ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY – 2015/16

Report of the Chief Executive

- 1. The Council is asked to formally review the proportional political allocation of places on committees and to adopt a scheme of proportionality for the Council year 2015/16.
- 2. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities to review committee membership and political representation annually.
- 3. By law, seats on committees must be allocated in proportion to the political composition of the Council. An authority can only decide that it wishes to adopt an arrangement other than a proportional one if no Member votes against it.
- 4. The number of seats of each group on the Council and the resulting percentages are as follows:

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Residents' Association & Independent	UKIP	Other*
58	9	9	3	2
71.6%	11.11%	11.11%	3.7%	2.47%

* The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 require a constituted political group to be two or more members.

- 5. In determining the allocation of seats on ordinary committees, the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the Council is applied to the total number of elected Member seats on each committee. Fractional entitlements of less than one half are rounded down and entitlements of one half or more are rounded up. So that this process of rounding does not result in advantage to one political group, the aggregate membership of all the ordinary committees must also be in line with the proportions on the County Council.
- 6. With that in mind a scheme of proportionality for 2015/16 is attached at Annex 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee sizes and scheme of proportionality as set out in Annex 1 be adopted for 2015/16.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Local Government and Housing Act 198 Proportional Representation Table Constitution of the Council			

ANNEX 1

SCHEME OF PROPORTIONALITY 2015/16

	CON	LIB DEM	RA& IND	UKIP	Other	Total
SCRUTINY BOARDS						
Council Overview	11	2	2	0	0	15
Social Care Services	10	2	2	1	0	15
Education and Skills	9	1	1	0	1	12
Resident Experience	9	1	1	0	1	12
Economic Prosperity, Environment & Highways	10	2	2	1	0	15
Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny	9	1	1	1	0	12
PLANNING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE	8	1	1	1	1	12
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	0	6
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	0	6
SURREY PENSION FUND BOARD	4	1	1	0	0	6
	78	13	13	4	3	111
NON-PROPORTIONAL BODIES						
MEMBER CONDUCT PANEL	7	1	2	0	0	10
TOTAL	85	14	15	4	3	121

Note: Local Committees comprise the County Councillors for the electoral divisions within each Borough/District area and are not therefore required to be politically proportional.