

Appendices:
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NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

21st May 2015

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Chief Executive's

Report Title	Committee Proportionality
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1. Purpose

1.1 This report seeks Council's approval of the number and Group proportionality of seats on each Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Council approves the number of seats on each Committee as set out in the report.

2.2 That the representation of the political groups be as set out in this report

2.3 That the number of Committee places on Planning be increased by one, from 11 to 12, and that the Borough Secretary be authorised to amend the Constitution to reflect the change.

3. Issues and Choices

3. Report Background

3.1 The current composition of the Groups is 26 Conservative Members, 17 Labour, and 2 Liberal Democrats.

3.2. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and its associated regulations, requires the Council, at its annual meeting, or as soon as practicable afterwards following any changes to its political makeup, to review the representation of political groups and determine the allocation of seats (ie proportionality). The rights of the various political groups are specified in relevant regulations.

3.3. The following principles need to be applied in allocating Committee places:

- 3.3.1. That not all seats on any Committee or Sub – Committee are allocated to the same political group
- 3.3.2. that the majority of seats on all Committees and Sub- Committees are allocated to the political group that has a majority of the Council’s membership or as otherwise reflects the make-up of the Council;
- 3.3.3. that subject to 3.3.1. and 3.3.2 above, the number of seats for all main Committees which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the main Committees as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council; and
- 3.3.4. subject to 3.3.3 the numbers of seats on the individual Committees and Sub Committees allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of seats of that Committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to their membership of the Council.

3.4 There are 69 allocated Committee places which divides as 40 Conservative, 26 Labour and 3 Liberal Democrats.

3.4.1 The allocation of seats between the Committees is as follows:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Lib Dem</u>	<u>Total</u>
Audit	4	3	0	7
O&S	9	5	1	15
Planning	7	4	1	12
Licensing	6	4	1	11
Appointments and Appeals	4	2	0	6
General Purposes	5	4	0	9
Standards	5	4	0	9
Totals	40	26	3	69

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 n/a

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 None

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 The Council has legal obligations under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and its associated regulations, to review the representation of political groups and determine the allocations of seats.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 None

4.5 Other Implications

4.5.1 None

5. Background Papers

5.1 None

Emma Powley
Democratic Services Officer
0300 330 7000