



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018-2019

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

23RD MAY, 2018

THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise Members of the outcome of the 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 are 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 these 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 these positions.

POLITICAL BALANCE 2018/19

TABLE A

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid</i>	<i>Alliance</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Unallocated</i>
Members	75	47	18	5	4	1
Political Balance						
Committee	<i>Available Seats</i>	<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid</i>	<i>Alliance</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	
Planning & Development	11	7	3	1		
Licensing	11	7	3	1		
Constitution	8	5	2	1		
Appointments	5	4	1			
Pensions	5	3	1		1	
Appeals	5	3	1		1	
Total Seats	45	29	11	3	2	

TABLE B

TABLE TO CALCULATE POLITICAL BALANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES

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

TABLE C**INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES SUBJECT TO POLITICAL BALANCE**

Committee	<i>Available Seats*</i>	Labour	Plaid	Alliance	Conservative
Overview & Scrutiny	15	9	4	1	1
Finance & Performance Scrutiny	15	9	4	1	1
Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny	15	9	4	1	1
Children & Young People Scrutiny	15	9	4	1	1
Health & Well-Being Scrutiny	15	9	4	1	1
Democratic Services	15	9	4	1	1
Audit	15	9	4	1	1

*Subject to agreement at Agenda Item 5 that Committee membership be increased to 15 seats

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

23rd MAY 2018

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. C.B.Jones
(01443) 424105

