

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

15 May 2007

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Part 1- Public

Matters For Decision

1 POLITICAL BALANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMITTEES

1.1.1 Under section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (duty to allocate seats to political groups) and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Council is required to review the size and composition of any of its committees and sub-committees to which those provisions apply at the annual meeting of the Council.

1.1.2 Following the recent election, the number of seats held by each of the political parties is as follows:

Conservative	46
Liberal Democrat	7

1.1.3 The Council is required to determine the size and composition of its committees so as to reflect this political balance and, in consequence, it is necessary for those committees to be composed within the following options:

Size of Committee	Conservative	Liberal Democrat
23	20	3
22	19	3
21	18	3
20	17	3
19	16	3
18	16	2
17	15	2
16	14	2
15	13	2
14	12	2
13	11	2
12	10	2
11	10	1
10	9	1
9	8	1
8	7	1
7	6	1
6	5	1
5	4	1

1.2 **RECOMMENDED** that:

- 1) the size and composition of all committees and sub-committees remain unchanged;
- 2) the Chief Solicitor be authorised to make the appropriate amendments relating to the political balance to the Council's constitution.

Background papers:

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Local Government and Housing Act 1989
Local Government (Committees and Political Groups)
Regulations 1990
Constitution of Tonbridge and Malling Borough

Duncan Robinson
Monitoring Officer