



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15th MAY 2019

THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL

JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES AND SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.

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 Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication be authorised to make appointments to politically balanced bodies upon receipt by him of notification of the wishes of the political groups subject to any 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 2019 - 2020TABLE A

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid Cymru</i>	<i>Alliance</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Unallocated</i>
Members	75	47	17	5	2	4
Political Balance						
Committee	<i>Available Seats</i>	<i>Labour</i>	<i>Plaid Cymru</i>	<i>Alliance</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	
Planning & Development	11	7	3	1	0	
Licensing	11	7	3	1	0	
Constitution	8	5	2	1	0	
Appointments	5	4	1	0	0	
Pensions	5	3	1	0	1	
Appeals	5	4	1	0	0	
Total Seats	45	30	11	3	1	

TABLE B

TABLE TO CALCULATE POLITICAL BALANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES

Total Seats	Labour	Plaid	Alliance	Conservative
3	2	1	0	0
4	3	1	0	0
5	3	1	1	0
6	4	2	0	0
7	5	2	0	0
8	5	2	1	0
9	6	2	1	0
10	7	2	1	0
11	7	3	1	0
12	8	3	1	0
13	8	3	1	1
14	9	3	1	1
15	10	4	1	0
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	Available Seats	Labour	Plaid Cymru	Alliance	Conservative
Overview & Scrutiny	15	10	4	1	0
Finance & Performance Scrutiny	15	10	4	1	0
Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny	15	10	4	1	0
Children & Young People Scrutiny	15	10	4	1	0
Health & Well-Being Scrutiny	15	10	4	1	0
Democratic Services	15	10	4	1	0
Audit	15	10	4	1	0

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 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15th MAY 2019

**JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES AND
SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.**

REPORT

Local Government & Housing Act 1989

Local Government (Committees and Political Groups)

Regulations 1990