

Agenda item: 

**Title of meeting:** City Council

**Date of meeting:** 11 July 2017

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

**Report by:** Chief Executive

**Wards affected:** N/A

**Key decision:** No

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## **1. Purpose of report**

With the recent change in Group Strengths on the Council through the constitution of a new Group "The Independent Group", comprising Councillor Godier as leader of the Group (having previously been Independent but not in an Group) and Councillor Bird as deputy leader, having been a Member of the UKIP Group on the Council, there is a consequent need under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to review the allocation of committee seats.

## **2. Recommendations**

### **2.1 That Council**

- (a) Determine the allocation of seats on committees and Panels based on the information set out below, including the expressed views of the Groups affected, and**
- (b) Ratify consequent named membership changes proposed at the meeting.**
- (c) Determine the Chair of the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel vacated by Councillor Potter (to be drawn from the Panel's membership)**

### **3. Background Information and implications**

As a result of these changes, the Group Strengths and consequent seats on committees are as shown in the table overleaf (the figures in brackets indicate the position prior to the change)

#### **Impact on Committee/Panel Places**

As shown in the table, the UKIP Group's overall allocation decreases by one and the Independent Group's allocation becomes 3 (one seat from UKIP and the two seats from the previous allocation to Councillor Godier when he was a non-aligned member) .

The impact for the three, two member Groups on the Council following these changes are as set out below -

UKIP Group (4 seats) = Councillor Galloway retains membership of Licensing Committee, Planning Committee, Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel and Scrutiny Management Panel. (Note Councillor Potter has resigned from Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel so that seat is to be reallocated (see below).

Labour Group (4 seats) = Councillor Morgan retains membership on the Licensing Committee and Scrutiny Management Panel; Councillor Chowdhury retains membership on Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Economic Development Culture and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

Independent Group (3 seats) = Councillor Godier retains membership of Licensing Committee and Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel and the Group gains a seat on the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to be taken by Councillor Godier. The Group members will also be able to take up whichever Portfolio spokesperson roles they wish.

The Group Leaders of the above three Groups have all confirmed that they are content with the above allocation of these seats.

Consequently the total number of seats be divided as follows \* (subject to inserting the updated changes once approved).

<b>Groups</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>No of Cllrs</b>	<b>Total No of Committee Seats</b>	<b>Licensing Committee (15 Members)</b>	<b>Planning Committee (10 Members)</b>	<b>7 committees and panels (see note) (6 Members each)</b>	<b>Scrutiny Management Panel (9 Members)</b>
<b>Conservative</b>	20	36	7	5	20	4
<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	15	27	5	4	15	3
<b>UKIP</b>	(3) 2	(5)4	1	1	(2)1	1
<b>Labour</b>	2	4	1	0	2	1
<b>Independent Group</b>	(0) 2	(0)3	(0) 1	0	(0)2	0
<b>Non-Aligned Independents</b>	(2) 1	(4) 2	(1) 0	0	(3)2	0
	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>9</b>

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.
9 members	Scrutiny Management Panel

4. **Legal Implications** - legal comments are embodied in the report
5. **Finance Comments** - none in relation to this report

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Signed by:

**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by ..... on .....

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Signed by: