

Council

2 September, 2025

Name of Cabinet Member:

Not applicable

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Law and Governance

Ward(s) affected:

Not Applicable

Title:

**Political Proportionality and Amendments to Appointments to Council Bodies
2025/26**

Is this a key decision? No

Executive Summary:

This report seeks approval to the revised Political Proportionality for the City Council for 2025/26 and the consequential amendments required to appointments to Council bodies which have arisen as a result of the formal notification that, with effect from 1 August, 2025, Councillor G Lewis has resigned from the Labour Group and that Councillors S Gray, G Lewis and E Reeves have formed the Green and Independent Alliance Group on the City Council.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- 1) Approve the revised Political Proportionality for the City Council for 2025/26, attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2) Approve the following amendments to appointments required as a result of the revised Political Proportionality :-
 - a) Appoint Councillor M Mutton to the Labour Group place on Planning Committee in place of Councillor G Lewis.
 - b) Appoint Councillor S Agboola to the Labour Group place on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor G Lewis.

- c) Appoint Councillor F Abbott to the Labour Group place on the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) in place of Councillor G Lewis.
- d) Appoint Councillor G Lewis to the Green and Independent Alliance Group place on the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) in place of Councillor F Abbott.

List of Appendices included:

None

Useful background papers:

None

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it, or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 2 September, 2025

Report title: Political Proportionality and Amendments to Appointments to Council Bodies 2025/26

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 At the Annual General Meeting of the Council on 22 May 2025, Council approved the Political Proportionality for the City Council for 2025/26, based on the following Group numbers:
- Labour Group – 40 seats
 - Conservative Group – 12 seats
 - Green Group – 2 seats
- 1.2 Appointments were made to Council and outside bodies for 2025/26 in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 which require bodies to be politically balanced and seats on Council bodies to be allocated in proportion to the Groups' share of the total membership of the Council.
- 1.3 Subsequently, on 24 June 2025, following the establishment of the Reform UK Group, Council approved the revised Political Proportionality for the City Council for 2025/26 based on the following updated Group numbers and amended appointments to Council and outside bodies accordingly:-
- Labour Group 40 seats
 - Conservative Group 10 seats
 - Green Group 2 seats
 - Reform UK Group 2 seats
- 1.4 On 1 August, 2025 Councillor G Lewis resigned from the Labour Group and Councillors S Gray, G Lewis and E Reeves formally notified the Proper Officer that they had formed the Green and Independent Alliance Group on the City Council, with Councillor Reeves as the Leader of the Group and Councillor Gray as the Deputy Leader. The revised Group numbers of the Council are now:-
- Labour Group – 39 seats
 - Conservative Group – 10 seats
 - Green and Independent Alliance Group – 3 seats
 - Reform UK Group – 2 seats
- 1.5 In accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, consideration needs to be given the revised Political Proportionality of the Council and to consequential amendments to the appointments to Council bodies for 2025/26. No changes are required to outside bodies.

- 1.6 The revised Political Proportionality for 2025/26 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report for approval at the meeting of the City Council on 2 September, 2025.
- 1.7 Following consultation with the Groups, the consequential amendments to appointments are detailed in paragraph 2 below

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

Council is recommended to:

- 1) Approve the revised Political Proportionality for the City Council for 2025/26, attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2) Approve the following amendments to appointments required as a result of the revised Political Proportionality :-
 - a) Appoint Councillor M Mutton to the Labour Group place on Planning Committee in place of Councillor G Lewis
 - b) Appoint Councillor S Agboola to the Labour Group place on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor G Lewis
 - c) Appoint Councillor F Abbott to the Labour Group place on the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) in place of Councillor G Lewis.
 - d) Appoint Councillor G Lewis to the Green and Independent Alliance Group place on the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) in place of Councillor F Abbott.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

The Group Leaders have been consulted on the appointments relevant to their Group.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

Amendments to appointments to Council bodies will take effect from the date of the Council meeting.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Law and Governance

5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.2 Legal implications

The revised Political Proportionality and amendments to the appointments to Council and outside bodies are in line with the Constitution and the political group proportionality requirements as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990

6. Other implications

Not applicable

Report author:

Name and job title:

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Law and Governance

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Service Area	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Names of approvers: (Officers and Members)				
Ewan Dewar	Head of Service Finance	-	05/08/25	05/08/25
Julie Newman	Director of Law and Governance	-	05/08/25	21/08/25

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