

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – 29 JUNE, 2023

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 The Council is requested to note the change in political group affiliation of Councillor Hall and consider the impact of the change on the composition of committees.

1.1.1 Councillor Hall resigned from the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Group on the Council and became an Administration Independent with effect from 27 April, 2023.

1.1.2 The total number of members in the Administration remains as previously at 46.

1.2 The Council is recommended to:

1.2.1 **note, following notification to the Chief Executive of the change in political group affiliation of Councillor Hall, the following numbers:**

- **the Administration has 46 members (comprising Scottish Conservative and Unionist (24 (previously 25)), Liberal Democrats (14) and Administration Independents (8 (previously 7)),**
- **the Opposition Coalition has 23 members (comprising SNP (21) and the Democratic Independent Group (2), and**
- **there is one Independent member;**

1.2.2 **note that as a result of the notification outlined at recommendation 1.2.1 above no amendment is required in respect of –**

- **the composition of the four Policy Committees and the Audit Committee, having regard to the principle of each member being allocated one committee place, and**
- **the political proportionality for the current standard 14 member, 8 member and 5 member committees and for sub-committees and working groups as approved by Full Council on 19 May, 2022.**

2 Decision Making Route

2.1 The Council at its meeting on 19 May, 2022 (Item 9) approved the allocation of places and the appointment of members to committees, sub-committees, joint committees and working groups to reflect the political proportionality of the Council.

2.2 Following the change in political affiliation of Councillor Hall, the Administration has 46 members (comprising Scottish Conservative and Unionist (24 (previously 25)), Liberal Democrats (14) and Administration Independents (8 (previously 7)), the Opposition Coalition has 23 members (comprising SNP (21) and the Democratic Independent Group (2), and there is one Independent member;

2.3 The overall percentages remain as previously -

Total Members		
Scottish Conservative and Unionist, Liberal Democrat, Administration Independents	46/70	65.71%
Scottish National Party and Democratic Independent Group	23/70	32.86%
Individual	1/70	1.43%

3 Discussion

3.1 As the overall percentages remain as previously reported and as applied to the current composition of the four Policy Committees and the Audit Committee, having regard to the principle of each member being allocated one committee place, and to places on 14, 8 and 5 member committees, no amendment is required as a result of the notification received.

4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

4.1 This report helps deliver the Council's Strategic Priorities by ensuring transparency in decision making.

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Learning for Life Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	Climate Change Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Economic Growth Infrastructure and public assets

4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is (are) agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial			X
Staffing			X
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland			X
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing			X
Climate Change and Sustainability			X
Health and Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

- 4.3 There are no staffing or financial implications relating to this report.
- 4.4 The screening section as part of Stage One of the Integrated Impact Assessment process has not identified the requirement for any further detailed assessments to be undertaken because the changes proposed are procedural matters and do not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 4.5 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:

[Aberdeenshire Corporate Risks](#)

ACORP006 – Reputation Management

[Business Services Directorate Risks](#)

BSSR007 – Council Transition

5 Scheme of Governance

- 5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 5.2 Section A.2.1 of the List of Committee Powers at Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance requires any changes in committee structure and appointments to be determined by Full Council.

Rob Simpson
Interim Director of Business Services

Report prepared by Ann Riddell, Principal Committee Services Officer
Date – 27 April, 2023