

26 June 2008

1. **Allocation of Seats to Political Groups under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989**
2. **Appointments to Outside Bodies**



Report of Lesley Davies, Acting Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To consider an adjustment to the allocation among the political groups represented on the Council of seats on Committees in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the allocation of seats to each political group for the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority.

Background

- 2 At its Annual meeting on 23 May, the Council determined the total allocation of seats to each political group and individual.
- 3 Since the Annual Meeting, a number of Members have changed their alignment to the various groups, which has changed the Council's political composition and therefore requires an adjustment to the total allocation of seats on Committees in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 4 The Council also determined the allocation of seats to each political group for those joint bodies which require political proportionality.
- 5 The change in alignment and consequent impact on political composition also necessitates a review of the allocation of seats on the Fire and Rescue Authority. The proportionality allocation amongst the Council's Groups is now as follows:-

Labour	Lib Dem	Durham Independent Group	DCC Independent Group	Conservative
11 (11.33)	4 (4.5)	3 (2.83)	1 (0.66)	2 (1.66)

Recommendations

- 6 (i) That, in respect of the total number of seats on the Council's Committees, the Council determines the total allocation of seats to each political group and, subject to any necessary adjustments arising from that determination, agrees the indicative allocation of seats on each Committee as shown in

Appendix 1. (N.B. for reference purposes, the allocation previously agreed by the Council is set out in Appendix 2);

- (ii) That I be authorised, in consultation with the relevant Group Leader, to determine the adjustments to be made to individual Committee allocations in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and,
- (iii) That the Council agrees the revised allocation of seats on the Fire Authority as set out in paragraph 5 above.

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Committee	Seats	Labour		Lib Dems		Durham Independent Group		Conservatives		Durham County Council Independent Group	
		68		27		17		10		4	
		53.97%		21.43%		13.49%		7.94%		3.17%	
Overview & Scrutiny Mgt Cttee	26	14	14.03	6	5.57	4	3.51	2	2.06	1	0.83
Corporate Mgt Issues Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.79	4	4.29	3	2.70	2	1.59	1	0.63
Communities Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.79	4	4.29	3	2.70	2	1.59	1	0.63
Economy Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.79	4	4.29	3	2.70	2	1.59	1	0.63
Environment Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.79	4	4.29	3	2.70	2	1.59	1	0.63
Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.79	4	4.29	3	2.70	2	1.59	1	0.63
Health Scrutiny Cttee	15	8	8.10	3	3.21	2	2.02	1	1.19	0	0.48
Appeals & Complaints Cttee	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27
Highways	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27
Human Resources	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27
Licensing & Registration & GP	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27
Planning	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27
Pension Fund Cttee	11	6	5.94	2	2.36	1	1.48	1	0.87	0	0.35
Chief Officer Appointments	11	6	5.94	2	2.36	1	1.48	1	0.87	0	0.35
Audit	5	3	2.70	1	1.07	1	0.67	0	0.40	0	0.16
TOTAL	368	202	198.61	79	78.87	49	49.66	30	29.19	11	11.67
Standards	12	6	6.48	3	2.57	2	1.62	1	0.95	1	0.38
Corporate Parenting Panel	40	22	21.59	9	8.57	5	5.40	3	3.17	1	1.27

Committee	Seats	Labour		Lib Dems		Independents Group 1		Conservatives		Independents Group 2		Independent	
		67		27		15		10		6		1	
		53.17%		21.43%		11.90%		7.94%		4.77%		0.79%	
Overview & Scrutiny MGt Cttee	26	14	13.83	6	5.57	3	3.10	2	2.06	1	1.24		
Corporate Mgt Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.63	4	4.29	2	2.38	2	1.59	1	0.95		
Communities Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.63	4	4.29	2	2.38	2	1.59	1	0.95		
Economy Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.63	4	4.29	2	2.38	2	1.59	1	0.95		
Environment Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.63	4	4.29	2	2.38	2	1.59	1	0.95		
Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Cttee	20	11	10.63	4	4.29	2	2.38	2	1.59	1	0.95		
Health Scrutiny Cttee	15	8	7.98	3	3.21	2	1.79	1	1.19	1	0.71		
Appeals & Complaints Cttee	40	21	21.27	9	8.57	5	4.76	3	3.17	2	1.90		
Highways	40	21	21.27	9	8.57	5	4.76	3	3.17	2	1.90		
Human Resources	40	21	21.27	9	8.57	5	4.76	3	3.17	2	1.90		
Licensing & Registration & GP	40	21	21.27	9	8.57	5	4.76	3	3.17	2	1.90		
Planning	40	21	21.27	9	8.57	5	4.76	3	3.17	2	1.90		
Pension Fund Cttee	11	6	5.85	2	2.36	1	1.31	1	0.87	1	0.52		
Chief Officer Appointments	11	6	5.85	2	2.36	1	1.31	1	0.87	1	0.52		
Audit	5	3	2.66	1	1.07	1	0.60	0	0.40	0	0.24		
TOTAL	368	197	195.67	79	78.87	43	43.81	30	29.19	19	17.48	3	2.92
Seats agreed by County Council on 23 May 2008		196		79		44		29		18		2	
Standards	12	6	6.38	3	2.57	1	1.43	1	0.95	1	0.57		