

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 1 March 2018
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 Councillor Dawson has been re-instated as a member of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 29 January 2018.

To also formally advise the Council that former Councillor Andy Dams resigned as an Elected Member of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council on 10 November 2017.

The above events have changed the Political Balance on the Council and a request for a recalculation of committee places has been received. This report informs Council of the outcome of the recalculation and the changes necessary to ensure political proportionality is achieved.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) That Council note the change in proportionality results in an increase in the Liberal Democrat Group entitlement of one Committee place and a corresponding decrease in the Labour Group entitlement;
- (2) That this change be affected by adjusting the membership on 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 (Regeneration and Skills) in order to effect the revision to the allocation of Committee Places resulting from the change in proportionality:
 - The Liberal Democrat Group to gain one Member on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills); and
 - The Labour Group to lose one Member on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills);
- (4) That Political Groups report orally on other changes which they wish to make within their allocation of Committee Places; and.
- (5) That Council notes that due to the resignation of former Councillor Andy Dams, Blundellsands Ward, there is one vacancy on the Council and that Ward vacancy

will remain a vacancy until May 3 2018 Borough Elections.

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): None
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 (FD5058/18.) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD4342/18.) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

None

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 Dawson was re-instated as a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 29 January 2018. In addition former Councillor Andy Dams resigned his position on 10th November 2017. The impact of these two changes has altered the political balance on the Council and a recalculation of the entitlement to formal Committee Places has been requested which results in the Labour Group losing one place and the Liberal Democrat Group gaining one place.

1.2 The change in proportionality is as follows:

Political Group	Number of Seats on Council	Entitlement to Committee Places	
		From 1 March 2018	Prior to 1 March 2018
Labour	39	49(-1)	50
Liberal Democrat	15	20(+1)	19
Conservative	6	6	6
Independents	4	5	5
Independent Conservative (Councillor David Barton)	1	0	0
Vacancy	1		

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	3	0	0
O&S Children’s Services and Safeguarding	10	6	2	1	1
O&S – Regeneration & Skills	10	6(-1)	3(+1)	1	0
O&S – Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services	10	6	2	1	1
TOTAL	80	49	20	6	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 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.