

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

<b>Open</b>				
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Financial Implications NO	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications YES	Equality Impact Assessment req'd NO	Risk Management Implications NO

Date of Meeting : 21 September 2017

### 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 the By-Election in St Margaret's and St Nicholas Ward and 2 other Councillors have returned to the Conservative Group.

**RECOMMENDED: That proportionality be amended by the change of 2 seats reverting to the Conservative Group as follows:**

- **1 from the Labour Group on the Licensing & Appeals Board**
- **1 from the Independent Group on the Environment and Community Panel**

#### 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 Proportionality Change**

Following the by-election held in St Margaret's and St Nicholas Ward which has gone to Conservative, Councillor Michael Ward from Labour. Two Councillors have also returned to the Conservative Group which were previously unaffiliated. This has affected the overall figures.

## **3 Amended level of Seats Allocated**

To take into account the amended proportionality, Council is invited to approve the change which means the loss of a seat from the Labour Group which will be allocated to the Conservative Group from the Licensing & Appeals Board and the Independent Group Environment and Community Panel