

County Council Meeting – 8 May 2012

ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY – 2012/13

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 2012/13.
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	Resident's Assoc/ Independent	Other*
56	13	10	1
70%	16.25%	12.5%	1.25%

* 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 2012/13 is attached at Annex 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee sizes and scheme of proportionality as set out in Annex 1 be adopted for 2012/13.

CONTACT

Rachel Crossley
Democratic Services Lead Manager

TEL NO:

020 8541 9993

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Local Government and Housing Act 1989
Proportional Representation Table
Constitution of the Council

SCHEME OF PROPORTIONALITY 2012/13

	CON	LIBDEM	RA/IND	Other	Total
SELECT COMMITTEES					
Overview and Scrutiny	11	2	2	0	
Adult Social Care	9	2	1	0	
Children & Families	9	2	1	0	
Communities	8	2	2	0	
Education	8	2	2	0	
Environment & Transport	10	3	2	1	
Health Scrutiny	9	2	1	0	
PLANNING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE	8	2	2	0	
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	
	80	19	15	1	115
NON-PROPORTIONAL BODIES					
STANDARDS COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	6
TOTAL	84	20	16	1	121
SURREY POLICE AUTHORITY	6	2	1	0	9

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.