

Addendum 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:-

- The sad passing of Cllr Mike Tebbutt;
- Cllr Elliot Prentice joining the Labour Group;
- Cllrs Cedwien Brown (Group Leader), Jim Hakewill (Deputy Leader), Martin Griffiths and Joseph Smyth forming a new Independent Alliance Group on the Council.

This has had the effect of:-

- reducing the number of Conservative Group seats on the Council by four councillors;
- increasing the number of Labour seats by one councillor;
- reducing the number of Green Alliance seats by one councillor;
- Creating a new Independent Alliance Group with 4 councillor seats.

Political Proportionality for the whole council of 78 members and 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, noting there is currently one vacant seat subject to a by-election.

	Number of Members	Percentage
Conservative Group	52	66.67%
Labour Group	17	21.79%
Green Alliance Group	4	5.13%
Independent Alliance Group	4	5.13%
<i>Vacant Seats</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1.28 %</i>
TOTAL	78	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 total number of 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/Executive Advisory Panels are excluded from this calculation as appointments are an Executive function rather than a Council one.*

	Allocated Seats
Conservative Group	54.66 seats (previously 59.64 seats) rounded up to 55 seats
Labour Group	17.87 seats (previously 17.04 seats) rounded up to 18 seats
Green Alliance Group	4.21 seats (previously 5.32 seats) rounded down to 4 seats
Independent Alliance Group	4.21 seats rounded down to 4 seats
<i>[Vacant Seats]</i>	<i>[1.05 seats rounded down to 1 seat]</i>
TOTAL	82

Seats available on Area Planning Committees

The Council has 13 seats available on Area Planning Committee North and 13 seats available on Area Planning South. The entitlement for each committee is now as follows:-

Area Planning North

	Allocated Seats
Conservative	5.78 seats (previously 7.22 seats) rounded up to 6 seats.
Labour	4.91 seats (previously 4.33 seats) rounded up to 5 seats.
Green Alliance	1.15 seats (previously 1.44 seats) rounded down to 1 seat
Independent Alliance	0.87 seats rounded up to 1 seat
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>0.29 seats rounded down to 0 seats</i>
TOTAL	13

Area Planning South

	Allocated Seats
Conservative	13 seats (previously 13 seats)
Labour	0 seats (previously 0 seats)
Green Alliance	0 seats (previously 0 seats)
Independent Alliance	0 seats
TOTAL	13

Recommendations

- a) That in order to maintain political balance on Ordinary Committees, the revised distribution of seats across the political groups will be as follows:-

Standing Committees (subject to political balance)	Total seats	Conservative	Labour	Green Alliance	Independent Alliance	Vacant Seat
Scrutiny Management Board	6	4	1	0	0	1
Corporate Scrutiny	9	6	2	0	1	
Health Scrutiny	9	6	2	1	0	
Place & Environment Scrutiny	9	6	2	1	0	
Audit and Governance	10	7	2	0	1	
Democracy and Standards	13	9	3	1	0	
Employment	13	8	3	1	1	
Licensing and Appeals	13	9	3	0	1	
<i>Total Seat Entitlement</i>		<i>55</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>
Total Seats	82	55	18	4	4	1

- b) That in order to maintain political balance on Area Planning Committees, the revised distribution of seats across the political groups will be as follows:-

Area Planning Committees (local political balance is required)		Conservative	Labour	Green Alliance	Independent Alliance
Area Planning North	13 total	6	5	1	1
Area Planning South	13 total	13	0	0	0

- c) That changes in the leadership arrangements of the recognised political groups for the municipal year 2023/24 be noted as follows:-

- Deputy Leader of the Green Alliance Group – Councillor Charlie Best
- Leader of the Independent Alliance Group – Councillor Cedwien Brown

- Deputy Leader of the Independent Alliance Group – Councillor Jim Hakewill
- d) In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, it be noted that any changes to places on committees arising from the new political balance will be made by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the leaders of the political groups represented on the Council.