

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**12 MAY 2010****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES,
MEMBERSHIP OF FORUMS, PARTNERSHIPS, WORKING GROUPS,
OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF LEAD MEMBERS****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The Council is to consider and determine the allocation of seats on Committees and a Sub-Committee in accordance with the political balance rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, S15-17 (as amended) and receive nominations of Councillors to serve on each Committee and Sub-Committee for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix A).
- 1.2 The Council is requested to consider and determine the proposals of the political groups for the following :-
- (a) the positions of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees and the Sub-Committee for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix B);
 - (b) membership of Forums, Partnerships and Working Groups for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix C);
 - (c) membership to Outside Organisations for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix D);
 - (d) Lead Members for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix E).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **To approve the political balance percentages and number of seats allocated to each political group within each Committee and across the Committees as set out in the table at paragraph 3.4.**
- 2.2 **To approve the allocation of Councillors to each Committee and Sub-Committee as submitted by the Political Group Leaders for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix A).**
- 2.3 **To approve the proposals of the political groups for the positions of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees and for the Sub-Committee for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix B).**
- 2.4 **To approve the proposals of the political groups for membership of Forums, Partnerships and Working Groups for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix C).**
- 2.5 **To approve the proposals of the political groups for membership to Outside Organisations for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix D).**

- 2.6 To approve the proposals of the political groups to the positions of Lead Members for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2011 (Appendix E).
- 2.7 To note that political balance is not required for the Licensing or Standards Committees.
- 2.8 To note that in accordance with the political balance rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, S15-17 (as amended) political balance is to be achieved in total across all the Committees and within all individual Committees requiring political balance and to note also that political balance applies to Sub-Committees as required.

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989, Sections 15-17 (as amended) explains that the Council is required to allocate seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance of the Council. The Act also states that political balance is required not only across the Committees but also within each Committee and Sub-Committee.
- 3.2 Where political balance requirements apply, the Council may vary the requirements by resolution provided that no Member of the Council votes against the resolution.
- 3.3 The following table shows the number of Councillors in each political group, the percentage of representation required within the Council and the allocation of seats over the 6 Committees that require to be politically balanced :-

Group	No. of Councillors	Percentage	Allocation of Seats over 6 Committees
Conservative	20	71.43%	40.7151 = 41
Independent	5	17.86%	10.1802 = 10
Labour	3	10.71%	6.1047 = 6
Totals	28	100%	57 seats

- 3.4 The following table gives the Group Leaders' proposals and shows the political balance position given the percentages involved :-

2010/11	APP	CSA	DEV	O&S	PFA	REEA	TOTALS
Conservative	3	7	8	7	7	8	40
Independent	1	2	2	2	2	2	11
Labour	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Totals	5	10	11	10	10	11	57

- 3.5 Appendix A gives the proposed membership of Committees for 2010/11 in accordance with the table at 3.4 above as well as the membership of the Sub-Committee.
- 3.6 Although there is not balance across the Committees for the Conservatives (-1) and the Independents (+1), there is balance within Committees.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy or corporate implications in this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial or resource implications in this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 The legislation relating to political balance and associated interpretation is contained within this report.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no community safety implications in this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 The Council has an equal opportunities and diversity policy and Councillors have received training on equalities. Therefore when appointing Members to their roles, it is assumed that Group Leaders would take equalities issues into consideration.

9.0 RISKS

9.1 There are no risk implications in this report.

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no climate change implications in this report.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 There has been consultation with the Political Group Leaders.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 No wards are directly affected by this report.

Contact Officer:	Democratic Services Officer
Date:	12 May 2010
Appendices :	Appendix A - Membership of Committees 2010/11 Appendix B - Committee Chairman & Vice Chairman 2010/11 Appendix C - Membership of Forums, Partnerships & Working Groups 2010/11 Appendix D - Representatives on Outside Organisations 2010/11 Appendix E - Lead Members 2010/11
Background Papers:	Local Government & Housing Act 1989, S15-17 (as amended) X : Committees\Council \2010 11\SE-Committee Seats 2010 11