

Appendices:
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NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17th May 2018

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 Council approves the number of seats on each Committee as set out in the report.

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

3. Issues and Choices

3. Report Background

3.1 On the 19th April 2018, Councillor Davenport resigned from the Labour Party and became Independent.

3.2 This changed the composition of the Groups to 25 Conservative Members, 16 Labour, 3 Liberal Democrats and 1 Independent.

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).

3.4 Councillor Davenport resigned after the publication of the previous Council agenda and therefore it was not practicable for a report to be taken to the Council meeting on the 23rd April 2018.

- 3.5 The Local Government and Housing Act 19689 states that when carrying out calculations to apply political balance to committees, only those elected members who are members of political groups are to be counted. However, Council can determine whether it wishes to allocate a seat(s) to the member not part of a political group on such Committee as Council may determine.
- 3.6 The rights of the various political groups are specified in relevant regulations.
- 3.7 The following principles need to be applied in allocating Committee places:
- 3.7.1 That not all seats on any Committee or Sub – Committee are allocated to the same political group
- 3.7.2 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;
- 3.7.3 that subject to 3.3.1. and 3.3.2 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
- 3.7.4 subject to 3.3.3 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.
- 3.8 There are 70 allocated Committee places which divides as 39 Conservative, 25 Labour, 5 Liberal Democrats and 1 Independent member.

The allocation of seats between the Committees is as follows:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Total</u>
Audit	4	3	0	0	7
O&S	8	6	1	0	15
Planning	7	5	1	0	13
Licensing	6	3	1	1	11
Appointments and Appeals	4	2	0	0	6
General Purposes	5	3	1	0	9
Standards	5	3	1	0	9
Totals	39	25	5	1	70

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 None

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 None

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 The Council has legal obligations 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.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 None

4.5 Other Implications

4.5.1 None

5. Background Papers

5.1 None

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