

Political Balance Position

Updated 23 April 2023

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.

Cabinet	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	6	N/A
Independent	0	N/A
Conservative	0	N/A
Plaid Cymru	3	N/A
Green	0	N/A
<p>Comments:</p> <p>In February 2019 Council amended the Constitution by removing the requirement for Cabinet to be politically balanced, allowing the Leader to appoint Cabinet members without applying the rules of political balance.</p> <p>Action: N/A</p>		

Governance & Audit Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	2	2
Independent	1	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	1	1
Green	0	0
<p>Comments: The membership of the Governance and Audit Committee (previously the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee) is 6 councillors politically balanced plus 3 lay members. From May 2022 the Chair of the committee is required to be a lay member.</p> <p>Members of the committee may not be Chair of Council or a Cabinet member. The committee chair must be a lay member.</p> <p>Action: Independent Group to appoint 1 member.</p>		

Communities Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	3	4
Independent	4	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	1	2
Green	1	0
<p>Comments: Members on Cabinet cannot be a member of a Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The Plaid Cymru Group have indicated that they are content for the Green Party Group to retain Plaid Cymru's vacant seat until the Plaid Group is in a position to appoint its own member to that seat.</p> <p>Actions: Labour to appoint 1 member. Upon this appointment, the Independent Group to withdraw 1 member. Plaid Cymru Group to appoint 1 member. Upon this appointment the Green Party Group to withdraw 1 member (see comments above).</p>		

Partnerships Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4*	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	1	2
Green	1	0
<p>Comments: Members on Cabinet cannot be a member of a Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>*The Labour Group have appointed a non-aligned member within their allocation.</p> <p>The Plaid Cymru Group have indicated that they are content for the Green Party Group to retain Plaid Cymru's vacant seat until the Plaid Group is in a position to appoint its own member to that seat.</p> <p>Actions: Plaid Cymru Group to appoint 1 member. Upon this appointment, the Green Party Group to withdraw 1 member (see comments above).</p>		

Performance Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	1	2
Green	1	0
<p>Comments: Members on Cabinet cannot be a member of a Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The Plaid Cymru Group have offered up 1 of their seats to the other groups which was accepted by the Conservative Group.</p> <p>The Plaid Cymru Group have indicated that they are content for the Green Party Group to retain Plaid Cymru's vacant seat until the Plaid Group is in a position to appoint its own member to that seat.</p> <p>Actions: Plaid Cymru Group to appoint 1 member. Upon this appointment, the Green Party Group to withdraw 1 member (see comments above).</p>		

Planning Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	8	7
Independent	6	6
Conservative	3	3
Plaid Cymru	3	4
Green	1	1
<p>Comments: Welsh Government Regulations in 2017 mean that two members representing the same ward cannot both sit on the Planning Committee at the same time. Council agreed in May 2017 for Group Leaders to be given the responsibility for resolving multi-member ward nominations and if there is a failure to agree a single nomination none of the nominations would be accepted onto the Committee.</p> <p>The Plaid Group have indicated that they are content for the Labour Group to retain an extra seat until the Plaid Group is able to appoint its own member to that seat.</p> <p>Actions: Subject to the above comments, Plaid Cymru Group to appoint 1 member (and then Labour to withdraw 1 member).</p>		

Licensing Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	4	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Green	0	0
Comments:		
Actions: None.		

Democratic Services Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	3	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Green	1	0
Comments: Cabinet members cannot be members of this committee.		
The Labour Group has agreed for the Council appointed Chair of the Committee, Martyn Hogg (Green Party Group) to retain a seat on the committee by using a vacant Labour Group seat.		
Actions: None		

Welsh Language Steering Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	2	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	1	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Green	0	0
Comments: This Committee was established by full Council on the 6 December 2016.		
The membership of this committee is 11 councillors, politically balanced, and where possible to include the lead Cabinet member with responsibility for Welsh language issues (the lead member will count towards the political balance calculation). The aim of the Committee is to provide a public forum and steer to support the Welsh language strategy in Denbighshire.		
Actions: Labour Group to appoint 2 members. Conservative Group to appoint 1 member.		

Joint Consultative Committee for Health and Safety and Employee Relations	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	1	2
Independent	2	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	1	1
Green	0	0
<p>Comments: This is an internal consultative forum of employer and trade union representatives on staffing and health and safety issues.</p> <p>The employer-side membership is 6 elected councillor members appointed on a politically balanced basis, including at least one Cabinet Member (preferably with responsibility for HR and / or health and safety matters), plus two Officers. These Officers to be the Chief Executive or Corporate Director, and the Head of HR.</p> <p>Action: Labour Group to appoint 1 member</p>		

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	3	3
Independent	2	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	2	1 or 2*
Green	0	0 or 1*
<p>Comments: This committee is a statutory committee advising on RE provision in schools.</p> <p>*For the final (8th) seat on SACRE both the Plaid Cymru and Green Party Groups are tied and either is eligible to appoint to the seat. An agreement between those group leaders will be required.</p> <p>Action: The Plaid Cymru and Green Party Group Leaders to confirm the allocation of the final seat on the committee.</p>		

Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board Joint Scrutiny Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	3	3
Independent	2	2
Conservative	1	1
Plaid Cymru	2	1 or 2*
Green	0	0 or 1*
<p>Comments: This formal joint Scrutiny committee with Conwy established in October 2018 has 16 non-Cabinet members with 8 members from each council.</p> <p>*For the final (8th) seat on the committee both the Plaid Cymru and Green Party Groups are tied and either is eligible to appoint to the seat. An agreement between those group leaders will be required.</p>		

Action: The Plaid Cymru and Green Party Group Leaders to confirm the allocation of the final seat on the committee.

Appeals and complaints Committee	Current Membership	Political Balance
Labour	1	4
Independent	3	3
Conservative	2	2
Plaid Cymru	2	2
Green	1	0

Comments: This appeal 'committee' is a pool of members which could be called upon in exceptional circumstances where it was felt that a panel involving members would be appropriate, for example in relation to appeals relating to schools.

Actions: Labour to appoint 3 members. Upon these appointments the Green Party Group to withdraw 1 member