COUNCIL

15 OCTOBER 2018

SUBJECT:	**REVISION TO THE APPOINTMENT AND CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES 2018 / 2019**
REPORT OF:	**DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND ASSURANCE**

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise the Council on the allocation of committee places to political groups following the resignation of a Member of the Labour Group to become an Independent member and to request the Council, in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions and the terms of the Constitution, to allocate such places proportionately for the remainder of this municipal year.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Council is requested to:

(1) agree the revised constitution and membership of committees for the remainder of the 2018/19 municipal year (including deputies), having regard to the political proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and relevant case law;

(2) agree the appointment of chairs and, if considered appropriate, vice-chairs.

(3) agree that the names of appointees to Committees may be given to the Director of Governance and Assurance, following this meeting, if not already done so.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

1.1 To comply with proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and relevant case law.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 No other options were considered beyond those outlined in the report.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

3.1 Proportionality

3.1.1 Members must have regard to the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the relevant regulations (which deal with political balance on committees and sub-committees), and the terms of the High Court judgment in the case of R v Brent LBC ex-parte Gladbaum and Wood (which requires the relevant parent committee, rather than the Council, to appoint members of sub-committees and panels).

3.1.2 The political composition of the Council following the resignation of a Member of the Labour Group to become an Independent Member is as follows:

Labour	38 seats	(57.58% of the 66 seats)
Conservative	21 seats	(31.82%)
Liberal Democrat	5 seats	(7.58%)
Green	1 seat	(1.51%)
Independent	1 seat	(1.51%)

3.1.3 Applying the percentages in (3.1.2) above to the overall number of committee places (Members of the Cabinet are not included in those calculations) and based upon a total of **133** committee places, the three political groups, the Green Party member and the Independent member would be entitled to a **total** of committees places as shown below:

Labour	76.58 rounded up to	77
Conservative	42.32 rounded down to	42
Liberal Democrat	10.07 rounded down to	10
Green	2.01 rounded down to	2
Independent	2.01 rounded down to	2

3.1.4 The Labour Group will therefore lose two committee places and the Independent Member will be entitled to two committee places.

3.1.5 Applying the arithmetical entitlement to **individual** committees would result in the following allocations / adjustments:

Committee	Places	Lab	Con	L/Dem	Green	Ind
Audit and Risk Management	9	5	3	1		
Employment and Appointments	8	5	2	1		
Licensing Act 2003	15	~~10~~ **9**	4	1		**1**
Licensing, Health & Safety and General Purposes	9	5	3	1		
Pensions	10	6	3	0	1	
Planning	13	7	4	1	1	
Standards & Constitutional Oversight	9	5	3	1		
Overview & Scrutiny: Business	15	~~9~~ **8**	5	1		**1**
Overview & Scrutiny: Environment	15	9	5	1		
Overview & Scrutiny: Adult Social Care	15	9	5	1		
Overview & Scrutiny: Children and Families	15	9	5	1		
Total	**133**	**77**	**42**	**10**	**2**	**2**

3.1.6 For two committees an arithmetical adjustment has been made to enable the new Independent Member to have his entitlement of 2 committee places.

3.1.7 These adjustments are made with regard to the requirement for the Labour Group, as the majority group on the Council, to maintain an overall majority on each committee and for each group's entitlement to committee places to be in accordance with those figures set out in (3.1.3) above.

3.2 Appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs

3.2.1 Standing Order 5A (2) (e) provides for the Council to appoint Chairs and Vice-Chairs to individual committees.

3.1.3 Deputies

3.3.1 Standing Order 25(6) permits the Council to appoint up to a maximum of eight deputies for each political group on Committees.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There is a legal requirement for the Council to appoint its committees proportionately.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT; STAFFING AND ASSETS

6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There is a requirement under the Council's Constitution that the Annual Council meeting shall appoint Members to Committees.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION

8.1 It is for political groups to decide how they wish to allocate their committee places.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

Previous reports on the appointment of Committees and amendments made during the year and the Council's Constitution.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Council **Council** **Council** **Council**	**15 May 2018** **15 May 2017** **17 May 2016** **19 May 2015**