



<u>Committee and date</u> Council 25 February 2016 10.00 a.m.
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<u>Item No</u> 15

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Responsible Officer Claire Porter

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1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report concerns the effect of the recent by-election for the Oswestry South Electoral Division.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council confirms the revised allocation of seats to each of the political groups and the change which is consequential on the result of the by-election.

REPORT

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 require the Council to review the representation of each political group on committees, panels, etc. at each annual meeting or as soon as practicable after group numbers change. The regulations require that all Scrutiny, Standing and Regulatory Committees are politically balanced across the total number of committee places. Subject to that overriding requirement, each committee must also be politically balanced, as far as is reasonably practicable.
- 3.2 The Executive (Cabinet) is not subject to the political balance rules.
- 3.3 Advisory Committees and other ad-hoc bodies and groups are not subject to the political balance rules either, but traditionally political proportionality has been applied to them outside the overall aggregate balance referred to above.

4.0 Allocation of Seats

- 4.1 The Council is required to approve the allocation of seats to the political groups for the remainder of the municipal year. In accordance with the Political Balance Rules, the maximum number of seats available to each of the groups will be:

Conservatives	55 seats
Liberal Democrats	16 seats
Labour	12 seats
Independents	5 seats
Non aligned UKIP	1 seat
Non aligned Green	1 seat
Total	90 seats

- 4.2 The effect of the Oswestry South by-election is that the Conservative Group must relinquish one seat to the newly elected unaligned Green Party Member. The seat to be relinquished is from the Strategic Licensing Committee and Mr D Kerr will replace Mr S Davenport.
- 4.3 The change to the political balance does not affect the North Planning Committee. Neither does it affect the Council's entitlement to seats on the Shropshire and Wrekin Combined Fire Authority or the West Mercia Police Authority.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Regulations made thereunder.

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The contents of this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998

Environmental Appraisal

Not Applicable

Risk Management Appraisal

The Council is obliged to ensure that the membership of committees and related bodies is proportionate to individual group membership.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Not Applicable

Cabinet Member

Malcolm Pate

Local Member

All

Appendices