



**NORTHAMPTON**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Item No. 14

<b>Name of Meeting:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	24 May 2007
<b>Directorate:</b>	Chief Executives
<b>Corporate Manager:</b>	Francis Fernandes
<b>Agenda Status:</b>	(Public part of Agenda)

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Committee Proportionality</b>
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### **Recommendations**

1. That the Council approves the number of seats on each Committee as outlined in this report.
2. That the representation of the political groups be as set out in this report.

### **Background**

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989, requires the Council, at its annual meeting, or as “soon as practicable after the meeting” to review the representation of political groups and determine the allocation of seats (i.e. proportionality). The rights of the various political groups are specified in relevant regulations.

The Liberal Democrat, Conservative and Labour Groups have given notice that they wish to be treated as political groups in accordance with the Regulations.

The report at item 13 above sets out some changes to the Committee structure. In addition it is proposed that the number of seats on two of the Committees be reduced, namely for Planning Committee (currently 12 seats) and Licensing Committee (currently 15) both to be reduced to 11 seats.

The effect of these changes means that the Council will have 76 seats overall to which the proportionality rules apply. These need to be allocated as follows:- Liberal Group 41 seats; Conservative Group 25 seats; Labour Group 9 seats. This leaves one seat which can be allocated to the Independent member.

The allocation of seats between the Committees can then be as follows:-

<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>No of Seats on Committee</b>	<b>Lib Dems</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Audit Committee	6	3	2	1	
Overview & Scrutiny 1	10	5	3	1	1
Overview & Scrutiny 2	9	5	3	1	
Overview & Scrutiny 3	9	5	3	1	
Scrutiny Management Committee	6	3	2	1	
Planning Committee	11	6	4	1	
Licensing Committee	11	6	4	1	
Appointments and Appeals	7	4	2	1	
General Purposes	7	4	2	1	
<b>Overall Seats</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

**Any Relevant Policies**

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**Options and Evaluation of Options**

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**Resource Implications (including Financial Implications)**

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**Consultees (Internal and External)**

<b>Internal</b>	
<b>External</b>	

**Compliance Issues**

<b>Finance Comments</b>
<b>Legal Comments</b>

<b>Crime and Disorder Issues</b>
<b>Equality Impact Assessments</b>
<b>Human Rights Act Implication</b>

**Other compliance issues**

**Background Papers**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>

**[Report Author, title and extension]**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Ext.</b>
<b>Author</b>			
<b>Corporate Manager</b>			
<b>Director</b>			