

COUNCIL
24 JANUARY 2019
ALLOCATION OF COMMITTEE SEATS
ADDENDUM REPORT

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services

Summary

This addendum report sets out an updated position regarding the overall allocation of seats on Committees since publication of this report in the Agenda.

1. Revised Proposed Group Allocation of Committee Seats

1.1 This addendum report updates the Council of the action required to achieve an allocation of Committee seats which reflects the current political balance of the Council following the sad death of Councillor Carr on 19 January 2019.

1.2 The current composition of the Council is now as follows:

	Number of Councillors	%
Conservative Group	35	63.6
Labour Group	15	27.3
1 x UKIP, 3 x Independent plus one vacant seat	5	9.1
	55	100%

1.3 The revised entitlement of the Council's two political groups to Committee seats is as set out below leaving twelve seats on Committees to which they are not entitled:

Conservative Group	Labour Group	Seats which cannot be allocated to a political group	Total
83 (+3*)	35	12	130

1.4 A revised Appendix B is attached setting out the proposed allocation of seats. This has been discussed and agreed by Group Whips. In summary the changes to the allocation of seats and Committee memberships as set out in paragraphs 3.7 and 4.2 of item 15 on the main agenda are recommended as published with two variations as follows:

- i) The Conservative Group will be entitled to 8 seats (as opposed to 9 seats) on the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The proposal to appoint Councillor Williams to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee has therefore been withdrawn and the Group Whip proposes that Councillor Williams should be removed from the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- ii) The Labour Group must lose one seat on one of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Group Whip proposes that this should happen on the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the removal of Councillor Shaw from that Committee.

1.5 For the avoidance of any doubt the following consequential changes to Committee memberships are recommended to give effect to the allocation of seats proposed in revised Appendix B as attached to this report:

Appointments Committee for Director of People – Children and Adults Services	Remove provision for “one other” Conservative Group member on this Committee thereby reducing the allocation to 5 Conservative seats for Leader, Deputy Leader, 2 x Portfolio holders and 1 x O and S Chairman. Hold one vacant seat to which the political groups are not entitled
Audit Committee	Remove Councillor Maple and hold one seat vacant to which the political groups are not entitled
Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Remove seat allocated to the former UKIP Group and remove Councillor Freshwater from the Committee. Re-designate this seat as a vacancy
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Remove vacant seat allocated to the former UKIP Group and re-designate it as a vacant seat to which the political groups are not entitled
Councillor Conduct Committee	Remove Councillor Wildey and hold one seat vacant to which the political groups are not entitled
Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Remove Councillor Freshwater and re-designate the seat allocated to the former UKIP Group as a vacant seat to which the political groups are not entitled. Remove one seat from the Labour Group’s allocation and remove Councillor Shaw from this Committee. Re-designate this seat as a vacancy.
Licensing and Safety Committee	Remove Councillor Pendergast and re-designate the seat allocated to the former UKIP Group as a vacant seat to which the political groups are not entitled
Planning Committee	Remove Councillor Pendergast and re-designate the seat allocated to the former UKIP Group as a vacancy. Also remove the vacancy currently held by the Conservative Group. Hold these two seats vacant as seats to which the political groups are not entitled.
Regeneration, Culture and Environment Committee	Remove one seat allocated to the Conservative Group and remove Councillor Williams from the Committee. Re-designate this seat as a vacancy.
School Transport and Curriculum Appeals Committee	Remove Councillor Gilry and hold one vacant seat to which the political groups are not entitled

1.6 Councillor Carr served on a number of Committees, Sub Committees and outside bodies occupying seats allocated to the Conservative Group. It is proposed that Councillor Gulvin should replace Councillor Carr on the Planning Committee and Licensing and Safety Committee. The places on other Committees and bodies will remain vacant until the Conservative Leader and Group Whip have had time to reflect and any changes will be processed under the Chief Executive's delegation to make in-year minor changes.

2. Revised Recommendations

2.1 The Council is recommended to:

- (i) review the allocation of seats on the Committees of the Council and agree the allocation of seats as set out in revised Appendix B to the addendum report, following the sad death of Councillor Carr and receipt of notice from Councillors Craven, Howard and Pendergast that they no longer wish to be treated as members of a political group;
- (ii) agree the changes to the membership of Committees and other bodies as set out in paragraph 1.5 in this addendum report and paragraph 4.2 of item 15 published on the main agenda;
- (iii) appoint Councillor Gulvin to the Licensing and Safety Committee and Planning Committee;
- (iv) note that the Licensing and Safety Committee will be asked to review the membership of its Sub Committees at its next meeting.

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Appendices

Revised Appendix B – Allocation of Committee seats proposed by Group Leaders and Group Whips

Background papers

None