

Cherwell District Council

Council

19 May 2015

Annual Council Business Report

Report of Chief Executive

This report is public

Purpose of report

To note the results of the 7 May 2015 district elections, the constitution of Political Groups, to note the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Executive for the Municipal Year 2015/16 and to consider and agree the suggested constitution of Committees for the Municipal year 2015/2016.

1.0 Recommendations

** The recommendations are also included in the relevant section of the report **

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the results of the District elections held on 7 May 2015.
- 1.2 To note the constitution of Political Groups and notification of Group Leaders.
- 1.3 To note the appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council, the membership of the Executive and the Executive Portfolios for 2015/16 (Appendix 1 – to follow).
- 1.4 To agree the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the political balance requirements as set out in Table 1.
- 1.5 To agree the allocation of seats on committees not subject to political balance requirements as set out in Table 2.
- 1.6 To appoint members (and where appropriate, substitute members) to serve on each of the committees and other bodies set out in Tables 1 and 2 in accordance with the nominations to be made by political groups (Appendix 2 - to follow).
- 1.7 To appoint a representative to the County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.8 To appoint a representative to the Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The Council's Constitution requires that at the annual meeting, Council shall:
- Note the results of the District Elections, if held, and the constitution of Political Groups and Group Leaders and elect the Leader of the Council if required
 - Conduct any business concerning the establishment of and appointments to the Executive, including the appointment of Deputy Leader and the allocation of functions to Lead Members
 - Conduct any business concerning the establishment of, and appointment to:
 - The Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - The Standards Committee
 - Such other Committees as the Council consider appropriate

3.0 Report Details

District Election Results

- 3.1 The following were elected for the Wards shown at the district elections held on 7 May 2015:

Ambrosden and Chesterton – Councillor Lynn Pratt
Banbury Easington – Councillor Nigel Morris
Banbury Grimsbury and Castle – Councillor Andrew Beere
Banbury Hardwick - Councillor Nicholas Turner
Banbury Ruscote – Councillor Mark Cherry
Bicester East – Councillor Rose Stratford
Bicester North – Councillor Melanie Magee
Bicester South – Councillor James Porter
Bicester Town – Councillor Richard Mould
Bicester West – Councillor Les Sibley
Caversfield (By-election) – Councillor Ian Corkin
Cropredy – Councillor Ken Attack
Hook Norton – Councillor Ray Jelf
Kidlington North – Councillor Sandra Rhodes
Kidlington South – Councillor Neil Prestidge
The Astons and Heyfords – Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Yarnton, Gosford and Water Eaton - Councillor Michael Gibbard

Recommendation

- 1.1 To note the results of the District Elections held on 7 May 2015.

Constitution of Political Groups

- 3.2 The Chief Executive will report on the notifications of the constitution of Political Groups received prior to the meeting.

3.3 Group Leaders have been appointed as follows:

Conservative Group: To be advised

Labour Group: To be advised

Recommendation

1.2 To note the constitution of Political Groups and notification of Group Leaders.

Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive 2014/15

3.4 The Leader of the Council will table a report (Appendix 1) appointing a Deputy Leader and setting out the Executive Portfolios for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

Recommendation

1.3 To note the appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council, the membership of the Executive and the Executive Portfolios for 2015/16.

Committee Appointments 2015/16

3.5 The current constitution of the Council is 41 (82%) Conservative, 7 (14%) Labour, 1 (2%) Liberal Democrat and 1 (2%) Independent.

3.6 Under the political balance regulations in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, allocations are made to political groups, any member not in a political group is consequently not automatically entitled to seats on committees. Therefore in Table 1 below, all group percentage allocations have been rounded up. The figures marked by an asterisk take account of this adjustment.

3.7 The proportionality calculations require the Labour Group to release three seats to the Labour Group. The Labour Group have yet to advise which seats will be released. Once known, this will be published in an addendum to this report.

3.8 **Table 1: Allocation of Seats of Proportional Committees**

	TOTAL	CON	LAB
Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee	8	7	1
Appeals Panel	10	8	2
Budget Planning Committee	12	10	2
Joint Appeals Panel	3	2	1
Joint Commissioning Committee	4	3	1
Joint Scrutiny Committee	5	4	1
Licensing Committee	12	10	2
Overview & Scrutiny	12	10	2

Personnel Committee	12	10	2
Planning Committee	18	15	3
Standards Committee	8	7	1
Proportional Total by Committee	100	86	18
Aggregate Entitlement	100	89*	15*
Adjustment Required	-	+3	-3

3.9 Table 2: Allocation of Seats of Non-Proportional Committees

	TOTAL	CON	LAB	LD
Council and Employee Joint	12	10	2	0
Joint Arrangements Steering Group	5	4	1	0

3.10 Notes:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee must not include any members of the Executive.

Personnel Committee must include at least one member of the Executive and may not include members of the Appeals Panel

Appeals Panel members may not serve as members or substitute members of the Personnel Committee.

Council and Employee Joint Committee has a fixed membership, comprising the number indicated in the total column.

Joint Commissioning Committee may not serve as members or substitute members of the Joint Appeals Committee

Joint Appeals Committee members may not serve as members or substitute members of the Joint Personnel Committee.

3.14 Appendix 2 (to follow) sets out members (and where appropriate, substitute members) to serve on each of the committees and other bodies set out in Tables 1 and 2 in accordance with the nominations to be made by political groups.

Recommendations

1.4 To agree the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the political balance requirements as set out in Table 1 (or the addendum, should one follow).

- 1.5 To agree the allocation of seats on committees not subject to political balance requirements as set out in Table 2.
- 1.6 To appoint members (and where appropriate, substitute members) to serve on each of the committees and other bodies set out in Tables 1 and 2 in accordance with the nominations to be made by political groups (Appendix 2 - to follow).

Appointment of Representatives

- 3.15 Council is asked to appoint representatives to the County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to the Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel.
- 3.16 The 2014/15 representative on the County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was Councillor Rose Stratford and on Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel was Councillor George Reynolds.

Recommendations

- 1.7 To appoint a representative to the County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.8 To appoint a representative to the Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The Council is required to note the results of the District Council elections, appoint a Leader (if required), agree the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the political balance requirements and also on committees not subject to political balance requirements and to agree the appointments to each of the Committees in accordance with the nominations made by political groups.

5.0 Consultation

Group Leaders	Nominations and information from group leaders has been included in the report and appendices
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6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: To amend the appointments to Committee.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

Comments checked by: Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement, 0300 003 0106, paul.sutton@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Legal Implications

7.2 It is a legal requirement for Council to agree proportionality after an election and appoint committees. It is for the Council Leader to appoint the Deputy Leader and the other Executive members, and to allocate Lead Member responsibilities.

Comments checked by: Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance, 0300 003 0107, kevin.lane@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Risk Implications

7.3 In ensuring the legal requirements are met, risk to the authority is mitigated.

Comments checked by: James Doble, Democratic and Elections Manager, 01295 221587, james.doble@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

8.0 Decision Information

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

All

Lead Councillor

None

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
One	Executive Portfolios 2015/16 – to follow
Two	Committee Membership – to follow
Background Papers	
None	
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