

Political Balance Position at January 2014

The tables below summarise the position for each of the committees. The third column headed *Political Balance* shows the actual number of seats each Group is entitled to have on the committee.

Changes to committee memberships can occur at any time and the Groups are encouraged to ensure that each committee has a full contingent of members throughout the year. A general review of the political balance of the committees is undertaken annually to re-balance committees for the start of the new municipal year in May. This year the Annual Meeting of Council falls on the 13 May and will include the withdrawal of the 2014 / 15 Vice Chair of Council from his / her membership of most committees owing to the non-political roles the Chair and Vice Chair of Council undertake.

Cabinet	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	0	3
Independent	4	2
Conservative	2	1 or 2*
Plaid Cymru	2	1 or 2*
<p>Comments: The political balance requirements have been achieved for the groups participating in the executive.</p> <p>In the event of a political group with 5 or more members declining to take up their seats on the Cabinet the Leader may appoint councillors to fill the vacancies and the rules of political balance do not apply to the filling of those vacancies. No further actions required.</p> <p>*With 8 members each both the Conservative and Plaid Cymru Groups have the same political balance weighting, so in respect of political balance, either could take a second seat on the committee.</p>		

Corporate Governance Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	2	2
Independent	2	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	1	1
<p>Comments: The membership of the Corporate Governance Committee is 6 councillors of whom one shall be the Vice Chair of the Council, politically balanced. The current Vice Chair is the Labour Group's Councillor Brian Blakeley who will leave the committee after his appointment as Chair of the Council in May. This will leave 1 Labour vacancy. If the new Vice Chair of the Council is not drawn from the Labour Group, Labour will be entitled to appoint 1 new member, and the new Vice Chair of Council will take one of his or her group's allocation of seats on the committee.</p> <p>Actions: (i) Refer back to relevant group leaders following the identification of the new Vice Chair of Council.</p>		

Communities Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
<p>Comments: This committee is politically balanced.</p> <p>Actions: None required.</p>		

Partnerships Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
<p>Comments: This committee is politically balanced.</p> <p>Actions: None required.</p>		

Performance Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	2	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
<p>Comments: There is currently (Jan 2014) a vacancy for an Independent Group member on this committee, which has been offered across to one of the other groups to fill.</p> <p>Action: An additional member is being sought for the remainder of this municipal year. A review of the membership will be required before May 2014 to re-balance this committee for the 2014/15 municipal year.</p>		

Planning Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	11	12
Independent	8	8
Conservative	5	5
Plaid Cymru	5	5
<p>Comments: Labour have one vacancy (January 2014) which they are looking to fill</p> <p>Actions: Subject to the Labour Group appointing a member for their vacant seat this committee is politically balanced.</p>		

Licensing Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Comments: This committee is politically balanced.		
Actions: None required.		

Democratic Services Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Comments: This committee is politically balanced.		
Actions: None required.		

Local Joint Consultative Committee (LJCC)	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	2	2
Independent	2	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	1	1
Comments: This committee is politically balanced.		
Actions: None required.		

Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	2	3
Independent	2	2
Conservative	2	1 or 2*
Plaid Cymru	2	1 or 2*
Comments: Labour are currently (January 2014) 1 member below their entitlement of 3 members on the committee. Both the Conservative and Plaid Cymru Groups have an additional member – see note*.		
Actions: (i) Labour to appoint 1 additional member. Either the Conservative or Plaid Cymru Group then withdraw 1 member.		
*With 8 members each both the Conservative and Plaid Cymru Groups have the same political		

balance weighting so either (but only one of them) could take a second seat on the committee.

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	3	3
Independent	1	2
Conservative	2	1 or 2*
Plaid Cymru	1	1 or 2*
<p>Comments: The Independents are entitled to 1 extra seat but have not been able to nominate a member.</p> <p>Action: Independents to consider appointing a member or offering it to another Group.</p> <p>*With 8 members each both the Conservative and Plaid Cymru Groups have the same political balance weighting so one of them would be entitled to take 2 seats</p>		

Appeals and complaints Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
<p>Comments: This 'committee' provides a pool of members for appeals and complaints work. It is currently balanced.</p> <p>Actions: None required.</p>		