

**Blaby District Council
Council**

Date of Meeting	8 April 2025
Title of Report	Amendments to Appointments to Committees and Seat Allocations This is not a Key Decision and is not on the Forward Plan
Lead Member	Cllr. Terry Richardson - Leader of the Council
Report Author	Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Strategic Themes	All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To advise Council of amended seat allocations and appointments to Committees following Cllr. Rebecca Lunn becoming an Independent Member.

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 in the report.
- 2.2 To approve the appointment of Members to serve on Committees for those positions as detailed in the report, subject to the seat distribution being agreed without any member voting against.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 Due to Cllr. Rebecca Lunn becoming an Independent Member, it was necessary to re-calculate the seat allocations of Committees.
- 3.2 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 Background

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 the report.

Formal notification has been received that Cllr. Rebecca Lunn has become an Independent Member. As a result, the seat allocations and committee appointments were required to be re-calculated.

Seat Allocation – Based on current membership arrangements, the representation of seats is set out below:

Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Green	Independent
32	15	9	3	1

Amendment to Committee Appointments

It is recommended that Cllr. Rebecca Lunn be appointed to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee, with the allocated seat distribution as shown below:

Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Green	Independent
6	1	4	1	1

4.2 Proposal(s)

That the amended seat allocation and appointments to Committees be approved.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

All Political Groups

4.4 Significant Issues

None.

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

5. Environmental impact

- 5.1 A Net Zero and Climate Impact Assessment (NZCIA) has been carried out and no adverse impacts identified.

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

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

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

- 7.1 No risks have been identified.

8. Other options considered

- 8.1 No other options have been considered.

9. Appendix

- 9.1 None.

10. Background paper(s)

- 10.1 None.

11. Report author's contact details

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