

REPORT TO COUNCIL

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Open | | | | |
| Lead Officer: Sam Winter E-mail: sam.winter@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616327 | | | Other Officers consulted: Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer | |
| Financial Implications NO | Policy/Personnel Implications NO | Statutory Implications YES | Equality Impact Assessment req'd NO | Risk Management Implications NO |

Date of Meeting : 29 October 2015

REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY

It is the duty of the Council to review annually the entitlement of political groups to seats on committees in line with the proportionality rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The rules allow adjustments to be made to make whole numbers of seats and, once the Council has determined how adjustments should be made, appointments are made to committees on that basis. Council is now required to review its proportionality following a Group Membership change from Labour to Independent.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That the proportionality be amended in accordance with the attached table and the appropriate membership sought.

2) That the proportionality of 9 Member Task Groups be amended to 7 Conservatives, 1 Labour and 1 Independent.

1 Background

The rules around proportionality are as set out below:

- (1) No political group can have all the places on a committee (the exception is the Cabinet).
- (2) A group having an overall majority on the Council is entitled to a majority of seats on each committee.
- (3) The aggregate number of seats across all committees is allocated in accordance with each group's entitlement.
- (4) The number of seats on each committee is allocated in accordance with each group's entitlement.

2 Group Change

Since the Annual Council meeting on 21 May 2015 where the proportionality was last considered. There has been a change to the membership with Councillor Moriarty leaving the Labour Group and joining the Independent Group.

The overall numbers per Groups are now 50 Conservatives, 9 Labour and 3 Independent.

3 Amended level of Seats Allocated

Council is invited to approve the amended table of proportionality attached. The overall allocation with a loss of 1 seat from the Labour Group from both Planning Committee and Licensing Committee which will be allocated to the Independent Group.

4 Task Group Proportionality

Annual Council also approved the proportionality for a 9 Member Task Group to be 7 Conservatives and 2 Labour. With the change in Group size, this now makes a 9 Member Task Group:7 Conservatives, 1 Labour and 1 Independent.

POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY - OCTOBER 2015

| | Total Membership | Conservative Group | Labour Group | Independent Group | Check Total |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Total No. of Members | 62 | 50 | 9 | 3 | 62 |
| Appointments Board | 9 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 9 |
| Planning Committee | 18 | 15 | 2 | 1 | 18 |
| Licensing Cttee | 15 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 15 |
| Licensing and Appeals Board | 15 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 15 |
| Standards Committee | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| R&P Scrutiny Panel | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| E&C Scrutiny Panel | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| R&D Scrutiny Panel | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| Cabinet Scrutiny Committee | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Total Seats | 109 | 88 | 16 | 5 | 109 |