

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
ANNUAL MEETING 24TH MAY 2017**

**REVIEW OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND THE
APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE UPON THEM**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Local Government Elections were held on Thursday 4th May 2017, In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 , the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, as amended, and the Local Government Wales (measure) 2011 Council is required to members to serve on its committees and to allocate those seats so that they reflect the overall political composition of the Council.

2. POLITICAL BALANCE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

2.1. Composition of Committees and Panels of the Council

The membership of the political groups is as follows :-

Political Group	Number of Members	%of Council Membership
Plaid Cymru	36	48.65
Labour	22	29.73
Independent	15	20.27
Unaffiliated	1	1.35
TOTAL	74	100%

The previous Council's democratic structure comprised :

Executive Board	10 members
5 X Scrutiny Committees	67 Members (Non Executive Board Members)
Regulatory and other Committees	100 Members

Note:

- *Only non Executive Members (64) may serve on the Scrutiny Committees.*
- *The members serving on the Standards Committee do not need to reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole but they have been included within the above figures.*

- *It is not a statutory requirement to ensure that the Audit Committee is politically balanced however the Authority has chosen to include the Audit Committee in its calculations Only one member of the Executive Board can serve on the Audit Committee and this must not be the Leader of the Council.*
- *Only one member of the Executive Board can serve on the Democratic Services Committee and this must not be the Leader of the Council.*

2.2. Allocation of Seats

The previous Council allocated a total of 167 seats on Committees. All seats are required to be distributed amongst the political groups and any unaffiliated members on a politically balanced basis with the seats on committees also being allocated to reflect, as far as possible, the political balance of the council as a whole.

Based on the new political structure and in order to ensure that each political group is provided with its full allocation, it is recommended that the number of seats for distribution is increased by 1 from 167 to 168 with the number of seats available on Scrutiny Committees as a result, increasing from 67 to 68. Changes are also recommended to the number of members on individual regulatory and other committees, to best reflect the political balance of the new Council.

TABLE 1

ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON REGULATORY, SCRUTINY AND OTHER COMMITTEES AND THE PENSION COMMITTEE	% COUNCIL MEMBER-SHIP	168
Plaid Cymru	48.65	81.73 (82)
Labour	29.73	49.95 (50)
Independent	20.27	34.05 (34)
Unaffiliated Member	1.35	2.27 (2)
TOTAL NO OF SEATS	100%	168

Note:

If the allocation of seats on committees is not made on a politically balanced basis then the decision by council to do this must be unanimous “without any member of the authority or committee voting against them.” S17(b) of the Act.

TABLE 2a - Scrutiny Committees (68 seats)

5 SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	%		
Political Group		Revised Number of Seats 68	NEW Allocation of seats on scrutiny Committees
Plaid Cymru	49	33 (33.08)	3 X 7 SEATS & 2 X 6 SEATS
Labour	30	20 (20.21)	5 X 4 SEATS
Independent	20	14 (13.73)	4 X 3 SEATS & 1 X 2 SEATS
Unaffiliated Member	1%	1 (0.92)	1 SEAT
		68	

TABLE 2B

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	TOTAL NO OF SEATS	PLAID CYMRU GROUP	LABOUR GROUP	IND GROUP	UNAFF
Community	13	6	4	3	0
Education & Children	14* (+1) + 5 (co-opted)	7	4	2	1
Environmental & Public Protection	14	7	4	3	0
Policy & Resources	13	6	4	3	0
Social Care & Health	14	7	4	3	0
Total	68	33	20	14	1

TABLE 3 - REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES (100 SEATS)

In order to reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole it is suggested that the allocation of seats on the remaining Committees should be as follows, however it will be appreciated that because of the different sizes of committees it makes it impossible for every committee to exactly reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole. The composition of committees has therefore been drawn up to mirror as closely as possible the political balance of the Council.

COMMITTEE/ PANEL	TOTAL NO OF SEATS	PLAID CYMRU GROUP	LABOUR GROUP	IND GROUP	UNAFFIL- IATED
Appeals	6* (-1)	3	2	1	0
Appointments Directors (Leader + 6 EBM's + 9 non executive members)	16	8	5	3	0
Appointments Heads of Service (4 EBM's + 6 non-executive members)	10* (+1)	5	3	2	0
Audit	8	4	2	2	0
Democratic Services	5	2	2	1	0
Housing Review Panel +1 sub per group	8 (+1)	4	2	1	1
Dyfed Pension Fund Committee + 1 permanent sub	3	1	1	1	0
Licensing	14 * (-1)	7	4	3	0
Members' Appointments	7 * (-1)	4 3.41	2 2.08	1	0
Planning	20* (+1)	10	6	4	0
Standards	3	1	1	1	0
TOTAL	100	49	30	20	1

3. **POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONS TO CHAIR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

Part 6 of the Local Government Wales 2011 Measure deals with sets out the requirements for the appointment of Persons to Chair Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The Measure states that in respect of Council's with two or more political groups and multiple scrutiny committees the political groups represented in the executive can only appoint as many chairs as are proportionate to their combined share of the council's overall membership, **rounding down** if this does not equal a whole number of chairs. It is for the executive groups together to decide upon the allocation of their entitlement to chairs between them. The rest of the Scrutiny Chairs are the "property" of those groups not represented in the Executive. If there is only one such group, that group is entitled to all the remaining Chairs.

Having taken into account the political composition of the new Council, **the allocation for the 5 Scrutiny Chairs is as follows (No Change):-**

Plaid Cymru and Independent Executive 68.92 = 3.45 - rounded down to 3.

Labour 29.73% = 1.48 – rounded up to 2

** Proposed changes to the number of members on a Committee.*