

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Chief Executive</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Steve Partridge</b>
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<b>Portfolio Leader:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>Council: 26/02/14</b>

**COUNCIL**  
**26 FEBRUARY, 2014**  
**ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 Council is requested to note the allocation of seats to different political groups duly constituted, to the Council's Committees and Other Bodies, as a result of changes to the numbers of Members in political groups and a non-grouped independent Member.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the allocation of seats to the different political groups to the Council's Committees and Other Bodies as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.
- 2.2 That the allocation of seats approved under 2.1, above, take effect forthwith.
- 2.3 That, as appropriate, the affected political group Leaders notify the Chief Executive, within 5 working days, of the names of those Members to be appointed / removed from the Council's Committees and other bodies.

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Council is required to confirm the allocation of seats to the different political groups in relation to the Council's Committees and Other Bodies, so as to give effect to and reflect, so far as is reasonably practicable, the political balance of the Members of the Council.
- 3.2 Councillor D.N. Davies gave written notice to the Chief Executive that, with effect from the date of the Council meeting on 12 February, 2014, he had resigned from the Liberal Democrat Group and wished to be treated as an independent

Member. As a result, the allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies has been recalculated in accordance with the political balance rules.

#### **4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 The Council through its democratic process supports the Council's Corporate Priorities.

#### **5 Report Detail**

- 5.1 The Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 (and further regulations) require the Council to allocate seats to the political parties in accordance with the political balance rules. The Council has previously determined that the size of the Council's Committees is fixed at the start of the Municipal year and remains fixed for that year. In the event of any changes to party membership or a vacancy occurring during the course of the year, the size of Committees would not change; the only change would be the allocation of seats to political parties in accordance with the political balance rules.
- 5.2 Council is required to consider the allocation of seats to the different political groups in relation to the Council's Committees and other bodies, so as to give effect to and reflect, so far as reasonably practicable, the political balance of the Members of the Council.

#### **6 Implications**

##### **6.1 Financial**

None.

##### **6.2 Legal**

The Council has a duty under the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 ('the Act'), Section 15(3), to determine the allocation to the different political groups into which the Members of the Council are divided of all the seats which fall to be filled by appointments made from time to time by the Council.

Section 15(4) and (5) of the Act places a further duty upon the Council, in performing its obligations under subsection (3) above, to determine the allocation to different political groups of seats on Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Other Bodies, so as to give effect, so far as reasonably practicable, to the following principles:

- (a) that not all the seats are allocated to the same political group;

- (b) that the majority of the seats are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership;
- (c) subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of the Council which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of the Council as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council; and
- (d) subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of the seats which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Other Bodies as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council.

**6.3 Human Resources**

None.

**6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

None.

**6.5 Human Rights Act**

None.

**6.6 Data Protection**

None.

**6.7 Risk Management**

None.

**6.8 Equality & Diversity**

None.

**6.9 Best Value**

None.

**7 Appendices to the Report**

Appendix 1

Political Balance Calculation as at 12 February, 2014

**Previous Consideration**

**ITEM NO. 9.4**

Allocation of Seats to Committees and Other Bodies	Council	22 May, 2013
Allocation of Seats to Committees and Other Bodies	Council	7 August, 2013

**Background Papers**

## POLITICAL BALANCE / ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES ETC - FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON 26 FEBRUARY, 2014

(CLLR. D.N. DAVIES NO LONGER A MEMBER OF THE LIB DEM PARTY)

COMMITTEE	SEATS	LABOUR (24)				CONSERVATIVE (9)				LIBERAL DEMOCRATS (3)				UKIP (3)				INDEPENDENT (2)				TOTAL
		Pro Rata	Current (Prev)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Current (Prev)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Current (Prev)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Current (Prev)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Current (Prev)	Proposed	Diff	
<b>Council</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>(08/13)</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>(08/13)</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>(08/13)</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>(08/13)</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>(08/13)</b>			<b>41</b>	
All Committees	122	71.41	71	71	26.78	27	27		8.93	12	9	-3	8.93	9	9	0	5.95	3	6	3	122	
* Planning Control	15	8.78	9	9	0	3.29	3	3	0	1.10	1	1	0	1.10	1	1	0	0.73	1	1	0	15
* Licensing & Public Protection	10	5.85	6	6	0	2.20	2	2	0	0.73	1	1	0	0.73	1	1	0	0.49	0	0	0	10
* Scrutiny	15	8.78	9	9	0	3.29	3	3	0	1.10	1	1	0	1.10	1	1	0	0.73	1	1	0	15
* Culture and Sport PDC	9	5.27	5	5	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	0	-1	0.66	0	1	1	0.44	1	1	0	9
* Economic Devt and Planning PDC	9	5.27	6	6	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	0	-1	0.66	0	0	0	0.44	0	1	1	9
* Environment PDC	9	5.27	5	5	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.44	0	0	0	9
* Housing PDC	9	5.27	5	5	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.44	0	0	0	9
* Health and Wellbeing PDC	9	5.27	5	5	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.44	0	0	0	9
* Town Centre Regeneration PDC	9	5.27	5	5	0	1.98	2	2	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.66	1	1	0	0.44	0	0	0	9
Audit & Governance	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	2	2	0	0.51	1	1	0	0.51	0	0	0	0.34	0	0	0	7
** Health Scrutiny	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	2	2	0	0.51	1	1	0	0.51	0	0	0	0.34	0	0	0	7
Rate Relief	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	2	2	0	0.51	0	0	0	0.51	1	0	-1	0.34	0	1	1	7
Standards	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	1	1	0	0.51	1	0	-1	0.51	1	1	0	0.34	0	1	1	7
<b>ACTUAL SEAT ALLOCATION</b>		<b>71.41</b>		<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26.78</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8.93</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>8.93</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5.95</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>122</b>
*** Trade Union Consultative Forum	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	1	1	0	0.51	1	1	0	0.51	1	1	0	0.34	0	0	0	7
*** Delivering Change Panel	7	4.10	4	4	0	1.54	2	2	0	0.51	1	1	0	0.51	0	0	0	0.34	0	0	0	7
*** Appeals & Complaints Panel	5	2.93	3	3	0	1.10	1	1	0	0.37	1	1	0	0.37	0	0	0	0.24	0	0	0	5
*** Shared Services Wrkg Grp	11	6.44	7	7	0	2.41	2	2	0	0.80	1	1	0	0.80	1	1	0	0.54	0	1	1	12

## KEY:

\* These Committees shall have named substitutes of one Councillor from each political group

\*\* New Committee w.e.f. 19/05/10. 7 Councillor, plus 1 Staffs County Cllr and 1 Outside Representative

\*\*\* Although not a Council Committee, political balance calculation applies