

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of Council on 9th October 2024

Proportionality and Appointments to Committees and Advisory Groups

Report of the Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Report By	Jim Fieldsend, Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

To report to Council changes to the allocation of Committee seats following a change in the political makeup of the Council.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 At the end of August 2024, one Councillor changed political parties.
- 1.2 The political makeup on the Council is now: Labour – 31 Councillors, Conservative – 2 Councillors, Reform – 1 Councillor, and three independent Councillors.
- 1.3 This report therefore brings forward the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance rules.
- 1.4 Committees are subject to the political balance requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Any Advisory Groups are not subject to the political balance requirements.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 **Appendix 1** to the report sets out the allocation of committee seats which best meets the requirements of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as far as is reasonably practicable.
- 2.2 **Appendix 2** sets out the current appointments/vacancies to committees.
- 2.3 Whilst there has been a change to the numbers in political groups of the Council, the current committee allocation still best meets the legal requirements. Therefore, no change is recommended.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The report recommends no change to the allocation of Committee seats detailed in **Appendix 1** as it still currently best meets the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act a far as reasonably practicable.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 Members may consider that they wish to change the allocation, but this is not advised because the current allocation best meets the political balance requirements.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the proportionality of committee places as set out in Appendix 1 and the continuation of the current committee places allocation as set out in Appendix 2 be noted.

Approved by Councillor Duncan McGregor, Deputy Leader & Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details: There are no finance or risk implications arising from this report.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details: The Council is required to decide the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Environment: Yes No

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details: Environmental implications are not applicable for this report.

Staffing: Yes No

Details: There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i></p>	No

<p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p>	None
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Details:

<p>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment and Housing</p>

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Appendix No	Title
1	Proportionality of the Council
2	Current Appointments to Committees

<p>Background Papers</p>
<p><i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i></p>
<p>None</p>