

## **COUNCIL - MONDAY, 22 MAY 2023**

### **Report of the Chief Executive**

#### **Part A**

#### POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES FOR 2023/24

##### Purpose of Report

1. To consider the political balance of the Council's committees for 2023/24 in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
2. To consider appointments to committees (including Chairs and Vice-chairs where applicable) for 2023/24 in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
3. To consider other appointments as required.

##### Recommendations

1. That the political balance arrangements for the Council year 2023/24, as set out in the appendix to this report, be approved in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
2. That appointments be made to the Council's committees, including to the positions of Chair and Vice-chair where applicable, for the Council year 2023/24.
3. That the membership of the Loughborough Area Committee be noted.
4. That appointments of a representative on the Police and Crime Panel and a substitute be made for the Council year 2023/24.
5. That 3 councillors be appointed to the Housing Management Advisory Board on the basis of political balance (1 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Green).

##### Reasons

1. To ensure that the composition of the Council's committees reflects the political balance of the Council.
2. To reflect the wishes of political groups and make allocations to non-grouped councillors in making appointments to committees in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

3. To provide information regarding the membership of the Loughborough Area Committee.
4. To ensure that the Borough Council is represented on the Panel.
5. To make appointments to the Board for 2023/24.

### Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Each year the Council has to formally set the political balance arrangements, which will be used to allocate seats on the Council's committees, in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

Appointments made to the Licensing Committee do not have to be on the basis of political balance but by convention this method is used to allocate seats.

Membership of the Loughborough Area Committee comprises the councillors who represent the Loughborough wards.

In making appointments to committees, Council also appoints the Chair and Vice-chair(s) except in the case of the Chair and Vice-chair of the Audit Committee, the Independent Chair being appointed by a separate process and the Vice-chair being appointed by the Audit Committee, and the Loughborough Area Committee, which appoints its own Chair and Vice-chair.

On 17th September 2012, the Council approved Charnwood's participation in the Joint Police and Crime Panel for the Leicestershire Police Area (Council Minute 31.1 2012/13 refers). Appointments to the Panel are a matter for Council, as the Panel operates as a joint committee of the relevant authorities within the Police area.

The Housing Management Advisory Board was established to promote tenant and leaseholder engagement in decisions relating to the Council's housing stock. The composition of the Board includes 3 Borough Councillor members appointed on the basis of political balance of 1 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Green. Nominations have been sought from both groups accordingly.

### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

The number of seats for each political group and for ungrouped councillors for both the overall entitlement and the entitlement for individual committees for the 2023/24 Council year are attached as an appendix.

Political groups will confirm their nominations for each of the committees. These nominations, along with nominations for Chairs and Vice-chairs (where appropriate) and appointments for non-grouped councillors will be circulated.

## Report Implications

### **Financial Implications**

None.

### **Risk Management**

*There are no specific risks associated with this decision'*

### **Equality and Diversity**

*None identified.*

### **Climate Change and Carbon Impact**

*None identified.*

### **Crime and Disorder**

*None identified.*

### **Wards Affected**

All Wards.

### **Publicity Arrangements**

*Not applicable.*

### **Consultations**

*No applicable.*

### **Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Caring for the Environment	Yes
Healthy Communities	Yes
A Thriving Economy	Yes
Your Council	Yes

Key Decision: No

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## Appendix

Political Balance Arrangements and Allocation of Seats - Local Government and Housing Act 1989

**Political Balance Arrangements and Allocation of Seats  
Local Government and Housing Act 1989**

Membership of the Council

	Number	%
Conservative	23	44.23
Labour	20	38.46
Green	8	15.38
Others	1	1.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

Total Allocation of Seats on Committees

Total	Share		Allocation
Conservative	23.88	rounds to	24
Labour	20.77	rounds to	21
Green	8.31	rounds to	8
Others	1.04	rounds to	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>		<b>54</b>

The Cabinet, Licensing Committee and Loughborough Area Committee do not need to be politically balanced and are not included in the above calculation.

## Allocation of Seats on Individual Committees

### Scrutiny Commission (7 Seats)

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Conservative	3
Labour	3
Green	1
Others	0

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Total	7
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### Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee (9 Seats)

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Conservative	4
Labour	3
Green	1
Others	1

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Total	9
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### Appeals and Reviews Committee (5 Seats)

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Conservative	2
Labour	2
Green	1
Others	0

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Total	5
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### Audit Committee (6 Seats + Independent Chair)

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Conservative	3
Labour	2
Green	1
Others	0

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Total	6
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### Member Conduct Committee (7 Seats)

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Conservative	3
Labour	3
Green	1
Others	0

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Total	7
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Personnel Committee (7 Seats)

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Conservative	3
Labour	3
Green	1
Others	0

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Total	7
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Plans Committee (13 Seats)

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Conservative	6
Labour	5
Green	2
Others	0

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Total	13
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Summary of Allocation of Seats on Committees

	Scrutiny Commission	Finance & Performance Scrutiny Ctee	Appeals and Reviews Committee	Audit Committee	Member Conduct Committee	Personnel Committee	Plans Committee	Total
Conservative	3	4	2	3	3	3	6	<b>24</b>
Labour	3	3	2	2	3	3	5	<b>21</b>
Green	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	<b>8</b>
Others	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>54</b>