

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COUNCIL

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: TUESDAY 10 JULY 2018
title: REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/2019
ARISING FROM THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLORS FROM THE
CONSERVATIVE GROUP
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: OLWEN HEAP

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To revise the Council's current committee arrangements following a review of the political balance calculation.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's objectives and priorities –
 - Council's Objectives – whilst the Council's committee arrangements do not contribute directly to the achievement of the Council's objectives, they set the framework for the Council's decision making processes.
 - Other considerations – the Council decided under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, after consultation with the electorate, to retain its committee arrangements rather than opt for an executive form of governance. This decision has been reconsidered and confirmed by the Policy & Finance committee.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The basis of the Council's present committee structure was approved by the Policy and Finance Committee at its meeting on 3 April 2008.
- 2.2 The number of seats on each committee and the allocation of these seats is calculated in accordance with the political balance provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 2.3 The Council also determines the allocation of Committee seats to the Labour councillor, who as one member does not constitute a political group.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Three members of the Council have resigned from the Conservative group and have set up their own political group called the Democratic Conservatives. This means that the overall political balance of the Council has changed and must therefore be recalculated to take this into account.
- 3.2 The recalculation of seats is attached at Appendix A
- 3.3 The new membership on committees following the recalculation is attached at Appendix B

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:-
 - Resources – the estimated costs of administering the committee arrangements in 2018/2019 are included in the approved budget for 2018/2019.
 - Technical, Environment and Legal – none.
 - Political – none.

- Reputation – none.

4 **RECOMMENDED THAT THE COUNCIL**

- 4.1 approves the allocation of committee seats and confirms the appointment of members to committees as set out in Appendices A and B

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1 Agenda for Annual Meeting of Council 10 May 2018

For further information please ask for Olwen Heap on extension 4408.

COUNCIL100718/OMH

POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES 2018/2019 - JUNE**MATHEMATICAL CALCULATION**

1. The political balance of Council is:	Conservatives	32
	Liberal Democrats	4
	Democratic Conservatives	3
	Labour	1
		<u>40</u>

2. The total number of committee seats:

Community Services	15
Planning & Development	15
Licensing	15
Health & Housing	15
Economic Development	15
Personnel	9
Policy & Finance	15
Accounts & Audit	11
	110

3. Seats per member is $110 \div 40 = 2.75$

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF SEATS PER GROUP :

Conservatives	$32 \times 2.75 = 88$
Liberal Democrats	$4 \times 2.75 = 11$
Democratic Conservatives	$3 \times 2.75 = 8$ (8.25)
Remaining seats (110 - 107)	= 3 must be allocated to the Labour councillor

5. ALLOCATION OF SEATS PER COMMITTEE:

<u>Community Services</u>	($15 \div 40 = 0.375$)	
Conservatives	$32 \times 0.375 = 12$	= 12
Liberal Democrats	$4 \times 0.375 = 1.52$	= 2
Democratic Conservatives	$3 \times 0.375 = 1.125$	= 1
Others	$15 - (12+2+1)$	= 0
<u>Planning & Development</u>	($15 \div 40 = 0.375$)	
Conservatives	$32 \times 0.375 = 12$	= 12
Liberal Democrats	$4 \times 0.375 = 1.52$	= 2
Democratic Conservatives	$3 \times 0.375 = 1.125$	= 1
Others	$15 - (12+2+1)$	= 0
<u>Licensing</u>	($15 \div 40 = 0.375$)	
Conservatives	$32 \times 0.375 = 12$	= 12
Liberal Democrats	$4 \times 0.375 = 1.52$	= 2
Democratic Conservatives	$3 \times 0.375 = 1.125$	= 1
Others	$15 - (12+2+1)$	= 0

<u>Health & Housing</u>	(15÷40 = 0.375)		
Conservatives	32 x 0.375 = 12	= 12	
Liberal Democrats	4 x 0.375 = 1.52	= 2	
Democratic Conservatives	3 x 0.375 = 1.125	= 1	
Others	15 – (12+2+1)	= 0	

<u>Economic Development</u>	(15÷40 = 0.375)		
Conservatives	32 x 0.375 = 12	= 12	
Liberal Democrats	4 x 0.375 = 1.52	= 2	
Democratic Conservatives	3 x 0.375 = 1.125	= 1	
Others	15 – (12+2+1)	= 0	

<u>Personnel</u>	(9÷40 = 0.225)		
Conservatives	32 x 0.225 = 8.05	= 7	
Liberal Democrats	4 x 0.225 = 0.92	= 1	
Democratic Conservatives	3 x 0.225 = 0.675	= 1	
Others	9 – (7+1+ 1)	= 0	

<u>Policy & Finance</u>	(15÷40 = 0.375)		
Conservatives	32 x 0.375 = 12	= 12	
Liberal Democrats	4 x 0.375 = 1.52	= 2	
Democratic Conservatives	3 x 0.375 = 1.125	= 1	
Others	15 – (12+2+1)	= 0	

<u>Accounts & Audit Committee</u>	(11÷40 = 0.275)		
Conservatives	32 x 0.275 = 8.8	= 9	
Liberal Democrats	4 x 0.275 = 1.12	= 1	
Democratic Conservatives	3 x 0.275 = 0.825	= 1	
Others	11 – (9+1+1)	= 0	

6. Summary

	<u>Cons</u>	<u>L. Dems</u>	<u>Dem Cons</u>	<u>Labour</u>	
Community Services	12	2	1	0	
Planning & Development	12	2	1	0	
Licensing	12	2	1	0	
Health & Housing	12	2	1	0	
Economic Development	12	2	1	0	
Personnel	7	1	1	0	
Policy & Finance	12	2	1	0	
Accounts & Audit	9	1	1	0	
TOTAL	88	14	8	0	= 110

7. The totals of committee seats need to be adjusted to bring the totals in line with the overall allocation of seats ie. Conservatives **88**, Liberal Democrats **11**, Democratic Conservatives **8** and Labour **3 = 110**.

8. Therefore the adjustments to the overall allocation of seats are as follows :-

COMMITTEE	CONS	L DEMS	DEM CONS	LABOUR
Community Services	12	2	1	0
Planning & Dev	12	2	1	0
Licensing	12	2 (-1)	1	1 (+1)
Health & Housing	12	2 (-1)	1	1 (+1)
Economic Dev	12	2 (-1)	1	1 (+1)
Personnel	7	1	1	0
Policy & Finance	12	2	1	0
Accounts & Audit	9	1	1	0
TOTALS	88	11 (-3)	8	3 (+3) = 110

JUNE 2018

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
COMMUNITY SERVICES (15)				
	(12 seats)	(2 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	S Hore	M Robinson	R Thompson	
Vice Chairman:	R Newmark	S Knox		
	J Alcock			
	A Brown			
	R Hargreaves			
	S Hind			
	S Hirst			
	J Holgate			
	I Sayers			
	G Scott			
	N Walsh			
	J White			
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT (15)				
	(12 seats)	(2 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	A Brown	M French	P Elms	
Vice Chairman:	R Sherras	S Knox		
	N Walsh			
	G Geldard			
	I Brown			
	P Dowson			
	S Hind			
	S Brunskill			
	J Rogerson			
	S Atkinson			
	R Swarbrick			
	R Bennett			
HEALTH & HOUSING (15)				
	(12 seats)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)
Chairman:	B Hilton	M Robinson	R Thompson	M Fenton
Vice Chairman:	S Brunskill			
	J White			
	D Smith			
	P Dobson			
	R Elms			
	L Graves			
	R Hargreaves			
	K Hind			
	R Newmark			
	R Sherras			
	S Bibby			

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
PERSONNEL (9)				
	(7 seats)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	R Elms	A Knox	T Hill	
Vice Chairman:	I Brown			
	P Dobson			
	P Ainsworth			
	J White			
	S Hore			
	D Taylor			
LICENSING (15)				
	(12 seats)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)
Chairman:	J Alcock	A Knox	T Hill	M Fenton
Vice Chairman:	N Walsh			
	G Geldard			
	A Brown			
	R Hargreaves			
	K Hind			
	S Hind			
	L Graves			
	G Scott			
	S Hore			
	G Mirfin			
	S Brunskill			
POLICY & FINANCE (15)				
	(12 seats)	(2 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	K Hind	A Knox	T Hill	
Vice Chairman:	S Atkinson	M French		
	A Brown			
	J Alcock			
	R Swarbrick			
	S Bibby			
	R Bennett			
	G Mirfin			
	J Rogerson			
	I Sayers			
	D Smith			
	S Hirst			

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
ACCOUNTS & AUDIT (11)				
	(9 seats)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	S Hirst	A Knox	R Thompson	
Vice Chairman:	G Mirfin			
	R Newmark			
	L Graves			
	P Dowson			
	B Hilton			
	P Ainsworth			
	R Sherras			
	J Alcock			
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (15)				
	(12 seats)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)	(1 seat)
Chairman:	R Swarbrick	M French	P Elms	M Fenton
Vice Chairman:	J Rogerson			
	S Bibby			
	K Hind			
	D Taylor			
	S Atkinson			
	P Dowson			
	I Sayers			
	R Elms			
	I Brown			
	S Hirst			
	J Holgate			
PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON (11 + 2)				
	(12 seats)	(2 seats)		
Chairman:	P Ainsworth	S Knox		
Vice Chairman:	P Dobson	M Robinson		
	P Dowson			
	L Graves			
	B Hilton			
	R Swarbrick			
	G Scott			
	R Sherras			
	D Smith			
	D Taylor			
	J Holgate			