

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Managing Director</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: 12/08/15</b>

**COUNCIL**  
**12 AUGUST, 2015**  
**ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 Council is requested to determine the allocation of seats to different Political Groups duly constituted, to the Council's Committees and Other Bodies, following changes to the Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee structures considered by Cabinet on 23 July, 2015, and recommended to Council elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

**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 confirmed, in order that the appointment of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Members to Committees and Other Bodies can be subsequently considered later on the agenda of this meeting.

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Council is required to confirm the allocation of seats to the different political groups in order that the appointment of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Members to Committees and Other Bodies can be subsequently considered on the agenda of the Annual Council meeting.

**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.
- 5.3 Elsewhere on the agenda of this meeting, Council will be asked to consider and confirm the appointment of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Members to Scrutiny Committees as proposed by each of the Group Leaders in accordance with a political balance calculation that has previously been circulated to them.

**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.

<b>7 Appendices to the Report</b>
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**Previous Consideration**

Corporate Plan and  
Priority Delivery Plans

Cabinet

23 July, 2015

**Background Papers**

None

**POLITICAL BALANCE / ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES ETC. - FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON 12 AUGUST, 2015**  
**PROPOSED SCRUTINY MODEL (REGULATORY COMMITTEES + 6 PDP SCRUTINY COMM'S)**

COMMITTEE	SEATS	22	LABOUR				12	CONSERVATIVE				5	UKIP				2	UNGROUPED MEMBERS: LIBERAL DEMOCRAT (1) & INDEPENDENT (1)				TOTAL
		Pro Rata	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pro Rata	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff					
<b>Council</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>22</b>	(05/15)			<b>12</b>	(05/15)			<b>5</b>	(05/15)			<b>2</b>	(05/15)				<b>41</b>			
All Committees	117	62.78	62	63	1	34.24	34	34	0	14.27	14	14	0	5.71	5	6	1		117			
* Planning Control	15	8.05	8	8	0	4.39	4	4	0	1.83	2	2	0	0.73	1	1	0		15			
* Licensing & Public Protection	10	5.37	5	5	0	2.93	3	3	0	1.22	1	1	0	0.49	1	1	0		10			
Audit & Governance	7	3.76	4	4	0	2.05	2	2	0	0.85	1	1	0	0.34	0	0	0		7			
Standards	7	3.76	3	4	1	2.05	2	2	0	0.85	1	1	0	0.34	1	0	-1		7			
* Health Scrutiny	13	6.98	9	7	-2	3.80	5	4	-1	1.59	2	1	-1	0.63	1	1	0		13			
* Better Jobs & Skills Scrutiny	13	6.98	10	7	-3	3.80	6	3	-3	1.59	2	2	0	0.63	0	1	1		13			
* Environment Scrutiny	13	6.98	5	7	2	3.80	3	4	1	1.59	1	1	0	0.63	0	1	1		13			
* Housing Scrutiny	13	6.98	5	7	2	3.80	3	4	1	1.59	1	2	1	0.63	0	0	0		13			
* Customers & Corporate Scrutiny	13	6.98	0	7	7	3.80	0	4	4	1.59	0	2	2	0.63	0	0	0		13			
* Community Safety Scrutiny	13	6.98	0	7	7	3.80	0	4	4	1.59	0	2	2	0.63	0	0	0		13			
<b>ACTUAL SEAT ALLOCATION</b>		<b>62.78</b>		<b>63</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>34.24</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14.27</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.71</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>117</b>			
** Trade Union Consultative Forum	7	3.76	4	4	0	2.05	2	2	0	0.85	1	1	0	0.34	0	0	0		7			
** Delivering Change Panel	7	3.76	4	4	0	2.05	2	2	0	0.85	1	1	0	0.34	0	0	0		7			
** Appeals & Complaints Panel	5	2.68	3	3	0	1.46	1	1	0	0.61	1	1	0	0.24	0	0	0		5			
** Appointments Panel	9	4.83	5	5	0	2.63	3	3	0	1.10	1	1	0	0.44	0	0	0		9			
** Constitution Working Group	6	3.22	3	3	0	1.76	2	2	0	0.73	1	1	0	0.29	0	0	0		6			
** Shared Services Wrkg Grp	11	5.90	6	6	0	3.22	3	3	0	1.34	1	1	0	0.54	1	1	0		11			

**KEY:**

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

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