



Licensing and Safety Committee

Membership of Taxi Licensing Sub-Committees

1. Aim

- 1.1 To provide an opportunity to review the membership of Taxi Licensing Sub-committees 'A' and 'B' following the political balance review and changes to the membership of committees made at the Council meeting on 8 January 2024.

2. Summary

- 2.1 Taxi Sub-committees were established by the Licensing and Safety Committee at its first meeting of the municipal year on 6 June 2023 to deal with taxi/private hire applications under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976. Members were appointed thereto reflecting the political balance of the Licensing and Safety Committee.
- 2.2 Due to the formation of a new political group, the Council has subsequently reviewed political balance on committees.
- 2.3 Paragraph 4.2 of the report sets out the current membership of the sub committees. Paragraph 4.3 sets out the changes following the Council meeting. Paragraph 5 sets out options for members to consider.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That members of the Licensing and Safety Committee:-

a) be appointed to each of the sub committees, Taxi 'A' and Taxi 'B', for the remainder of the Municipal Year, in accordance with the revised political balance which is currently:

- 4 Conservative
- 2 Labour
- 1 Independent Group;

Or:

b) That the membership of the Taxi A and B sub-committees remain unchanged for the remainder of the municipal year;

3.2 Appoint to the vacant position on Taxi Licensing Sub-committee 'A'.

3.3 Note that the Chairs and Vice-chairs of each sub-committee remain unchanged.

4. Report detail

Context:

4.1 Taxi Sub-committees were established by the Licensing and Safety Committee at its first meeting of the municipal year on 6 June 2023 to deal with taxi/private hire applications under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976. A copy of the report is attached which contains the background information relating to the purpose and remit of the sub-committees.

4.2 It was resolved that 7 members should form each sub-committee and that the membership should reflect the political balance of the main committee. Therefore, taxi sub-committees consisted of:-

- 4 conservative; and
- 3 labour members.

Members were appointed as follows:

Taxi A:

Conservative (4)	Labour (3)
Cooper (Ch)	K. Hussain
Bains (VC)	Nawaz
Gandham	Nasreen
Martin	

Taxi B:

Conservative (4)	Labour (3)
Rasab (Ch),	K. Hussain
A Hussain (VC)	Nawaz
Gill,	C. Bott
Kaur	

4.3 Following the Council meeting, the allocation of political balance to the sub-committees is now:

- 4 Conservative
- 2 Labour

- 1 Independent Group

Should sub committees remain unchanged, arrangements would be as follows:-

Taxi A

Conservative (4)	Labour (2) *Underrepresented by 1	Independent Group (1) *overrepresented by 1
Cooper (Ch)	Vacant (Cllr Nasreen no longer a member)	K. Hussain
Bains (VC)		Nawaz
Gandham		
Martin		

Taxi B

Conservative (4)	Labour (2) *Underrepresented by 1	Independent Group (1) *overrepresented by 1
Rasab (Ch),	C. Bott	K. Hussain
A Hussain (VC)		Nawaz
Gill		
Kaur		

- 4.4 This is the first meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee since the review of political balance and changes to the membership of its committees by Council on 8 January 2024 and therefore the committee is asked to consider these changes and confirm or make new appointments to the sub-committee, to reflect the new political balance of the Council.
- 4.5 Taxi Licensing Sub Committee 'A' convenes at 10 a.m. and Taxi Licensing Sub Committee 'B' convenes at 6 p.m.
5. **Financial implications**
- 5.1 None arising directly from this report
6. **Legal implications**
- 6.1 Taxi sub-committees are not required to be politically balanced as they are not ordinary or advisory, they are quasi-judicial in nature. However, the Licensing and Safety committee has each year decided that political balance should apply.

7. Staffing implications

- 7.1 Taxi sub-committees are supported by officers from Democratic Services, Regulatory Services and Legal services.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The leaders of the relevant political groups are aware of the position.

9. Decide

- 9.1 The Committee has discretion to decide whether it wishes to carry out its duties itself or delegate to a sub-committee and if so, to appoint members thereto.

Options:

1. To appoint members to the sub-committees in accordance with political balance; or
2. To make no changes to the existing membership except to appoint to the vacant position on Taxi sub-committee A.

10. Respond

- 10.1 Any changes to the membership will be implemented immediately. There are two meetings of each sub-committee scheduled until the end of the municipal year.

11. Review

- 11.1 The appointment and membership of sub-committees is decided upon at the first meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee each Municipal year.

Appendices

Report to Licensing and Safety Committee, 6 June 2023

Background papers

None

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