

Blaby District Council

Annual Council

Date of Meeting 23 May 2023

Title of Report **Appointments to Committees 2023/24**

This is not a Key Decision and is not on the Forward Plan

Report Author **Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer**

Corporate Priority All Priorities: A Place to Live; A Place to Work; A Place to Visit; People Strategy; Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To determine the distribution of seats for Council.
- 1.2 To seek appointments to Committees and Sub-Committees.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That effect be given to the wishes of the political groups as to the allocation of seats as detailed at Appendix 1. (To follow)
- 2.2 That the distribution of seats as set out at Appendix 2 (to follow) be endorsed with immediate effect for all Committees.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is appropriate to give effect to the wishes of the political groups and ensure compliance with the Local Government & Housing Act 1989, Section 15 – 17 inclusive.

4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 The rules governing political balance on Committees/Sub-Committees are set out under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (duty to allocate seats to political groups) and Section 16 (duty to give effect to allocations). Section 17 of the above Act states that section 15 and 16 shall not apply where no member votes against a seat distribution not following the requirements of Sections 15 and 16 of the above Act.

In simple terms this removes the political balance requirement, the effect of which has enabled seat allocation on an agreed rather than imposed basis.

This arrangement is of particular benefit in relation to membership of scrutiny working groups. Members are reminded that appointments to Cabinet Executive are exempted from the provisions of the above Act by virtue of the Local Government Act 2000. Quasi-Judicial and similar committees should be regarded in similar light.

The Council must, when making appointments to Committees/Sub-Committees, give effect to the wishes of the political groups to whom seats are allocated. The Council is asked to endorse, unanimously, the distribution of seats as set out in Appendix 1 (to follow).

Seat Allocation – Based on current membership arrangements, the representation by Committee for this Council are set out at Appendix 2 (to follow).

The Council is invited to approve the appointment of Members to serve on Committees for those positions as shown in Appendix 1 (to follow) subject to the seat distribution being agreed without any member voting against.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That the appointments to Committees at Appendix 1 (to follow) be approved.

That the distribution of seats at Appendix 2 (to follow) be endorsed.

4.3 **Relevant Consultations**

All Political Groups.

5. **What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?**

5.1 There are no cost implications as a result of this report.

6. **What are the risks and how can they be reduced?**

6.1 No risks have been identified.

7. **Other options considered**

7.1 No other options have been considered.

8. **Environmental impact**

8.1 There are no environmental concerns.

9. **Other significant issues**

9.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

10. Appendix

10.1 Appendix 1 – Proposed Committee Membership 2023-24 (To Follow)

10.2 Appendix 2 – Proposed Seat Allocation Table 2023-24 (To Follow)

11. Background paper(s)

Each Political Groups' Preference Forms

12. Report author's contact details

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