

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COUNCIL

meeting date: TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2024
title: REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE AND COMMITTEE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/2024
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT - CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: JENNY MARTIN – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To revise the Council's current committee arrangements following a review of the political balance calculation.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's objectives and priorities –

Council's Objectives – whilst the Council's committee arrangements do not contribute directly to the achievement of the Council's objectives, they set the framework for the Council's decision-making processes.

Other considerations – the Council decided under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, after consultation with the electorate, to retain its committee arrangements rather than opt for an executive form of governance. This decision has been reconsidered and confirmed by the Policy & Finance committee.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The basis of the Council's present committee structure was approved by the Policy and Finance Committee at its meeting on 3 April 2008.

2.2 The number of seats on each committee and the allocation of these seats is calculated in accordance with the political balance provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

2.4 The political balance was recalculated and approved at Full Council on 12 December 2023.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Councillors Ryan Corney, Stuart Fletcher, Mark French, Gaye McCrum and Malcolm Peplow have given notice that they have joined a new group, namely the Green and Progressive liberal group.

3.2 The calculation of seats after this change is attached at Appendix A. In summary, the Green & Progressive Liberal group gain one seat and the Independent Councillor loses a seat. The provisions relating to the calculation of Political Balance on committees are attached at Appendix B.

3.3 The new membership on committees following the recalculation is being discussed with group leaders and will be circulated once available.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

Resources – the estimated costs of administering the committee arrangements in 2021/2022 are included in the approved budget for 2021/2022.

Technical, Environment and Legal – none.

Political – none.

Reputation – none.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COUNCIL**

- 5.1 Approves the allocation of committee seats as set out in Appendix A and confirms the appointment of members to committees.

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agenda for Full Council 12 December 2023

For further information please contact Jenny Martin at jenny.martin@ribblevalley.gov.uk