

ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY – 2020/21**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 2020/21.
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	Surrey Opposition Forum	Residents' Association & Independent	Other*
Number of councillors	57	10	11	3
Proportionality %	70.3%%	12.35%	13.6%	3.7%
Number of seats entitled to	54	10	10	3

* 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. Generally, 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. Committee seats are then allocated to each political group and these are appointed to in line with each political groups' wishes. The wishes of the Conservative Group is that four of the seats that they are entitled to have on committees are taken by the other groups. Further to those wishes, the committee seat allocation for 2020/21 is attached at Annex 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the scheme of proportionality and committees seat allocations (as set out in Annex 1) be adopted for 2020/21.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

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

ANNEX 1

COMMITTEE SEAT ALLOCATION FOR 2020/21

	CON	Surrey Opp Forum	RA & IND	Other	Total	Figs last year [^]
SELECT COMMITTEES						
Adults & Health	8	2	2	0	12*	12
Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture	8	1	2	1	12*	12
Communities, Environment & Highways	7	2	2	1	12	12
Performance & Resources	8	2	2	0	12	12
PLANNING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE	8	2	1	0	11	11
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	6	6
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	4	1	1	0	6	6
SURREY PENSION FUND COMMITTEE	3	1	1	1	6*	6
	50	12	12	3	77	77
<u>NON-PROPORTIONAL BODIES</u>						
MEMBER CONDUCT PANEL	7	1	2	0	10	10
TOTAL	57	13	14	3	87	87

* additional co-opted members are appointed to this committee

[^] figures given for similar committee, where possible

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

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