



**Decision maker:** City Council - 20 January 2015

**Subject:** Review of Political Proportionality on Committees and Panels

**Report by:** Chief Executive

**Wards affected:** N/A

**Key decision (over £250k):** No

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**1. Purpose of report**

Following the recent change in Group Strengths on the Council there is a consequent need under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to review the allocation of committee seats to the political groups and non-aligned members.

**2. Recommendations**

**2.1 That Council**

- (a) **determine the allocation of seats on committees and Panels based on the information set out below and having regard to any agreements that may be achieved prior to the meeting, and**
- (b) **ratify consequent named membership changes proposed by the relevant Group Leader at the meeting.**

**3. Supporting background Information and implications**

Set out below are the implications of the change in Group strengths on the Council. The figures in brackets indicate the original position where this is different to the revised position. The committees and panels are required to be politically proportional in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

**Political Group proportionality table (on the basis of one former UKIP Member becoming non-aligned/independent)**

Members	Party	Licensing Committee	Planning Committee	Scrutiny (5) & Regulatory (2)	SMP	Total seats	+/- (from current 2014/15 appointments)
		15	10	42	9	76	
19	LD	7	4	19	4	34	
12	Con	4	3	12	3	22	
4	Lab	1	1	4	1	7	
(6) 5	UKIP	(2) 1	2	(6) 5	1	(11) 9	Minus 2 seats
1	Non-aligned ind (cllr Scott)	1	0	1	0	2	
1	Ind Non aligned (Cllr Godier)	(0) 1	0	(0) 1	0	2	Plus 2 seats

15 members	Licensing Committee
10 members	Planning Committee
*7 x 6 member Committee/panels	Employment Committee / Governance & Audit & Standards Committee / Health Overview Scrutiny Panel / EYCP Scrutiny / EDCL Scrutiny / TECS Scrutiny / HSC Scrutiny. (see table below)
9 members	Scrutiny Management Panel

**Committee membership changes**

The consequence of Councillor Godier's decision is that the UKIP Group lose two seats to Councillor Godier as a non-aligned independent member - one seat on a scrutiny panel/GAS Committee which has the greatest arithmetical justification - Councillor Godier is currently a member of the Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel and one seat on the Licensing Committee, which has the second greatest arithmetical justification

No other Group on the Council is affected by this change.

## Panels & Committees

The current appointment numbers on these bodies is detailed below; The bracketed figure shows what the number would be if a non-aligned/Independent Member was placed on a particular Body

	LD	Con	Lab	UKIP	N/A IND (clr. Scott).	Ind/NA (clr Godier)
Economic Development, Culture and Leisure Scrutiny (EDCL)	3	2		1/ (0)		0/1
Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny (ECYP)	3	1	1	1/ (0)		0/1
Health Overview Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny (HOSP)	2	2	1	1/ (0)		0/1
Housing and Social Care Scrutiny (HSC)	3	2		1/ (0)		0/1
Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel (TECS)	3	2		1/ (0)		0/1
Employment Committee	3	2	1			n/a
Governance & Audit & Standards Committee	2	1	1	1/ (0)	1	0/1
<b>Group sub-total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 (6)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 (0)</b>
Licensing Committee (15)	7	4	1	1(2)	1	1
<b>Totals (excl. Planning &amp; SMP)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6(8)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2 (0)</b>

These changes are on the basis that the total membership on each of these bodies remains at 6

4. **Legal Implications** - legal comments are embodied in the report

5. **Finance Comments** - none in relation to this report