

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report To: Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 7 December 2011
Subject: Membership of Committees
Report Of: The City Solicitor

Purpose of Report

To report on the political balance of the Council and to present proposals for the allocation of seats to committees in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15-17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and to deal with the appointment of Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Committees in line with the Council's Constitution.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to make recommendations to Council in relation to the appointment of members to serve on committees

Financial Consequences for the Revenue Budget None

Financial Consequences for the Capital Budget None

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Background Documents

None

Wards affected: None

1. Background

- 1.1 Sections 15-17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and Regulation 16 of the Committees and Political Groups Regulations 2000, deal with the political balance of members of the Council on committees, and certain other bodies to which the Council makes appointments.
- 1.2 The Council is required to determine the allocation of seats on the various committees between the different political groups and must meet, so far as is reasonably practicable, the principles of political balance set out below.
- 1.3 The principles of political balance, as they affect the City Council, are:
- (a) that (if there is more than one political group) not all the seats on the relevant committee are allocated to the same political group;
 - (b) that the majority of seats on the relevant committee are allocated to the majority group on the Council;
 - (c) that, subject to (a) and (b), the aggregate total number of seats on the Council's committees are allocated between political groups in proportion to each group's respective representation on the Council;
 - (d) that, subject to (a), (b) and (c), the seats on each individual committee/ sub-committee are allocated between the political groups in proportion to each group's respective membership of the Council, and
 - (e) where councillors are not members of a group, they are to be appointed to any seats which are left unallocated, after giving effect to the political balance principles.

2. Political Balance

- 2.1 The overall political balance of the Council has changed to:

Labour 75
Liberal Democrat 21

- 2.2 The following table provides details of the balanced allocation of seats for each group to committees ranging from memberships of 5 to 25.

Seats	Labour 75		Liberal Democrat 21	
	Calc	Seats	Calc	Seats
5	3.91	4	1.09	1
6	4.69	5	1.31	1
7	5.47	5	1.53	2
8	6.25	6	1.75	2
9	7.03	7	1.97	2
10	7.81	8	2.19	2
11	8.59	9	2.41	2
12	9.38	9	2.63	3
13	10.16	10	2.84	3
14	10.94	11	3.06	3
15	11.72	12	3.28	3

Seats	Labour 75		Liberal Democrat 21	
16	12.50	12	3.50	4
17	13.28	13	3.72	4
18	14.06	14	3.94	4
19	14.84	15	4.16	4
20	15.63	16	4.38	4
21	16.41	16	4.59	5
22	17.19	17	4.81	5
23	17.97	18	5.03	5
24	18.75	19	5.25	5
25	19.53	20	5.47	5

2.3 The change in the size of the groups changes the political balance of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee from 13+3 to 12+4. The overall balance of all places on all committees remains in proportion to the size of the two groups. There are 210 places in all, 164 are allocated to the Labour group and 46 to the Liberal Democrat group.

2.4 The Committee is requested to make recommendations to the Council regarding the membership of committees including:

Children and Young People (15 councillors = 12+3)

Current Membership

Labour (12): Akbar, Carmody (Chair), Cooley, Cooper, Cox, Craig, Judge, Keller, Murphy, S Newman, Reid, Tavernor

Liberal Democrat (3): Boyes, Fisher, Ryan

Citizenship and Inclusion (14 members = 11+3)

Current Membership

Labour (11): Ahmed, Carmody, Chohan, Cookson, Cowell, Fletcher-Hackwood, Paul, Peel, Rawlins, Razaq, Richards

Liberal Democrat (3): Chamberlain, Jones (Chair), Taylor

Communities and Neighbourhoods (16 members = 12+4)

Current Membership

Labour (12): Austin, Barnes, Curley (Chair), Hughes, Hyde, Kirkpatrick, Loughman, Brian O'Neil, Paul, Peel, Priest, Rahman

Liberal Democrat (3): Hennigan, Lewis, Ryan, Vacancy

Economy, Employment and Skills (15 members = 12+3)

Current Membership

Labour (12): Barrett, Chappell, Green (Chair), Hackett, Karney, Keegan, Pritchard, Richards, Simcock, Smitheman, Strong, Walters

Liberal Democrat (3): Chamberlain, Clayton, Eakins

Health and Wellbeing (14 members = 11+3)

Current Membership

Labour (11): Ellison, Fairweather, Hitchen, M Murphy, E Newman (Chair), O'Callaghan, Barbara O'Neil, Pagel, Siddiqi, Swannick, Watson

Liberal Democrat (3): B Fisher, D O'Connor, D Sandiford

Resources and Governance (14 members = 11+3)

Current Membership

Labour (8): Ali, Flanagan (Chair), Hackett, P Murphy, Rawlins, Siddiqi, Trotman, Watson, 3 vacancies

Liberal Democrat (3): Clayton, Glover, Sandiford

Art Galleries Committee (14 Councillors = 11+3)

Current Membership

Labour (9): Amesbury, Andrews, J Battle, Evans, Khan, Leese, N Murphy, S Murphy, Smith, 2 Vacancies

Liberal Democrat (3): Pearcey, Shannon, Wheale

Audit Committee (8 Councillors = 6+2)

Current Membership

Labour (5): Akbar, Barrett, Flanagan (Chair), Hackett, Watson, Vacancy

Liberal Democrat (2): Clayton, Wheale

Planning and Highways Committee (15 members = 12+3)

Current Membership

Labour (10): Ahmed, Burns (Chair), Curley, Ellison, Fender, Flanagan, Keller, Loughman, Siddiqi, Watson, 2 Vacancies

Liberal Democrat (3): Boyes, Sandiford, Shaw

Licensing and Appeals Committee (15 members = 12+3)

Current Membership

Labour (12): Ahmed, Austin, Burns, Carmody, Chohan, Hassan, Hitchen (Chair), Longsdon, Loughman, O'Callaghan, Royle, S Newman

Liberal Democrat (3): Lewis, O'Connor, Shaw

Licensing Committee (15 Members = 12+3)

Current Membership

Labour (12): Ahmed, Austin, Burns, Carmody, Chohan, Hassan, Hitchen (Chair), Longsdon, Loughman, O'Callaghan, Royle, S Newman

Liberal Democrat (3): Lewis, O'Connor, Shaw

Licensing Policy Committee (6 Members = 5+1)

Current Membership

Labour (5): Carmody, Chohan, Hitchen (Chair), N Murphy, Royle

Liberal Democrat (1): Shaw

Constitutional and Nomination Committee (13 members = 10+3)

Current Membership

Labour (9): J. Battle, Burns, Curley (Chair), Karney, Leese, Hassan, S. Murphy, Tavenor, Watson, Vacancy

Liberal Democrat (3): Hennigan, Ramsbottom, Wheale

Standards Committee (7 councillors = 5+2, the actual is 4+3)

Current Membership

Labour (4): Burns, Evans, O'Callaghan, Trotman

Liberal Democrat (3): Sandiford, Shaw, and Whitmore
Having three members of the Liberal Democrat group on the Committee allows the Committee's three subcommittees to operate without conflicts arising.

Wythenshawe Area Committee (15 members = 13+2)

Membership is the ward councillors for the five Wythenshawe wards.

Personnel Committee (11 members = 8+3)

Current Membership

Labour (8): Amesbury, Andrews, Evans, Khan, Leese, Lone, N Murphy, Smith (Chair)

Liberal Democrat (3): Pearcey, Ramsbottom, Wheale

Membership formula comprises the Leader of the Council, (or a Deputy) the 6 Executive Members, the Assistant Executive Member (Finance and Human Resources), and 3 members of the Liberal Democrat Group.

Employee Appeals Committee (3 members = 2+1)

Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources (or Assistant Member)
Executive Member of the appellant's Employing Department (or Assistant Member) and one Liberal Democrat members drawn from the following Councillors Ramsbottom, Di Mauro, Vacancy