

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2016-17

**COUNCIL
25 MAY 2016**

Agenda Item No.9

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF
LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE
COUNCIL**

Author: Mr. P.J.Lucas, Director, Legal & Democratic Services
Tel.No. (01443) 424105

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise Members of the outcome of the annual review of the Political Balance of the Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the scheme for the allocation of seats to the different political groups and bodies to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 applies, as detailed in the Appendix to this report, be adopted.
- 2.2 That the Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make appointments to politically balanced bodies upon receipt by him as Proper Officer, of notification of the wishes of the political groups subject, in the case of subsequent requests for amendment of membership of Committees, being referred to Council.
- 2.3 To note that Members of the Cabinet be not eligible for appointment to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Committees
- 2.4 To note that at least one Member of the Cabinet can sit on the Audit and Democratic Services Committees but the Council Leader is excluded from the positions.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 makes provisions for securing the political balance on certain relevant Authorities, Committees and Bodies. In the case of the Council, it is a requirement that the representation of the different political groups to secure political balance is reviewed at, or as soon as practicable after the annual meeting of the Council.

3.2 Subject to the adoption of the scheme, it will be the duty of the Council to make appointments to those seats in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and to facilitate this process, it has been previous practice for power to be delegated to myself to accept and make the appointments notified to me by the political groups. However, in the case of subsequent requests for amendments to the membership of Committees, they should be the subject of a report to the Council.

3.3 Members are requested to note that:

- A Member of the Cabinet may not be a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or any of the Scrutiny Committees
- At least one Member of the Cabinet can sit on the Audit and Democratic Services Committees but the Council Leader is excluded from the positions.

APPENDIX

POLITICAL BALANCE 2016/17

TABLE A

		<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>DAG</i>	<i>Unallocated</i>
Members	75	60	9	3	2	1
	Total					
Political Balance	Seats					
Development Control	18	15	2	1		
Licensing	15	12	2	1		
Constitution	7	6	1			
Appointments	5	4	1			
Pensions <i>*Subject to the establishment of this Committee - See Agenda Item 6</i>	5	4	1			
Appeals	5	4			1	
Total	55	45	7	2	1	

TABLE B

TABLE TO CALCULATE POLITICAL BALANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES

Total Seats		Labour	Plaid	IND	DAG
3		3			
4		3	1		
5		4	1		
6		5	1		
7		6	1		
8		7	1		
9		7	1	1	
10		8	1	1	
11		9	1	1	
12		10	1	1	
13		11	2		
14		11	2	1	
15		12	2	1	
16		13	2	1	
17		14	2	1	
18		15	2	1	
19		15	2	1	1
20		16	2	1	1

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES SUBJECT TO POLITICAL BALANCE

	Seats	Labour	Plaid	IND	DAG
Overview & Scrutiny	14	11	2	1	
Finance & Performance Scrutiny	14	11	2	1	
Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny	14	11	2	1	
Children & Young People Scrutiny	14	11	2	1	
Health & Well-Being Scrutiny	14	11	2	1	
Democratic Services	15	12	2	1	
Audit	15	12	2	1	

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

COUNCIL

25 MAY 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

REPORT

The Political Balance of the Council

Local Government & Housing Act 1989
Local Government (Committees and Political Groups)
Regulations 1990

OFFICER TO CONTACT

Mr. P.J.Lucas
(01443) 424105

