

CHANGE TO POLITICAL GROUP, PROPORTIONALITY AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Committee: Full Council

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Author: Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer

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Contact Officer:

Tracy Couper, Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer

tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk

Room 214B, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, CB7 4EE

1.0 ISSUE

- 1.1. To receive details of revised proportionality as the result of a change to the membership of the Liberal Democrat Group and approve the allocation of seats on Committees, etc, arising therefrom.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1. That Council notes the revised proportionality as the result of a change to the membership of the Liberal Democrat Group detailed at Appendix 1 and approves changes to the allocation of seats on Committees, etc, arising therefrom, or agrees an alternative (on a Nem Con basis, if necessary).

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1. In accordance with Regulation 10(d) of the Local Government (Committees & Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Democratic Services Manager received the required notice, as Proper Officer, notifying of Councillor Matthew Downey ceasing to be a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group.
- 3.2. Resulting from this, revised Proportionality calculations are detailed in Appendix 1.
- 3.3. Group Leaders have been informed of the number of places available on each Committee to be filled by their Group and the places on Committees to be allocated to reflect the revised Proportionality.
- 3.4. Members will note from Appendix 1 that:
 - The Independent Group have retained their existing allocation of places on Committees
 - Based upon unadjusted proportionality, the 11 Member Committees (F&A, Operational Services, Planning & Licensing Committees) end up with 12 rather than the required 11 seats. Once strict Proportionality is applied, this

means that the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups need to cede 2 places each on the 11 Member Committees to make them proportionate.

- 3.5 The following proposals have been made by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Group Leaders:

Councillor Bailey (on behalf of Conservative Group):

Cede our two seats on Operational Services and Licensing, so that the end result is as follows:

Finance & Assets, Planning

Conservatives 7 seats

Lib Dems 3 seats

Operational Services, Licensing

Conservatives 6 seats

Lib Dems 4 seat

Councillor Dupre (on behalf of Lib Dem Group):

Cede Cllr Cane's place on Planning Committee and Cllr Harries' place on Licensing Committee

As you will see from the above proposals, both Political Groups are proposing to cede a place on Licensing Committee, when there is only one place to cede in order to make this Committee proportionate. To achieve proportionality, one Group needs to cede a place on Licensing Committee and the other Group to cede a place on Finance & Assets Committee.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSION(S)

- 4.1. A resolution is required from Council to determine the allocation of seats on Committees, etc.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS / EQUALITY IMPACT STATEMENT / CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1. There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.
- 5.2. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required.
- 5.3. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) not required.

6.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – revised Proportionality Calculations

Background Documents:

Signed form from Liberal Democrat Group in accordance with Regulation 10(d) of the Local Government (Committees & Political Groups) Regulations 1990, notifying of Councillor Matthew Downey ceasing to be a Member of Liberal Democrat Group