



**Rochford District  
Council**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Political Groups of the Council</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Acting Director of Governance</b>

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

The Constitution under Council Procedure Rule 1.2 provides that the Chief Executive will report receipt of Notices served on him by Members under the provisions of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 to the Annual Meeting of the Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**R1 - That Council notes the Notices of Political Groups served on the Chief Executive.**

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

#### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 To comply with The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended.

#### **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 A 'political group' is one which has been constituted in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and consists of at least two Members. It is therefore separate

from the concept of a political party (though it may well consist of members of the same political persuasion).

- 2.2 If the membership of a political group drops below two, the particular political group ceases to exist (Regulation 8(2)). A Member may cease to be a member of a particular political group if they are no longer a councillor (Reg.10). Members may apply to join an existing political group (Reg.9).
- 2.3 The reason why political groups are almost invariably formed is that where political balance is required as regards the seat allocation on council bodies then regard is to be had to political groups (not political parties).
- 2.4 The calculation of the proportionate allocation of seats subject to the political balance rules is based upon political groups and this is clearly significant as regards the control of power on those council bodies.
- 2.5 Notices relating to political groups (including changes as to the name of the group, its membership, the name of the Group Leader and the name of a Deputy Group Leader) are required to be in the prescribed written form and delivered to the proper officer of the Council.
- 2.6 Changes in political groups can therefore affect the calculation of the political balance on particular Council bodies.

### **3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 3.1 The Council must comply with The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended.

### **4.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Officers consulted with Members post the Borough Elections on 2nd May 2024.

### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Name/Title: Tim Willis, Interim Director of Resources**  
**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/tim.willis@brentwood.rochford.gov.uk**

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications.



**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Notices received, and duly minuted, at past Annual Council meetings are available on the Council’s website.

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Annual Council	May 2023
Annual Council	May 2022
Annual Council	May 2021