

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Committee Allocation
Committee : Full Council
Date : 2 September 2024
Author : Asa Thorpe, Chief Executive

Agenda Item: 16

1. Report Summary:

- 1.1. Based on the recent election of Councillor Rideout, the allocation of committee places needs to be amended in order to reflect the new ratios of party representation.
- 1.2. Based on the new percentage of seats, the Labour party should receive the largest share of committee places (16), followed by the Liberal Democrats (14) and Conservative (12). The allocation of places to Reform UK and both Independent Councillors should be 2 each.
- 1.3. There is a challenge in the way in which percentages fall as although there are 48 committee slots and 24 Councillors, the political share of that committee does not always fall into whole numbers.
- 1.4. Due to rounding errors, there is a change to the Community Service Committee where the Liberal Democrat Group will have 2 seats with Conservatives being given 3. This fixes the issue of rounding errors.

2. Detail

2.1. The detail of the breakdown of seats and therefore allocations is listed below:

Group	Members	% Of seats	Slots awarded
Labour	8	33.33%	16
Liberal Democrat	7	29.17%	14
Conservative	6	25.00%	12
Reform UK	1	4.17%	2
Independent (AH)	1	4.17%	2
Independent (AR)	1	4.17%	2
	24	100.00%	48

2.2. Set out below is a direct allocation based on the above figures to 2 decimal places. Whilst the figures are technically correct, it is understandable that we cannot allocate, for example 2.63 committee places.

Committee	Seats	Labour	Lib. Dem.	Cons.	Inds.
Community Services	9	3.00	2.63	2.25	1.13
Environment & Climate Change	9	3.00	2.63	2.25	1.13
Events, Markets & Grants SC	7	2.33	2.04	1.75	0.88
Finance & Governance	9	3.00	2.63	2.25	1.13
Personnel	5	1.67	1.46	1.25	0.63
Planning & Development	9	3.00	2.63	2.25	1.13
		16	14	12	6

2.3. In order to make sensible decision, we need to allocate whole places; numbers to one decimal place. However when these sums are added together, you find that the Liberal Democrats have 15 places instead of 14 and Conservatives 11 instead of 12.

Committee	Seats	Labour	Lib. Dem.	Cons.	Inds.
Community Services	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Environment & Climate Change	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Events, Markets & Grants SC	7	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0
Finance & Governance	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Personnel	5	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Planning & Development	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
		16	15	11	6

2.4. As such, there needs to be a movement of one seat to Conservative from the Liberal Democrats.

2.5.

Committee	Seats	Labour	Lib. Dem.	Cons.	Inds.
Community Services	9	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0
Environment & Climate Change	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Events, Markets & Grants SC	7	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0
Finance & Governance	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Personnel	5	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Planning & Development	9	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
		16	14	12	6

2.6. In future elections or movement of parties, there may be cleaner allocations without the need for compromise.

2.7. Set out in appendix A are the allocation of Councillors to each committee based on the recommended allocation, set out in 2.4.

3. Recommendations

3.1. It is recommended that Full Council agree the following allocations:

Committee	Seats	Labour	Lib. Dem.	Cons.	Inds.
Community Services	9	3	2	3	1
Environment & Climate Change	9	3	3	2	1
Events, Markets & Grants SC	7	2	2	2	1
Finance & Governance	9	3	3	2	1
Personnel	5	2	1	1	1
Planning & Development	9	3	3	2	1
		16	14	12	6

1. **Wards Affected:** All

2. **Background Papers:** None.

3. **Implications:**

3.1. **Financial:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.2. **Personnel:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.3. **Environmental Impact:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.4. **Equalities Impact Statement:** Nil in relation to this report.

Appendix A

Committee	Seats	Labour	Lib. Dem.	Cons.	Inds.
Community Services	9	3 Blackwood C.Corbin T.Corbin	2 S.Charleston Stanway	3 King Broom Vacant	1 Hoque
Environment & Climate Change	9	3 Bolwell Wells Rideout	3 S.Charleston Sample Stanway	2 Hibbert Hocking	1 Riddle
Events, Markets & Grants SC	7	2 Bolwell C.Corbin	2 S.Charleston Sample	2 Broom Nettle	1 Rimmer
Finance & Governance	9	3 Tomes Rogers Wells	3 Bayliss V.Charleston Last	2 Hocking Nettle	1 Hoque
Personnel	5	2 Wells T.Corbin	1 Dalton	1 McGrath	1 Rimmer
Planning & Development	9	3 T.Corbin Tomes Bolwell	3 Bayliss V.Charleston Stanway	2 Hibbert Hocking	1 Riddle
		16	14	12	6