

<b>ANNUAL COUNCIL</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No.13 (b)</b>
<b>17 OCTOBER 2018</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Fiona McMillan, Interim Director of Law and Governance	
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## **POLITICAL BALANCE CALCULATION AND APPOINTMENT**

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
<b>FROM:</b> Interim Director of Law and Governance	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agrees the updated allocation of seats on those council committees subject to political balance arrangements (<b>Appendix 1</b>).</li> </ol>	

### **1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the impact on the political balance of the Council, following the election of Councillor Gavin Elsey on 2 August 2018.

### **2. IMPACT ON THE POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY FOLLOWING BY ELECTION**

- 2.1 On the 2 August 2018 Councillor Gavin Elsey was elected to the Council following a By Election in Orton Longueville. This increased the total number of Elected Members from 59 to 60. The number of Conservative Members increased from 30 to 31.
- 2.2 The political proportionality was therefore recalculated to include this additional seat and there were no changes to the proportionality on any of the Councils committees. The new political proportionality calculation can be found at **Appendix 1**.

### **3. POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY CALCULATION**

- 3.1 Council agreed at its Annual Meeting held on 21 May 2018 the total number of seats on each committee as listed below:

Committee	Seats
Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	11
Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	11
Health Scrutiny Committee	11
Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	11
Employment Committee	7
Licensing Committee (Regulatory)	11

Planning and Environmental Protection Committee	11
Appeals and Planning Review Committee	11
Corporate Parenting Committee	11
Audit Committee	7
Constitution and Ethics Committee	7
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF SEATS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>109</b>

3.2 Council must decide how many seats each group is to have on its committees. In accordance with the legislation, the following principles should apply to the allocation of seats as far as reasonably practicable:

- (a) That not all the seats on the body to which appointments are being made are allocated to the same political group;
- (b) That the majority of the seats on each committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership;
- (c) Subject to (a) and (b) above, when allocating seats to a political group, the total number of their seats across all the ordinary committees of the Council, must reflect their proportion of the authority's membership; and
- (d) Subject to (a) to (c) above, that the number of seats on each committee is as far as possible in proportion to the group's membership of the authority.

3.3 The political balance of the Council can be calculated by using the following formula.

$$\frac{\text{No of Members in (x) Group} \times 100}{55 \text{ (Total No. of Members in all Groups)}}$$

3.4 Following the election of Councillor Elsey the political balance of the Council is as follows:

Table 1.

Group	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Werrington First	Total
Councillors (in Groups)	31	14	7	3	55
Proportionality %	56.36	25.45	12.73	5.45	99.99

3.5 The calculation to determine the strict entitlement of political groups to seats on committees is:

$$\frac{\% \text{ from table 1}}{100} \times \frac{\text{Total No of seats available (109)}}{100}$$

#### **4. APPLYING THE RULES**

4.1 The allocation of seats between political groups for each committee is set out in **Appendix 1** based on a total of 109 seats.

There is no impact on appointments to other Authorities or committees exempt from political balance requirements.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS**

##### **Financial Implications**

5.1 There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

##### **Legal Implications**

5.2 All the relevant legal implications are addressed within the report.

##### **Equalities Implications**

5.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

6.1 Peterborough City Council's Constitution.

#### **7. APPENDICES**

7.1 **Appendix 1** – Updated allocations of seats on committees subject to political balance

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