

**Title: Statement Denoting Political Balance**

**COUNCIL**

**Date: 23 May 2018**

**CLASSIFICATION:**

**OPEN**

**WARD(S) AFFECTED All Wards**

**GROUP DIRECTOR Tim Shields, Chief Executive**

## 1. SUMMARY

As a result of the Council and Mayoral elections held on 3 May 2018, the political balance of the Council has changed. The changes to the allocation of seats on those Committees/Commissions to which the political balance rules apply are marginal and do not change the overall allocation of seats amongst the parties.

## 2. RECOMMENDATION

That the statement regarding political balance be noted.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The allocation of seats on those Committees/Commissions to which the political balance rules apply will be based on the following formula.

Labour	52 seats	91% (91.22)
Conservative	5 seats	9% (8.77%)

Those Council Committees and Commissions to which the political balance rules apply as are follows with the total number of seats available on those Committees and Commissions.

<b>Committee/Commission</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
Audit Committee	7
Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission	12
Working in Hackney Scrutiny Commission	7
Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission	8
Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission	7
Scrutiny Panel – drawn from the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Commissions plus 1 minority group member and 1 majority group member who is not on the Executive or the Commissions	10
Appointments Committee	5
Corporate Committee	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Planning Sub Committee [to be drawn from the membership of the Corporate Committee]</li></ul>	9

Licensing Committee	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five 3 Member Licensing Sub Committees will be drawn from the membership of the Licensing Committee to reflect the overall political proportionality of that Committee</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Sub A</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Sub B</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Sub C</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Sub D</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Sub E</li> </ul>	3
Pensions Committee	7
Standards Committee	9

#### **4. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE**

- 4.1 The Council must allocate seats on committees and other prescribed bodies so as to give effect to the political balance rules.
- 4.2 The rules for the allocation of seats are set out in Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 Local Government Committee and Political Group Regulations 1990.
- 4.3 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ("the 1989 Act") sets out how committees must be constituted when the Council is divided into one or more political groups.
- 4.4 The Council must give effect, as far as reasonably practicable in constituting its committees or sub-committees, to the following four principles set out in Section 15(4):
- (a) where there is more than one political group, all the seats must not be allocated to the same political group
  - (b) the majority of seats must be allocated to the political group with the majority on the Council
  - (c) the number of seats on each individual Committee or sub-committee of the Council allocated to each political group bears the same proportion on the full Council.
  - (d) the number of seats on the total of all the Committees or sub-committees allocated to each political group should bear the same proportion to the proportions on the full Council .

4.5 Details of the numerical allocation of seats on the committees to the political groups, together with each group's nominations to fill those seats (and substitutes where appropriate) should be circulated to all councillors prior to the Council meeting.

**5. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

There are no additional budgetary implications arising from the changes to Political Balance outlined in this report.

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