

Report of:	Managing Director
Contact Officer:	Steve Partridge
Telephone No:	01543 464588
Portfolio Leader:	Leader of the Council
Key Decision:	No
Report Track:	Council: 24/06/20

**ANNUAL COUNCIL
24 JUNE 2020
ALLOCATION OF SEATS 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, which remain unchanged as a result of this being a fallow year in the cycle of local elections.

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 since) requires 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 Under agenda item 12 of this meeting, Council will be asked to consider and confirm the appointment of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Members to 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 Section 15(3) of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 ('the Act'), 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, 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 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 June, 2020

ITEM NO. 11.

Appendix 1

POLITICAL BALANCE / ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES ETC. - FOR ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 24 JUNE, 2020

COMMITTEE	SEATS	LABOUR			CONSERVATIVE			CHASE INDEPENDENTS (5) & GREEN (1)			LIB DEM (2) & INDEPENDENT (1)			VACANT			TOTAL
		Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	Pre-Change (Actual or Equiv)	Proposed	Diff	
Council	41	(05/19)	17		(05/19)	14		(05/19)	6		(05/19)	3		(05/19)	1		41
All Committees	91	40	38	-2	33	31	-2	11	13	2	7	7	0	0	2	2	91
* Planning Control	15	7	7	0	5	5	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	15
* Licensing & Public Protection	10	4	4	0	4	4	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	10
Audit & Governance	7	3	3	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Standards	7	3	2	-1	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7
Scrutiny Committees		N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			
*Community	13	6	5	-1	5	5	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
*Corporate	13	6	6	0	5	4	-1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
*Promoting Prosperity	13	6	6	0	4	4	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
*Wellbeing	13	5	5	0	5	4	-1	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	13
ACTUAL SEAT ALLOCATION		40	38	-2	33	31	-2	11	13	2	7	7	0	0	2	2	91
** TU Consultative Forum	7	3	3	0	3	2	-1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
** Appeals & Complaints Panel	5	2	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
** Appointments Panel	9	4	4	0	3	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	9
** Constitution Working Group	6	3	3	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
	27	12	12	0	10	9	-1	3	4	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	27

KEY:

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

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