
ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council is invited to agree the allocation of seats to Committees following a change in the political composition.

2 DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory duty by virtue of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to ensure that appointments to Committees reflect the proportion of the total number of seats on the Council held by each political group, unless otherwise agreed.
- 2.2 Following a recent change in the political composition, the Assistant Director, Democratic Services has re-calculated the allocation of seats in accordance with the Act, which sets down the following criteria that must be followed when appointing Members to Committees:-

- (1) That not all the seats are held by Members of the same political group.
- (2) That, if a political group has a majority of the membership of the Council, then that group has the majority of the seats.
- (3) That, subject to principles (1) and (2) above, the total number of seats each political group has on all ordinary Committees is in proportion to that group's share of the total Council elected membership.
- (4) That, subject to principles (1) (2) and (3) above, each political group has the same proportion of seats as it holds on the Council as a whole.

- 2.3 The current composition of the Council is as follows:-

Conservative	27
Green and Rochford District Residents	4
Liberal Democrat	2
UKIP	2
Labour	2
Non Group Members	2

- 2.4 The proposed allocation of seats to Committees is as indicated in the appendix to this report. The re-calculation of the allocation of seats to Committees requires some amendments, as follows:-
- 2.5 Appeals Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to one seat, currently held by a UKIP Member.

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- 2.6 Audit Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to two seats, currently held by Liberal Democrat and UKIP Members.
- 2.7 Development Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to two seats, currently held by Liberal Democrat and UKIP Members.
- 2.8 Investment Board: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to two seats, currently held by Liberal Democrat and UKIP Members.
- 2.9 Licensing Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to two seats, currently held by Liberal Democrat and UKIP Members.
- 2.10 Review Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to two seats, currently held by Liberal Democrat and UKIP Members.
- 2.11 Standards Committee: nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to one seat, currently held by a non Group Member.
- 2.12 The seat allocations associated with the Council's one Sub-Committee, the Local Development Framework Sub-Committee, will require adjustment. A nomination will be required from the Conservative group to one seat and nominations are invited from the Labour, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups to one seat currently held by a UKIP Member.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Provision is made within the 2015/16 estimates for the anticipated costs that arise from Committees.

4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None other than set out in the report.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

- (1) That Committee seat allocations be as shown in the appendix to this report.

- (2) That, in accordance with paragraphs 2.5 to 2.12 of the officer's report, Members be appointed to serve on Committees and a Sub-Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year.



John Bostock

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Background Papers: None

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COMMITTEE SEAT ALLOCATIONS – 2015/16

Committee	No. of Seats	Conservative (69.2308%)	Green and Rochford District Residents (10.2564%)	Labour (5.1282%)	Liberal Democrat (5.1282%)	UKIP (5.1282%)
Appeals	6	4	1	1		
Audit	11	8	1	2		
Development	13	9	2	2		
Investment Board	13	9	2	2		
Licensing	15	11	2	2		
Review	15	11 *	2	2		
Standards	8	6	1	1		
Total No. of Seats	81	58	11	4	4	4

* Note: One of these seats was allocated to Cllr J H Gibson at Annual Council on 19 May 2015; the Conservative Group has indicated that this should not change.

SUB-COMMITTEE SEAT ALLOCATIONS – 2015/16

Sub-Committee	No. of Seats	Conservative (69.2308%)	Green and Rochford District Residents (10.2564%)	Labour (5.1282%)	Liberal Democrat (5.1282%)	UKIP (5.1282%)
Local Development Framework Sub-Committee	6	4	1	1		