

Allocation of Seats to Political Groups 15 May 2017

Report of Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the calculations relating to the allocation of seats in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Council's agreed protocol, to allow Council to appoint to Committees as required at the annual meeting, as set out in Part 4, Section 1, Paragraph 1.2 of the Constitution.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and Part 4 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990, the City Council approves the calculations and allocation of seats set out in Appendices B and C of the report.**
- (2) That the adjustments required to the Grouping of committees, detailed in paragraph 3 and Appendix C of the report, be approved.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Members are requested to approve the calculations set out in this report in order to make appointments to committees for 2017/18, which reflect the revised make-up of the Council.

2.0 Political Composition of the Council

- 2.1 The Council's political composition is set out below.

Labour	30
Conservatives	18
Green	8
Independent	2
Free Independent	1
Non-aligned Independent	1
	<u>60</u>

2.2 Various appendices give full details of the calculations: **Appendix A** shows the methodology of Council's agreed calculation of PR; the calculations in relation to numbers from 1 to 20 are attached at **Appendix B** and **Appendix C** gives the grouping calculations used in this report.

2.3 If groups have submitted nominations for committee membership to Democratic Services in advance of this meeting, those nominations will be circulated at the start of the meeting.

3.0 Adjustments

3.1 Appendix C sets out the adjustments necessary as a result of the calculation. The Labour Group will lose one seat in the Overview and Scrutiny grouping to the Green Group. For the Regulatory and Standing Committees of Council grouping, one seat will be lost by the Labour Group and another will be lost by the Conservative group. Councillors Woodruff and Scott will each gain one of those places.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 Members are requested to approve the calculations to enable appointments to committees to be made at this meeting.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

There are no direct implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and Part 4 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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METHOD OF CALCULATION

- 1 The following is provided as a reminder for Members of the method used to calculate proportional representation (PR) at Lancaster City Council:-
- 2 At its meeting on 11th May 2006 Council agreed the following protocol and groupings for the calculation of PR on the Council's Cabinet*, Overview & Scrutiny and Committees:
 - (i) the calculation be undertaken using 4 decimal places;
 - (ii) the allocation of a final seat to a Group with the same residual be to the largest under-represented Group provided that this does not result in the largest over-representation; and
 - (iii) In the event that the foregoing rules do not resolve the situation, either because of a tie, or because the allocation would result in the largest over-representation, the seat be allocated by drawing lots under the supervision of the Mayor.
 - (iv) the calculation should be undertaken in relation to the following groupings:
 - Overview and Scrutiny (2 x 9)
 - Regulatory and other timetabled Committees (1 x 20(Planning)*, 1 x 15 (Licensing Act), 1 x 9 (Licensing Regulatory) and 2 x 7 (Personnel and Audit)
 - Remaining Standing and Joint Committees to be calculated separately and individually.

**The Cabinet is no longer a PR Cabinet, and the composition of the Planning Committee has since reduced to 15 Members.*

Appendix B

PR CALCULATION

		Labour	Conservative	Green	Independent	Free Independent (Cllr Woodruff)	Non-aligned Independent (Cllr Scott)
1	=	1	-	-	-	-	-
2	=	1	1	-	-	-	-
3	=	2	1	-	-	-	-
4	=	2	1	1	-	-	-
5	=	2	2	1	-	-	-
6	=	3	2	1	-	-	-
7	=	4	2	1	-	-	-
8	=	4	3	1	-	-	-
9	=	5	3	1	-	-	-
10	=	5	4	1	-	-	-
11	=	6	4	1	-	-	-
12	=	6	4	2	-	-	-
13	=	7	4	2	-	-	-
14	=	7	4	2	1	-	-
15	=	7	5	2	1	-	-
16	=	8	5	2	1	-	-
17	=	9	5	2	1	-	-
18	=	9	6	2	1	-	-
19	=	9	6	3	1	-	-
20	=	10	6	3	1	-	-

Labour	30
Conservative	18
Green	8
Independent	2
Free Independent	1
Non-aligned Independent	1
TOTAL	60

As at May 2017

COMMITTEE GROUPING CALCULATIONS

1 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY GROUPING

The PR Calculation for a single 9 Member Committee is 5:3:1:0:0:0 and the grouping of Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Budget & Performance Panel is as follows:-

$9 + 9 = 18$ (-:- 60) = 0.3 seats per Member.

L	30	x 0.3	=	9	=	9
C	18	x 0.3	=	5.4	=	5
G	8	x 0.3	=	2.4	=	3 (see below)
I	2	x 0.3	=	0.6	=	1
FI	1	x 0.3	=	0.3	=	0
NAI	1	x 0.3	=	0.3	=	0.3

Using the PR calculation for two single 9 Member Committees, the Labour Group would have had 10 seats overall. The grouping gives the Labour Group 9 seats overall so the Labour Group “give up” one seat as a result of the grouping.

The Conservative Group would have had 6 seats overall using the PR calculation for two single 9 Member Committees. However, the grouping gives the Conservative Group 5.4 seats, making a tie for the final seat between the Conservative and the Green groups who have the same residual of .4. The rules state that “the allocation of a final seat to a Group with the same residual be to the largest under-represented Group provided that this does not result in the largest over-representation.”; The final seat will therefore be passed to the Green group.

The Independent Group will receive one seat on either the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Budget and Performance Panel, by arrangement with the other Groups.

2 REGULATORY AND STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL GROUPING

The PR calculation for 15 Member Committees (Planning and Highways Regulatory and Licensing Act) is 7:5:2:1:0:0. The 9 Member Licensing Regulatory Committee is 5:3:1:0:0:0 and the 7 Member Committee calculation (for Personnel and Audit) is 4:2:1:0:0:0. The total seats to be allocated for the grouping comprising Planning and Highways Regulatory, Licensing Act, Licensing Regulatory, Personnel and Audit Committees is:-

$15 + 15 + 9 + 7 + 7 = 53$ (-:- 60) = 0.8833 seats per Member.

L	30	x 0.8833	=	26.4990	=	26
C	18	x 0.8833	=	15.8994	=	16
G	8	x 0.8833	=	7.0664	=	7
I	2	x 0.8833	=	1.7666	=	2
FI	1	x 0.8833	=	0.8833	=	1
NAI	1	x 0.8833	=	0.8833	=	1

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PR for this group of committees, if calculated on the basis of single committees, would have given the Labour Group 27 Members and the Conservative Group 17 Members. However, when grouped, the Labour Group receive 26 seats and the Conservative Group receive 16 seats, requiring the Labour Group and the Conservative Group to “give up” one seat each in this grouping. Those seats will give Councillor Woodruff and

Councillor Scott one seat each on whichever Committees the Labour and Conservatives Groups choose to leave unfilled.

3 OTHER COMMITTEES/PANELS

Remaining Standing Committees currently constituted with a PR of 7 are the Appeals, Council Business and Standards Committees. The PR calculation for these is 4:2:1:0:0:0.

The Appraisal Panel is a member panel of seven members appointed on a PR basis, although not a formal Committee of Council. The PR calculation for the Panel is 4:2:1:0:0:0.