

Appendices:
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NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

19th September 2016

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Chief Executive's

Report Title	Committee Proportionality
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1. Purpose

1.1 This report seeks Council's approval of the number and Group proportionality of seats on each Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the number of Committee places on Planning be increased by one, from 12 to 13

2.2 That the overall number of allocated Committee places be increased from 69 to 70 and that the Borough Secretary be authorised to amend the Constitution to reflect the changes.

2.3 That the representation of the political groups be as set out in this report

3. Issues and Choices

3. Report Background

3.1 Following the resignation of Matthew Lynch from the Conservative Group and the election of Councillor Brian Markham to the Liberal Democrat Group on the 21st July 2016, subsequent changes to composition of the political groups and the proportionality of Committee places for each group are needed.

3.2 The current composition of the Groups is 25 Conservative Members, 17 Labour, and 3 Liberal Democrats.

3.3 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and its associated regulations, requires the Council, at its annual meeting, or as soon as practicable afterwards

following any changes to its political makeup, to review the representation of political groups and determine the allocation of seats (ie proportionality). The rights of the various political groups are specified in relevant regulations.

4. Allocation of Committee Places

4.1 The following principles need to be applied in allocating Committee places:

4.1.1 That not all seats on any Committee or Sub – Committee are allocated to the same political group

4.1.2 that the majority of seats on all Committees and Sub- Committees are allocated to the political group that has a majority of the Council’s membership or as otherwise reflects the make-up of the Council;

4.1.3 that subject to 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 above, the number of seats for all main Committees which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the main Committees as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council; and

4.1.4 subject to 4.1.1 the numbers of seats on the individual Committees and Sub Committees allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of seats of that Committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to their membership of the Council.

4.1.5 There are currently 69 allocated Committee places. Having reviewed the revised composition of the Council and seeking to achieve the best proportionality it is proposed to increase the size of the Planning Committee to 13 members and for the total number of Committee places to thereby be 70.

4.1.6 The allocation of seats between the Committees is as follows:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Total</u>
Audit	4	3	0	7
O&S	8	6	1	15
Planning	7	5	1	13
Licensing	6	4	1	11
Appointments and Appeals	4	2	0	6
General Purposes	5	3	1	9
Standards	5	3	1	9
Totals	39	26	5	70

5 . Implications (including financial implications)

Policy

5.1 None

6. Resources and Risk

6.1 Legal

6.1.1 The Council is required to act under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and its associated regulations, to review the representation of political groups and determine the allocations of seats.

6.2 Equality

6.2.1 None specifically arising from the changes.

6.3 Other Implications

6.3.1 None

7. Background Papers

7.1 None

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