

Appendix A - Proportionality Allocations

Changes since Last Political Balance Calculation

It is a legislative duty to review political balance if there have been changes to membership since the last calculation. Since political balance was calculated last, there have been the following changes.

- One of the three seats in the Desborough Ward is currently vacant;
- Cllr Cedwien Brown is now an independent member of the Council;
- Cllr Joseph Smyth is now an independent member of the Council.

This has had the effect of reducing the number of Conservative Group seats on the Council by 3.

Political Proportionality for the whole council of 78 members

This table sets out the current political makeup of the Council.

	Number of Members	Percentage
Conservative	53	67.94 %
Labour	16	20.51%
Green Alliance	5	6.41 %
Independents	3	3.85 %
Vacant Seats	1	1.28 %
TOTAL	78	100 %

Political Proportionality for the recognised groups

Only recognised groups (2 or more members) are entitled to seats on Committees. Independent members could be allocated if there was a unanimous vote of the Council. This table sets out the political makeup of the Council removing the independent members and the vacant seat.

Conservative	71.62 % (previously 72.73%)
Labour	21.62 % (previously 20.78%)
Green Alliance	6.76 % (previously 6.49%)
TOTAL	100 %

Seats available on Ordinary Committees

The Council has 82 seats available on Ordinary Committees which are Scrutiny Management Board (6), Corporate Scrutiny Committee (9), Health Scrutiny Committee (9), Place and Environment Scrutiny (9), Audit and Governance Committee (10), Democracy and Standards Committee (13), Employment Committee (13), Licensing and Appeals Committee (13)

The political proportionality for the Political Groups, as set out above, equate to the seats set out in the table below.

Area Committees are excluded from these Ordinary Committee calculations as it is a legislative requirement that they are based on local political proportionality.

Executive Committees/Advisory Panels are excluded from this calculation as appointments are an Executive function rather than a Council one.

	Allocated Seats
Conservative Group	58.73 seats (previously 59.64 seats) rounded up to 59 seats
Labour Group	17.73 seats (previously 17.04 seats) rounded up to 18 seats
Green Alliance Group	5.54 seats (previously 5.32 seats) rounded down to 5 seats
TOTAL	82

Seats available on Area Planning Committees

The Council has 13 seats available on Area Planning Committee North. As the currently vacant seat and the two seats now held by Independent Members sit in the geographical area of the Area Planning Committee North, a recalculation of local political proportionality is required, which is set out below:-

	Allocated Seats
Conservative	6.5 seats (previously 7.22 seats) rounded down to 6 seats.
Labour	4.95 seats (previously 4.33 seats) rounded up to 5 seats.
Green Alliance	1.55 seats (previously 1.44 seats) rounded up to 2 seats
TOTAL	13

There are no changes to Area Planning Committee South.

Recommendations

- a) That in order to maintain political balance on Ordinary Committees, on the Democracy and Standards Committee the Conservative Group membership reduce by one, with the Labour Group being awarded the vacant seat.

The membership of the Democracy and Standards Committee to read –

Conservative 9

Labour 3

Green Alliance 1

- b) That in order to maintain political balance on Area Planning Committees, on the Area Planning Committee North the Conservative Group membership reduce by one, with the Labour Group being awarded the vacant seat.

The membership of the Area Planning North Committee to read –

Conservative 6

Labour 5

Green Alliance 2