

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017-18**

**COUNCIL  
17 MAY 2017**

**Agenda Item No.10**

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

**THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE  
COUNCIL**

**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 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.

**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**

**17 MAY 2017**

**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**

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## APPENDIX

## POLITICAL BALANCE 2017/18

TABLE A

		<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid</i>	<i>Unallocated</i>
Members	75	47	18	10
	<b>Total</b>			
<b>Political Balance</b>	<b>Seats</b>			
Planning & Development	11	8	3	
Licensing	11	8	3	
Constitution	8	6	2	
Appointments	5	4	1	
Pensions	5	4	1	
Appeals	5	3	2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>

TABLE B

## TABLE TO CALCULATE POLITICAL BALANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES

Total Seats	Labour	Plaid	Unallocated
3	2	1	
4	3	1	
5	4	1	
6	4	2	
7	5	2	
8	6	2	
9	7	2	
10	7	3	
11	8	3	
12	9	3	
13	9	4	
14	10	4	
15	11	4	
16	12	4	
17	12	5	
18	13	5	
19	14	5	
20	14	6	
21	15	6	
22	16	6	

**INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES SUBJECT TO POLITICAL BALANCE**

	<b>Seats</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Plaid</b>	<b>Unallocated</b>
Overview & Scrutiny	10	7	3	
Finance & Performance Scrutiny	10	7	3	
Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny	10	7	3	
Children & Young People Scrutiny	10	7	3	
Health & Well-Being Scrutiny	10	7	3	
Democratic Services	10	7	3	
Audit	10	7	3	