

MEETING OF	THE COUNCIL
DATE	17 July 2014
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	Dyfed Wyn Edwards Council Leader

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Notice has been received that:

i.) Councillor Charles Wyn Jones is no longer a member of the Plaid Cymru Group and that he wishes to be treated as an individual member

ii.) Councillor Linda Ann Jones is no longer a member of the Plaid Cymru Group and that she wishes to be treated as individual member

iii.) Councillor Louise Hughes is no longer a member of the Llais Gwynedd Group and that she wishes to be treated as an individual member.

1.2 Consequently, the political constitution of the Council is as follows:-

Plaid Cymru	35
Independent	18
Llais Gwynedd	13
Labour	4
Liberal Democrats	2
Individual Member	3
Total	75

2. ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

2.1 To remind members, the four main rules included in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in relation to the allocation of seats are noted here:-

2.2 (a) Every seat on a committee cannot be allocated to the same political group;

(b) The majority of seats on a committee must be allocated to a political group if the number of persons who are members of that group constitute a majority of the Council's members;

(c) Subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, the number of seats on ordinary committees allocated to each political group will be the same as the number of all seats that members of that group has on the Council;

(ch) Subject to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above, the number of seats on a committee allocated to each political group will be the same proportion of seats on the committee as the number of seats that members of that group has on the Council.

2.3 In order to ensure that these rules are adhered to, the Council has been dealing with

committees in different blocks in the past. Also, this makes it easier to ensure that rule (c) in paragraph 2.2 above is adhered to.

3. CHANGES TO THE ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

- 3.1 The change to the political balance means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Community Scrutiny Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the Community Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Audit Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the Audit Committee.
- 3.3 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Language Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the Language Committee.
- 3.4 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Employment Appeals Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the Employment Appeals Committee.
- 3.5 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Local Consultative Joint Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the Local Consultative Joint Committee.
- 3.6 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the SEN Joint Committee at the expense of the Plaid Cymru Group which loses a seat on the SEN Joint Committee.
- 3.7 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Services Scrutiny Committee at the expense of the Llais Gwynedd Group which loses a seat on the Services Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.8 It also means that the Individual Member gains a seat on the Central Licensing Committee at the expense of the Llais Gwynedd Group which loses a seat on the Central Licensing Committee.
(See **Appendix A**)
- 3.9 Discussions are being held with the 3 Individual Members to confirm on which committee each individual member wishes to serve.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to:

- discuss and agree to the change in the allocation of seats on the committees as noted in 3.1 – 3.8 above in accordance with the agreement of the Group leaders.

APPENDIX A

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Corporate	9	4	3	1	1	
Communities	8	4	3	1	1	1
Services	9	4	3	1		1
Audit	8	5	3	1		1

OTHER COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Democratic Services	7	4	3	1		
Planning	7	3	3	1	1	
Central Licensing	7	4	3			1
Language	7	4	3			1
Appointment of Principal Officers	7	4	2	1	1	
Employment Appeals	3	1	1	1		1

Number of seats	74	37	29	8	4	2	154
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	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Pensions	3	2	1		1	
SACRE	3	2	2			
Local Consultative Joint Committee	5	2	2	1		1
Special Educational Needs Joint Committee	3	2	1			1
Joint Planning Policy Committee	4 (3 seats and one substitute)	2	1	1		

Total seats	94	47	36	10	5	2	194
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