

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2013
title: POLITICAL BALANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMITTEES FOLLOWING
THE BY-ELECTIONS ON 1 AUGUST 2013
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: OLWEN HEAP

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To determine the Council's committee arrangements for the Municipal Year 2013/2014 following the by-election in Littlemoor Ward, Clitheroe.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities –

Council's Ambitions – whilst the Council's committee arrangements do not contribute directly to the achievement of the Council's ambitions, they set the framework for the Council's decision making processes.

Other considerations – the Council decided under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, after consultation with the electorate, to retain its committee arrangements rather than opt for an executive form of governance.

2 BACKGROUND/ISSUES

2.1 The Council must determine the number of seats on each committee. The allocation of these seats will then be in accordance with the political balance provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Appendix 'A' shows the Allocation of Committee Seats that apply under the present committee structure. The calculations have been carried out following the results of the by-election held on 1 August 2013. (Previous calculation in brackets)

2.2 The Liberal Democrat Party won the seat in the Littlemoor ward of the Borough Council.

2.3 The Council must also determine the allocation of committee seats to Councillor Rogerson who does not belong to a political group. Appendix 'B' recommends the allocation of seats to Councillor Jim Rogerson.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

3.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:-

Resources – the estimated costs of administering the committee arrangements in 2013/2014 are included in the approved budget for 2013/2014.

Technical, Environment and Legal – none.

Political – none.

Reputation – none.

4 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT

4.1 the number of seats on each committee and the allocation of those seats as set out in Appendix 'A' be approved and,

4.2 the allocation of committee seats to Councillor Jim Rogerson as set out in Appendix 'B' be approved.

OLWEN HEAP
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agenda for Annual Meeting of Council 13 May 2013

For further information please ask for Olwen Heap on extension 4408.

POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES 2013/2014

following By-Election at Littlemoor ward, Clitheroe (August 2013)

MATHEMATICAL CALCULATION

1. The political balance of Council is:	Conservatives	33
	Liberal Democrats	6
	Councillor Rogerson	1
	Vacant seats	0
		<u>40</u>

2. The total number of committee seats:

Community Services	15
Planning & Development	15
Licensing	15
Health & Housing	15
Personnel	9
Policy & Finance	15
Accounts & Audit	11
	<u>95</u>

3. Seats per member is $95 \div 40 = 2.38$

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF SEATS PER GROUP IS :

Conservatives $33 \times 2.38 = 79$ (78.54)

Liberal Democrats $6 \times 2.38 = 14$ (14.28)

Remaining seats $(95 - 93) = 2$ must be allocated to Councillor Rogerson

5. ALLOCATION OF SEATS PER COMMITTEE:

Community Services

$(15 \div 40 = 0.38)$

Conservatives	$33 \times 0.38 = 12.54$	= 13
Liberal Democrats	$6 \times 0.38 = 2.28$	= 2
Others	$15 - (13+2)$	= 0

Planning & Development

$(15 \div 40 = 0.38)$

Conservatives	$33 \times 0.38 = 12.54$	= 13	(12)
Liberal Democrats	$6 \times 0.38 = 2.28$	= 2	
Others	$15 - (13+2)$	= 0	(1)

Licensing

$(15 \div 40 = 0.38)$

Conservatives	$33 \times 0.38 = 12.54$	= 13
Liberal Democrats	$6 \times 0.38 = 2.28$	= 2
Others	$15 - (13+2)$	= 0

<u>Health & Housing</u>	(15÷40 = 0.38)	
Conservatives	33 x 0.38 = 12.54	= 13
Liberal Democrats	6 x 0.38 = 2.28	= 2
Others	15 – (13+2)	= 0

<u>Personnel</u>	(9÷40 = 0.23)	
Conservatives	33 x 0.23 = 7.59	= 8
Liberal Democrats	6 x 0.23 = 1.38	= 1
Others	9 – (8+1)	= 0

<u>Policy & Finance</u>	(15÷40 = 0.38)	
Conservatives	33 x 0.38 = 12.54	= 13 (12)
Liberal Democrats	6 x 0.38 = 2.28	= 2
Others	15 – (13+2)	= 0 (1)

<u>Accounts & Audit Committee</u>	(11÷40 = 0.28)	
Conservatives	33 x 0.28 = 9.24	= 9 (10)
Liberal Democrats	6 x 0.28 = 1.68	= 2 (1)
Others	11 – (9+2)	= 0

6. Summary

	<u>Cons</u>	<u>L. Dems</u>	<u>Others</u>	
Community Services	13	2	0	
Planning & Development	13	2	0	
Licensing	13	2	0	
Health & Housing	13	2	0	
Personnel	8	1	0	
Policy & Finance	13	2	0	
Accounts & Audit	9	2	0	
TOTAL	82	13	0	= 95

7. The totals of committee seats need to be adjusted to bring the totals in line with the overall allocation of seats ie. Conservatives **79**, Liberal Democrats **14** and Others **2 = 95**.

8. Therefore the adjustments to the overall allocation of seats are as follows :-

COMMITTEE	CONSERVATIVES	LIB DEMS	OTHER
Community Services	13	2	0
Planning & Dev	12 (-1)	2	1 (+1)
Licensing	13	2	0
Health & Housing	12 (-1)	3 (+1)	0

Personnel	8	1	0
Policy & Finance	12 (-1)	2	1 (+1)
Accounts & Audit	9	2	0
TOTALS	79 (-3)	14 (+1)	2(+2) = 95

August 2013