



Annual Council – 23rd May 2005

Formation of political groups and appointments on Committees

Summary of report

This report informs the Council of the composition of political groups making up the Council. The report explains the political balance on Council Committees consistent with the provisions of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended). The report also sets out the nominations to Committees as supplied by political groups.

Recommendations

- (1) That the Council notes the receipt of returns from political groups.
- (2) That members be appointed to serve on Committees for the municipal year 2005/2006 as set out in the attached schedule.

Background papers

Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended)
Papers returned by Group Leaders to the Chief Executive May 2005

Political Groups

1. Returns have been received in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990 (as amended) as follows:-

- (a) **Conservative Group (36)**

Group Leader:	Councillor T.G. Ansell
Deputy Leader:	Councillor J.G. O'Hare

Councillor A. Andrew
Councillor M. Arif
Councillor Aqeel Aslam
Councillor C. Ault
Councillor L.A. Beeley
Councillor J. Beilby

Councillor M.A. Bird
Councillor G. Clarke
Councillor R.J.H. Collins
Councillor B.A. Douglas-Maul
Councillor A.E. Griffiths
Councillor A.D. Harris
Councillor L.A. Harrison
Councillor E.F. Hughes
Councillor H. Khan
Councillor M. Longhi
Councillor R.A. Martin
Councillor B.V. McCracken
Councillor C. Micklewright
Councillor M. Munir
Councillor A.J. Paul
Councillor G. Perry
Councillor D.J. Pitt
Councillor M.G. Pitt
Councillor J. Rochelle
Councillor C.E.M. Rose
Councillor B. Sanders
Councillor K. Sears
Councillor C.D.D. Towe
Councillor D.J. Turner
Councillor W.T. Tweddle
Councillor R.E. Walker
Councillor M. Yasin
Councillor Zahid Ali

(b) Labour Group (16)

Group Leader: Councillor T.S. Oliver
Deputy Leader: Councillor S.P. Coughlan

Councillor D.A. Anson
Councillor J.M. Barton
Councillor R. Burley
Councillor B. Cassidy
Councillor K. Chambers
Councillor A. D. Johnson
Councillor S.W. Madeley
Councillor K. Phillips
Councillor I.S. Robertson
Councillor R.S. Robinson
Councillor H.S. Sarohi
Councillor A. Underhill
Councillor H. Withnall
Councillor P.A. Young

(c) **Liberal Democrat (6)**

Group Leader: Councillor I. Shires
Deputy Leader: Councillor Mrs. E.E. Pitt

Councillor A.G. Bentley
Councillor J.R. Cook
Councillor D.A. Shires
Councillor V. Woodruff

2. Councillor Bott does not belong to any political group and is referred to as an independent member.

Ratio for allocation of Committee seats

3. The allocation of Council Committee places must be made in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989. Achieving political balance is a complex process which requires a compromise to be made between sets of calculations. This can result in marginal differences which may be significant to Committee representation of individual political groups. The required "balance" has to be achieved by the Council allocating seats on individual Committees to properly constituted political groups based on the size of each group in relation to the size of the Council and so far as is reasonably practicable at the same time the total number of seats allocated to each group across all Committees must be in the same proportion.
4. These calculations are rarely exact, but in seeking to ensure all if the Council seeks to ensure that all political groups are dealt with fairly, this report implements the requirements of the relevant legislation.
5. The Council is open to legal challenge if it was thought not to have used its best endeavours to achieve "so far as reasonably practicable" a position where the allocation of seats reflects the political make-up of the Council. The final decision necessary to achieve political balance lies with the Council and officers have worked to bring forward to Council clear recommendations to achieve the intentions of the legislation.
5. On the basis of the political groups the allocation of seats on Committees must be calculated in the ratio of 36 : 16: 6: 1: reflecting the size of the groups on the Council, together with one vacancy which is the subject of a by-election to be held on 9th June 2005.
6. The declared Political Groups will be asked for nominations to the allocated places in accordance with their numerical strength as recorded in their returns to the Chief Executive.
7. At the time of writing this report, the allocation of seats on Committees remain the same as for the municipal year 2004/2005 despite the small change in membership.

8. However, following the by-election on 9th June 2005, there will be the need to re-calculate the political balance.

Schedule

The attached schedule shows the number of seats to which each political group is entitled overall as well as individual Committees.

Chief Executive

Date: 25th May 2005

APPOINTMENTS ON COMMITTEES

REGULATORY COMMITTEES	Seats	Composition	Proposed membership
1. Audit	7	Con (4) Lab (2) Lib Dem (1)	Griffiths Martin D. Pitt Turner Chambers Robertson D.A. Shires
2. Appointments Board <i>(All appointees must have completed relevant training prior to sitting on any panel)</i>	7	Con (4) Lab (2) Lib Dem (1)	Ansell O'Hare + 2 Members of Cabinet relevant to the appointment Phillips 1 Member relevant to appointment I. Shires
3. Development Control <i>(This Committee is not subject to the requirements for political balance)</i>	20	Ward: Ald. Central & South Ald. North & W. Wood Bentley & Darl North Birchills-Leamore Blakenall Bloxwich East Bloxwich West Brownhills Darlaston South Paddock Palfrey Pelsall Pheasey Park Farm Pleck Rushall-Shelfield Short Heath St. Matthews Streetly Willenhall North Willenhall South	Rochelle Collins Madeley Barton Robinson Beeley Harrison Turner Burley Sanders Yasin Ault Bird Anson Micklewright Cook Khan Douglas-Maul Bentley Underhill

<p>4. Employment Appeals</p> <p>(Note: Not to be Members of the Appointments Brd.)</p>	7	<p>Con (4)</p> <p>Lab (2)</p> <p>Lib Dem (1)</p>	<p>Beilby Douglas-Maul Micklewright Rose</p> <p>Oliver Sarohi</p> <p>Cook</p>
5. Licensing and Safety	14	<p>Con (8)</p> <p>Lab (5)</p> <p>Lib Dem (1)</p>	<p>Beeley Beilby Clarke Micklewright Rochelle Rose Sears Twedde</p> <p>Barton Cassidy Johnson Robinson Sarohi</p> <p>Bentley</p>
6. LEA Governor Appointment Panel	5	<p>Con (3)</p> <p>Lab (1)</p> <p>Lib Dem (1)</p>	<p>Towe Walker Yasin</p> <p>Phillips</p> <p>D.A. Shires</p>
<p>7. Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Leader of the Council 1 Member from each Political Group 6 independent members 	3	<p>Deputy Leader of Council</p> <p>Con (1)</p> <p>Lab (1)</p> <p>Lib Dem (1)</p>	<p>O'Hare</p> <p>Khan</p> <p>Underhill</p> <p>Bentley</p> <p>Mr. Bates (2005/6) Mr. Meller (2005/6) Mr. Taylor (2006/7) Mrs. Parsons (2006/7) 2 vacancies</p>

SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANELS	Seats	Composition	Current membership
8. Childrens Services and Lifelong Learning	9	Con (5) Lab (3) Lib Dem (1) together with representatives from:	Arif Bird Khan Martin Walker Cassidy Chambers Withnall E.E. Pitt Lichfield Diocesan Education (voting) (1) Archbishop of Birmingham (voting) (1) Parent Governors (voting)(3) Primary Education Teachers (non-voting) (1) Secondary Education Teachers (non-voting) (1)
9. Community, Organisation, Leisure and Culture	9	Con (5) Lab (2) Lib Dem (1) Ind (1)	Arif Ault Beeley Beilby Towe Burley Phillips Woodruff Bott
10. Health and Social Care	9	Con (5) Lab (3) Lib Dem (1)	Ault McCracken Munir D. Pitt Walker Barton Oliver Roberston Woodruff

11. Regeneration, Environment, Housing and Community Safety	9	<div>Con (5)</div> <div>Lab (3)</div> <div>Lib Dem (1)</div>	<div>Arif Aslam Harrison Rose Yasin</div> <div>Anson Johnson Robinson</div> <div>I. Shires</div>
12. Resources and Performance	9	<div>Con (5)</div> <div>Lab (3)</div> <div>Lib Dem (1)</div>	<div>Griffiths Micklewright Rochelle Turner Sanders</div> <div>Chambers Saroji Young</div> <div>D.A. Shires</div>

ADJOURNED COUNCIL – 23RD MAY 2005

ITEM 13 - MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE (CABINET)

Description of portfolio	Name of portfolio holder
1. Leader of the Council	Councillor Ansell
2. Deputy Leader of the Council and Resources	Councillor O'Hare
3. Childrens Services	Councillor Hughes
4. Environment and Transport	Councillor Longhi
5. Housing and Community Safety	Councillor M.G. Pitt
6. Local Partnerships	Councillor Zahid
7. Leisure and Culture	Councillor Perry
8. Regeneration	Councillor Andrew
9. Social Care and Health	Councillor Paul

ADJOURNED COUNCIL – 25TH MAY 2005

ITEM 14 - CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

Committee	Chair	Vice-Chair
Audit	Councillor Turner	Councillor Martin
Appointments Board	Councillor Ansell	Councillor O'Hare
Development Control	Councillor Collins	Councillor Beeley
Employment Appeals	Councillor Douglas-Maul	Councillor Micklewright
LEA Governor Appointment Panel	Councillor Yasin	Councillor Towe
Licensing and Safety	Councillor Sears	Councillor Twedde
Childrens Services and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Bird	Councillor E.E. Pitt
Community Organisation Leisure and Culture Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Towe	Councillor Phillips
Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Oliver	Councillor Walker
Regeneration, Environment, Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor I. Shires	Councillor Arif
Resources and Performance Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Sanders	Councillor Sarohi

ADJOURNED COUNCIL – 25TH MAY 2005

ITEM 17 - APPOINTMENTS ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND CHARITIES (NON CONTESTED NOMINATIONS)

Outside Bodies	No. of reps	Representatives		
		Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
Local Government – General Assembly (Note: 1 nominee to be allocated 2 votes)	4	Ansell (2 votes) Douglas-Maul	Oliver	I. Shires
West Midlands Local Government Association Council	3	Ansell (4 votes) Douglas-Maul (alternate)	Oliver (2 votes) Coughlan (alternate)	I. Shires (1 vote) E.E. Pitt (alternate)
West Midlands Local Government Association Provincial Council	1 (1 sub)	Griffiths Harris (sub)		
West Midlands Local Government Association Planning Partnership	4	Griffiths (4 votes) Douglas-Maul Micklewright] alternate Harris] members	Oliver (2 votes) Coughlan (alternate)	Cook (1 vote) Bentley (alternate)
West Midlands Fire and Civil Defence Authority	2 (Con) 1 (Lab)	Douglas-Maul Perry	Underhill	
To appoint an elected Member and Deputy from the above nominations to answer questions on Fire and Civil Defence Authority matters at Council during 2005/06	2 (Con)	M. Pitt Douglas-Maul		
West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority	2 (Con) 1 (Lab)	Clarke Longhi	Chambers	
To appoint an elected Member and Deputy from the above nominations to answer questions on Passenger Transport Authority matters at Council during 2005/06	2 (Con)	Clarke Longhi		

West Midlands Joint Committee	3	Ansell (voting) O'Hare (non-voting)	Oliver (non voting)	
Advantage West Midlands Regeneration Zone	1	Andrew		
Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited – Board	1	Collins		
Black Country Consortium (Leader or nominee)	1	Ansell		
Black Country Groundwork Trust	1	Longhi		
Black Country Investment: Management Group (Leader or nominee)	1	O'Hare		
Black Country Small Business Service Board	1	Towe		
Housing Groups Walsall Aldridge Brownhills Bloxwich Central Walsall Darlaston Willenhall	3 1	Sanders Paul Beeley Yasin	Coughlan Burley	I. Shires Cook
Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference	1	Longhi		
New Deal Board	1	Tweddle		
Safer Walsall Borough Partnership	1	M.G. Pitt (appropriate Cabinet Portfolio Holder		

Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited	1	Ansell		
Walsall and Wolverhampton Transport Users Advisory Committee	1	Douglas-Maul		
Walsall Arts Council	2	Douglas-Maul	Chambers	
Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau	2	Rochelle	Cassidy	
Walsall College of Continuing Education	2	Khan	Cassidy	
Walsall Community Transport	1	Clarke		
Walsall Voluntary Action	2	Walker	Phillips	
Walsall Education Business Partnership	2	Towe Griffiths		
Walsall Museum and Arts Galleries Development Trust	1	Perry		
Walsall Society for the Blind	2	Martin	Barton	
West Midlands Joint Committee – Community Safety Sub-Committee	1	M.G. Pitt		
West Midlands Planning and Transportation Sub-Committee	3	Longhi (voting) Douglas-Maul (non-voting)	Chambers (substitute)	
West Midlands Superannuation Committee, Investment Advisory Sub-Committee and Joint Consultative Panel	2	Zahid (voting)	Chambers (substitute)	

CHARITIES

Charity		No. of reps	Representatives
Walsall Enterprise Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Borough wide• Relief of persons resident in Walsall who are physically or mentally handicapped by the provision of a narrow boat for recreation and educational purposes	3 Members	Beilby (Conservative) Coughlan (Labour) Rochelle (Conservative)

ADVISORY AND STATUTORY BODIES

Advisory and Statutory Bodies	No. of reps	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
Adoption Panel	2 (Con) (Note: Either from Executive or relevant Scrutiny Panel dealing with Social Services functions)	Paul Beilby		
School Organisation Committee	7 4 (Con) 2 (Lab) 1 (L/D)	Walker Bird Munir Micklewright	Cassidy Chambers	E.E. Pitt
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education	7 4 (Con) 2 (Lab) 1 (L/D) (Note: Political balance rules apply)	Rochelle Ault Munir Yasin	Phillips Withnall	Bentley
Walsall Education Board	3 (Note: One from each of the 3 largest political groups at least one being a Cabinet or Scrutiny Panel member)	Hughes	Cassidy	E.E. Pitt
Walsall Admission Forum	4 2 (Con) 1 (Lab) 1 (Lib Dem)	Turner Walker	Chambers	E. E. Pitt

New nominations for 2005/2006

Outside Bodies	No. of reps	Representatives		
		Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
Black Country Museum Trust Ltd	1	Perry		
South Staffs Water – Customer Consultative Committee	1	Rose		
Supporting People Commissioning Body (Portfolio for Health & Social Care)	1	Paul		
VAT Shelter for Housing Regeneration	3	Andrew M. Pitt	Robertson	

Charity		No. of reps	Representatives
Roger Hinton's Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lichfield, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Stafford Benefit of the poor or other deserving and necessitous persons 	2	The Mayor and Deputy Mayor