

MEETING OF	THE FULL COUNCIL
DATE	3RD MARCH 2016
TITLE OF THE REPORT	THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL BALANCE
PURPOSE	To review the Council's Political Balance
RECOMMENDATION	Allocation of seats on the Council's Committees
AUTHOR	Geraint Owen Head of Democratic Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 During the last Council meeting (held on 10/12/2015), the political constitution of the Council was noted as follows:-

Plaid Cymru	39
Independent	20
Llais Gwynedd	8
Labour	5
Liberal Democrats	2
Individual Member	1
Total	75

2. ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

- 2.1 Members of the Council are aware that the political balance has changed a number of times during the last few months. Members are also aware of the specialised elements in some committees, with substantial training obligations (in respect of time and finances).
- 2.2 In this context, the Leader of Plaid Cymru has decided not to fill one of the seat allocations for the Group, being a seat on the Pensions Committee. Under such circumstances, the Council has the right to choose the most appropriate membership for the seat. The Council will need a majority to support the recommendation.
- 2.3 As the Council has recently spent on training an elected member from the Labour Group to be a member of the Pensions Committee, it is recommended that the seat be allocated to the Labour Group.

3. CHANGES TO THE ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

- 3.1 The change to the political balance means that the Labour Group gains a seat on the Pensions Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group. (See **Appendix A**).

4. RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to agree to the change in the allocation of seats on the committees as noted in 3.1 above, with a majority supporting the recommendation.

APPENDIX A

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Corporate	9	5	2	1	1	
Communities	10	5	1	1	1	
Services	10	4	2	1		1
Audit	10	5	2	1		

OTHER COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Democratic Services	8	4	2	1		
Language	8	4	2	1		
Planning	8	4	1	1	1	
Central Licensing	8	5	2			
Employment Appeals	3	1	1	1		1
Appointment of Principal Officers	8	4	1	1	1	

Number of seats	82	41	16	9	4	2	154
------------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------	----------	----------	------------

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Pensions	3	2	0	1	1	
Local Consultative Joint Committee	6	2	1	2		
Special Educational Needs Joint Committee	3	2	1			1
Joint Planning Policy Committee	4 (3 seats and one substitute)	2	1	1		
SACRE	4	2	1			

Total seats	102	51	20	13	5	3	194
--------------------	------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------	----------	------------