

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	21 September 2017
Subject:	Membership of Committees 2017/18		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To advise the Council that Councillors Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh are no longer members of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 20 July 2017, which has changed the Political Balance on the Council. To inform the Council that with effect from 29 August 2017 Councillors Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh are now Members of the Labour Group. To also inform the Council that the change in proportionality affects the entitlement to formal Committee Places.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) That Council note that the change in proportionality results in an increase in the Labour Group entitlement of two committee places and a corresponding decrease in the Liberal Democrat entitlement of two committee places.
- (2) That this change be affected by adjusting the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- (3) That the Political Groups below report orally on the changes to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) in order to effect the revision to the allocation of Committee Places resulting from the change in proportionality:
 - The Labour Group to nominate one additional Member and one Substitute Member for both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills); and
 - The Liberal Democrat Group to lose one Member and one Substitute Member on both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- (4) That Political Groups report orally on other changes which they wish to make within their allocations of Committee Places.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To effect the revision to the allocation of Committee Places resulting from the change in proportionality on the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

Not applicable

(B) Capital Costs

Not applicable

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
Legal Implications: The Chief Executive received formal notice of a change in the membership of the Liberal Democrat Group in accordance with Paragraph 9 (b) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. The allocation of Committee Places has been revised following the change in proportionality on the Council to meet the requirements of Paragraph 15 (d) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: : Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: : Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: The proposals will ensure that appointments are made to the various Committees of the

Council in order to comply with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to make appointments to those seats in accordance with Section 16.
Drivers of change and reform: : Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: : Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: : Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: : Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4848/17.) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD4132/17.) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 Councillor's Bill and Marianne Welsh gave notice that they had resigned from the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 20 July 2017. With effect from 29 August 2017 Councillor's Bill and Marianne Welsh became Members of the Labour Group. This has changed the political balance on the Council and so a recalculation of the entitlement to formal Committee Places was undertaken which results in the Labour Group gaining two seats and the Liberal Democrat Group losing two places.

1.2 The change in proportionality is as follows:

Political Group	Number of Seats on Council	Entitlement to Committee Places	
		From 21 September 2017	Prior to 21 September 2017
Labour	40	50 (+2)	48
Liberal Democrat	14	18 (-2)	20 (-2)
Conservative	6	7	7
Independents	4	5	5
Independent (Councillor Dawson)	1	0	0
Independent Conservative (Councillor David Barton)	1	0	0

1.3 The revised allocation of Committee Places is as follows:

Committee	Places Available	Places Allocated to Political Groups			Independents
		Labour	Liberal Democrat	Conservative	
Audit and Governance	10	6	2	1	1
Licensing and Regulatory	15	9	4	1	1
Planning	15	9	4	1	1
O&S – Adult Social Care and Health	10	7(+1)	2(-1)	1	0
O&S Children's Services and Safeguarding	10	6	2	1	1
O&S – Regeneration	10	7(+1)	2(-1)	1	0

& Skills					
O&S – Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services	10	6	2	1	1
TOTAL	80	48	20	7	5

- 1.4 The Labour Group and Liberal Democrat Group on the Council have been notified of the change to their entitlement of Committee Places and they have been requested to report orally on the changes to the membership of both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- 1.5 Political Groups may also report orally on other changes which they wish to make within their allocations of Committee Places.