

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES ETC.

Relevant Portfolio Holder	N/A
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Ward(s) Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non key

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed political balance of the Council's Committees and seeks the Council's agreement to these.
- 1.2 Once the Council has agreed the political balance, the Leaders of each of the Political Groups on the Council can nominate to the places on each for their group. Councillors who are not members of a political group are appointed to Committees by the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is requested to RESOLVE that

- 1) the Political balance of the Committees of the Council be agreed as set out in paragraph 3.6;**
- 2) the arrangement where the seats on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are not allocated in accordance with the political balance requirements be continued;**
- 3) the arrangement where the seats on the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel are not allocated in accordance with the political balance requirements be continued;**
- 4) appointments by political group leaders to the places on each Committee etc. be noted;**
- 5) the Council appoints the non-aligned Councillor to places on Committees; and**
- 6) the Council appoints Chairs and Vice-Chairs to the Committees and other bodies as set out in Appendix 1.**

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The level of Members' allowances, based on the current number of positions as set out in this report, has been agreed previously by the Council.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 With the exception of the Executive Committee, the Council is required by law and / or its own constitution to allocate places on its main Committees in accordance with its political make-up and to approve the Committee terms of reference. The main requirements are that:
- the number of seats on each Committee allocated to each Political Group reflects the proportion it holds of the total number of seats on the Council;
 - the Group with the majority of seats on the Council should hold the majority of seats on each Committee.
- 3.3 The definition of a Political Group for these purposes is that it has a minimum of 2 members. The composition of the Council is 17 Conservatives, 11 Labour Councillors and one non-aligned member.
- 3.4 The Council is able to decide not to allocate places in accordance with political balance and has done this for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for a number of years. The convention is that the Members who take the majority of seats on the Committee are not from the controlling political group. However, this decision can only take effect if no Councillor votes against it. A similar arrangement has been made for the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel, which is a sub-committee of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.5 The proposed political balance would result in the need to make a small number of changes to appointments to Committees. As this only impacts on those Committees that are included in the political balance, only those Committees have been listed in Appendix 1. The more informal groups, like Advisory Panels and Task Groups, have not therefore been included in this appendix.

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

18th November 2019

3.6 The table overleaf shows the political balance based on current sizes of Committees:

Committee	Total places	Conservative Group Places – entitled to	Labour Group Places – entitled to	Non-Aligned (entitled to any spare seats once the proportionality is worked out)
Audit, Governance & Standards	9	5 (5.27) Take 6	3 (3.41)	0 (0.31)
Licensing	11	6 (6.45) Take 7	4 (4.17) Take 3	0 (0.38) Takes 1
Planning	9	5 (5.27) Take 6	3 (3.41)	0 (0.31)
Overview and Scrutiny	9	5 (5.27) Take 4	3 (3.41) Take 5	0 (0.31)
Crime and Disorder Panel	5	3 (2.93) Take 2*	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17) Takes 1
Employment Appeals Committee	5	3 (2.93)	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17)
Statutory Officers Disciplinary Panel	5	3 (2.93)	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17)
Appointments Committee	5	3 (2.93)	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17)
Shareholders Committee	5	3 (2.93)	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17)
Electoral Matters Committee	5	3 (2.93)	2 (1.90)	0 (0.17)
Mathematical Calculation	68	39.86	25.79	2.35
Actual (numbers rounded)	68	40	26	2
Actual number (taken subject to suspending the political balance)	68	40 (Balances following suspension of political balance by taking 1 spare seat on each of the Audit, Governance and Standards, Licensing and Planning Committees)	26 (Balances following suspension of political balance by giving up one seat Labour are entitled to for Licensing Committee to the non-aligned member)	2 (Receives a seat from the Labour Group's entitlement to sit on the Licensing Committee, and a seat from the Conservative Group's entitlement to sit on the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel subject to the suspension of the political balance).

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.7 Once the Council has agreed the allocation of seats to the main Committees, the leaders of each political group will nominate members to fill them so that the business of the Council can continue to run smoothly. It is planned to have a list of the nominations available for noting at the Council meeting.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.8 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no specific high level risks arising from this report.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - List of Committees for appointment.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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