishing a sub-committee;
  - (b) the reference to establishing a joint committee with one or more other relevant authorities is to be read, where all of the other relevant authorities are corporate joint committees, as a reference to establishing a joint sub-committee.
- (1ZC) The reference to establishing a joint committee is to be read, where one or more of the relevant authorities are corporate joint committees and one or more of the relevant authorities are not corporate joint committees, as a reference to establishing a joint committee which is—
- (a) a sub-committee in relation to the corporate joint committee (or committees), and

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(b) a committee in relation to the relevant authority which is not (or relevant authorities which are not) a corporate joint committee.]

[<sup>F3</sup>(1A) In this Part, a reference to a “standards committee” is a reference to a committee or a joint committee established under subsection (1) [<sup>F4</sup>(read in accordance with subsections (1ZA) to (1ZC))].]

[<sup>F5</sup>(1B) A relevant authority which is a corporate joint committee must establish its first standards committee within the period of 90 days which begins with the day after the day on which the first regulations under subsection (11) which apply to the corporate joint committee come into force.]

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a <sup>F6</sup>... community council.

<sup>F7</sup>(3) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(4) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(5) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(6) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(7) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(8) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(9) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(10) .....

(11) The [<sup>F8</sup>Welsh Ministers] may by regulations make provision—

(a) as to the size and composition of standards committees of relevant authorities <sup>F9</sup>... (including provision with respect to the appointment to any such committee of persons who are not members of the relevant authority [<sup>F10</sup>or authorities] concerned),

(b) as to the term of office of members of any such committees,

(c) as to the persons who may, may not or must chair any such committees,

(d) as to the entitlement to vote of members of any such committee who are not members of the relevant authority concerned,

[<sup>F11</sup>(da) about establishing a standards committee which is a joint committee (including, in particular, provision about any restrictions on the number or types of relevant authority that may establish a joint committee),]

(e) for or in connection with treating any [<sup>F12</sup>standards] committees as bodies to which section 15 of the <sup>M1</sup>Local Government and Housing Act 1989 does not apply,

(f) with respect to the access of the public to meetings of such committees,

(g) with respect to the publicity to be given to meetings of such committees,

(h) with respect to the production of agendas for, or records of, meetings of such committees,

(i) with respect to the availability to the public or members of relevant authorities of agendas for, records of or information connected with meetings of any such committees,

(j) as to the proceedings and validity of proceedings of any such committees,

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- (k) for or in connection with requiring relevant authorities <sup>F13</sup>... to send to [<sup>F14</sup>the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales] statements which set out the terms of reference of their standards committees.
- (12) The provision which may be made by virtue of subsection <sup>F15</sup>... (11)(f) to (i) includes provision which
- [<sup>F16</sup>(a)] applies or reproduces (with or without modifications) any provisions of Part VA of the Local Government Act 1972;
- [<sup>F17</sup>(b)] in relation to a standards committee which is established by a corporate joint committee and which is not a joint standards committee, disappplies or modifies any provision of regulations 16 to 21 of the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (meetings and proceedings; see also regulation 22 of those Regulations);
- (c) in relation to a standards committee which is established by a corporate joint committee and which is a joint standards committee, applies or reproduces (with or without modifications) any provision of regulations 16 to 21 of the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (but the power in this paragraph does not affect the exercise of the power in paragraph (a) in relation to such joint standards committees).]
- [<sup>F18</sup>(13) A relevant authority which is considering establishing a joint committee must have regard to any guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers about establishing joint committees and the circumstances in which it is appropriate to do so.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 53(1) substituted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(a)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)
- F2** S. 53(1ZA)-(1ZC) inserted (25.3.2022) by The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/372), regs. 1(2), **3(6)(a)**
- F3** S. 53(1A) inserted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(b)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)
- F4** Words in s. 53(1A) inserted (25.3.2022) by The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/372), regs. 1(2), **3(6)(b)**
- F5** S. 53(1B) inserted (25.3.2022) by The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/372), regs. 1(2), **3(6)(c)**
- F6** Words in s. 53(2) repealed (1.7.2012 for specified purposes, 22.11.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Localism Act 2011 (c. 20), s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(2), **Sch. 25 Pt. 5**; S.I. 2012/1463, art. 5(a)(d) (with arts. 6, 7) (as amended (3.7.2012) by S.I. 2012/1714, art. 2); S.I. 2012/2913, arts. 1(2), 2(b)(c) (with arts. 3-6)
- F7** S. 53(3)-(10) repealed (31.1.2012 for specified purposes, 22.11.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Localism Act 2011 (c. 20), s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), **Sch. 25 Pt. 5**; S.I. 2012/57, art. 5(1)(a)(c)(2)(c) (with arts. 6, 8); S.I. 2012/2913, arts. 1(2), 2(b) (with arts. 3-6)
- F8** Words in s. 53(11) substituted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(c)(i)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)
- F9** Words in s. 53(11)(a) repealed (1.7.2012 for specified purposes, 22.11.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Localism Act 2011 (c. 20), s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(4)(a), **Sch. 25 Pt. 5**; S.I. 2012/1463, art. 5(a)(d) (with arts. 6, 7) (as amended (3.7.2012) by S.I. 2012/1714, art. 2); S.I. 2012/2913, arts. 1(2), 2(b)(c) (with arts. 3-6)
- F10** Words in s. 53(11)(a) inserted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(c)(ii)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)
- F11** S. 53(11)(da) inserted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(c)(iii)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)

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- F12** Word in s. 53(11)(e) substituted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(c)(iv)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)
- F13** Words in s. 53(11)(k) repealed (1.7.2012 for specified purposes, 22.11.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Localism Act 2011 (c. 20), s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(4)(b), **Sch. 25 Pt. 5**; S.I. 2012/1463, art. 5(a)(d) (with arts. 6, 7) (as amended (3.7.2012) by S.I. 2012/1714, art. 2); S.I. 2012/2913, arts. 1(2), 2(b)(c) (with arts. 3-6)
- F14** Words in s. 53(11)(k) substituted (12.10.2005 for specified purposes, 1.4.2006 in so far as not already in force) by Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 (c. 10), s. 40, **Sch. 4 para. 4**; S.I. 2005/2800, arts. 4(1)(a)(2), 5(1) (with art. 4(3))
- F15** Words in s. 53(12) repealed (1.7.2012 for specified purposes, 22.11.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Localism Act 2011 (c. 20), s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(5), **Sch. 25 Pt. 5**; S.I. 2012/1463, art. 5(a)(d) (with arts. 6, 7) (as amended (3.7.2012) by S.I. 2012/1714, art. 2); S.I. 2012/2913, arts. 1(2), 2(b)(c) (with arts. 3-6)
- F16** Words in s. 53(12) renumbered as s. 53(12)(a) (25.3.2022) by The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/372), regs. 1(2), **3(6)(d)(i)**
- F17** S. 53(12)(b)(c) inserted (25.3.2022) by The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/372), regs. 1(2), **3(6)(d)(ii)**
- F18** S. 53(13) inserted (1.5.2015) by Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4), **ss. 68(2)(d)**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/1182, art. 2(e)

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Pt. III savings for effects of 2005 c. 10, s. 38 (1.4.2006) by The Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/362), arts. 1(1), **4**
- C2** Pt. III applied (with modifications) (22.11.2012) by The Police and Crime Panels (Application of Local Authority Enactments) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/2734), regs. 1(1), 3-6, **Sch. Pt. 3**

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**Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 53 wholly in force at 28.7.2001; s. 53 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 108; s. 53(11)(12) in force at 1.11.2000 in relation to Wales by S.I. 2000/2948, **art. 2**; s. 53 in force at 19.12.2000 in relation to England and to police authorities in Wales by S.I. 2000/3335, **art. 2**; s. 53 in force at 28.7.2001 in so far as not already in force see s. 108(4)-(6)

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**Marginal Citations**

- M1** 1989 c. 42.

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#### Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 53(3)(4) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(6)(a) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(7)(a) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(8) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(9) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(5\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(10) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(3), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(11)(a) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(7\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(4)(a), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)
- s. 53(11)(k) words omitted by [2011 c. 13 Sch. 16 para. 260\(7\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The repeal was superseded by the repeal made by 2011 c. 20, s. 240(2), Sch. 4 para. 12(4)(b), Sch. 25 Pt. 5.)

#### Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 21(2ZA) inserted by [2011 nawm 4 s. 59\(3\)](#)
- s. 21(13)(c) inserted by [2011 nawm 4 s. 59\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 21(15A) inserted by [2011 nawm 4 s. 59\(6\)](#)
- s. 21(18) inserted by [2011 nawm 4 s. 59\(7\)](#)
- s. 21C(6)(aa)(ab) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 5 para. 97\(a\)](#)