



Full Council	Thursday, 24 February 2022	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Amendment to Membership of Council Bodies (February 2022)**

Report Author(s): **Steve Tucker (Democratic & Electoral Services Manager)**

Purpose of Report:	Following a recent by-election, the Council is obliged to review the representation on the Committees, Sub-Committees and other Panels and Boards which it appoints, to ensure that these reflect the make-up of the political groups on the Council as a whole.
Report Summary:	A by-election was held on 17 February 2022 in the Wigston Meadowcourt Ward. Following the by-election, a review of proportionality has been carried out and the allocation of seats to Committees has been recalculated to reflect the change in the political composition of the Council.
Recommendation(s):	<p>That the Council:</p> <p>A. Approves the allocation of seats to political groups as set out at Appendix 1; and</p> <p>B. Approves the appointment of nominations to those seats as set out at paragraph 2.3 below.</p>
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	<p>David Gill (Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Steve Tucker (Democratic & Electoral Services Manager) (0116) 257 2605 steven.tucker@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Corporate Objectives:	Not applicable.
Vision and Values:	Not applicable.
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty on the Council to review the representation of different political groups on bodies to which the Council makes appointments. The Act requires that the review should be held at the Annual Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting, or when the membership of the Council changes.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Political Dynamics (CR3) Regulatory Governance (CR6)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report.

Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	None.
Background Papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report entitled 'Appointment of Office Holders, Council Bodies & Memberships (2021/22)' to Full Council on 4 May 2021
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum Eligible Representation of Members by Political Group (February 2022)

1. Composition of the Council

- 1.1 A Council by-election was held on 17 February 2022 for a vacant seat in Wigston Meadowcourt Ward. The seat, previously held by the Liberal Democrat Group, was won by the Conservative Group, changing the Council composition from 24 Liberal Democrat and 2 Conservative to 23 Liberal Democrat and 3 Conservative.
- 1.2 Consequently, a review of the Council's political proportionality was triggered.
- 1.3 In accordance with the requirements for proportionality, the calculations are that the Liberal Democrat Group now have 88% of the Council seats and the Conservative Group now have 12%.

2. Committee Appointments

- 2.1 Under the revised calculations, the Conservative Group are entitled to an additional seat on Policy, Finance and Development Committee, Licensing & Regulatory Committee and Service Delivery Committee. The affected seats on Policy, Finance and Development Committee and Licensing & Regulatory Committee currently sit vacant, whilst the Liberal Democrat Group must vacate one seat on Service Delivery Committee.
- 2.2 The Conservative Group are also now formally entitled to one seat on any Council body between 5 to 12 Members in size, although in practice this does not alter the current composition of these bodies, given that Full Council previously agreed to an equivalent dispensation for the Conservative Group at each previous Annual Meeting that has taken place following May 2019 Borough Council elections.
- 2.3 The Conservative Group Leader has proposed that newly elected Councillor Ms H E Darling be appointed to sit on Policy, Finance and Development Committee, Service Delivery Committee and Licensing & Regulatory Committee. From the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor J W Boyce will relinquish his seat on Service Delivery Committee.
- 2.4 The nominations must be either ratified or amended by Council.