



City of Westminster

# Follow On Agenda

Title: **Council Meeting**

Meeting Date: **Wednesday 17th May, 2023**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Westminster Council House, 97-113 Marylebone Road,  
London, NW1 5PT**

Members: **All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting  
for the transaction of the business set out.**

**In line with legislation Committee members will attend the meeting in person. This meeting will be live streamed through the Council's website.**

**Limited admission to the public gallery is available from 6.30pm. Please telephone if you are attending the meeting in a wheelchair or have difficulty walking up steps. There is wheelchair access via the Sammy Ofer Centre.**

**If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Janis Best, Committee and Councillor Support Manager.**

**Email: [jbest@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:jbest@westminster.gov.uk) Tel: 07971 920521  
Corporate Website: [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)**

**6. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS**

**(Pages 3 - 16)**

To receive and consider the report and recommendations of the Director of Law as to the appointment and proportional allocation of places on Standing Committees to the Political Groups on the Council in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended) and as to the appointment of members to Committees in accordance with those regulations.

**64 Victoria Street  
London, SW1E 6QP  
15 May 2023**

**Chief Executive**



City of Westminster

## Annual Council Report

<b>Date:</b>	<b>17 May 2023</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>For General Release</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Constitutional Matters</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Law</b>
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Policy Context:</b>	<b>Management of the Council</b>
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Richard Cressey, Head of Governance and Councillor Liaison</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:rcressey@westminster.gov.uk">rcressey@westminster.gov.uk</a></b>

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required to confirm the proportional division of seats on the Standing Committees and to note the Members appointed to them.
- 1.2 The Committees are required to appoint and confirm the proportional division of seats on their Sub-Committees and subsidiary bodies, and to note the Members appointed to them. The Committees will meet on the rising of the Annual Council Meeting to do this. This is also an opportunity for any changes to Committee chairs to be appointed as required by Chapter 5, section 22.2(1) of the Council's Constitution.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council determine the allocation of places on the following standing committees and notes the names of the Members appointed to them following notification by the respective Party Whips, as set out below and detailed in Appendix A.

2.2 That the Council confirm the proportional division of seats on the Standing Committees as set out below.

Committee	Members		
	Total	Labour	Conservative
Audit and Performance Committee	4	3	1
General Purposes Committee	4	3	1
Westminster Scrutiny Commission	7	4	3
Communities, City Management and Air Quality P&S	7	4	3
Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector P&S	7	4	3
Finance, Planning and Economic Development P&S	7	4	3
Climate Action, Housing and Regeneration P&S	7	4	3
Standards Committee	5	3	2
Pensions Fund Committee	4	3	1
Planning & City Development Committee	14	8	6
Licensing Committee	15	8	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Target number (and variance)</b>		<b>47 (+1)</b>	<b>34 (-1)</b>

### 3. Background

3.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities, where Members are divided into political groups, to review annually the representation of the political groups on their Committees and Sub-Committees to ensure a political balance.

3.2 The following principles apply to the allocation of seats in sequential order:

- (a) That not all the seats on the body to which appointments are being made are allocated to the same political group;
- (b) That the majority of seats on each Committee are allocated to a particular group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership;
- (c) That, subject to (a) and (b), when allocating seats to a political group, the total number of their seats across all the ordinary committees of the Council must reflect their proportion of the authority's membership; and
- (d) Subject to (a) to (c), that the number of seats on each committee is, as far as possible, in proportion to the group's membership of the authority.

- 3.3 Sub-Committees are also governed by the political balance rules, but it is not necessary to add up all the Sub-Committee seats and then allocate them in proportion. As far as this is practicable, the allocation of seats on each Sub-Committee should reflect the proportional representation of the political groups on the Council.
- 3.4 The Labour and Conservative Groups hold, respectively, 31 and 23 of the total of 54 Council seats. The proportion by which seats on Committees should be allocated is 57.41% Majority Group and 42.59% Opposition Group.
- 3.5 The proposed allocation of committee seats is detailed above in paragraph 2.2 and on the basis of the 81 committee seats, this equates, to 48 Majority Party and 33 Opposition Party seats. Following the principles set out at 3.2, the only way to ensure a majority of seats on each Committee were allocated to the Majority Group would be to allocate 48 seats to the Majority Group and 33 to the Opposition Group, creating a variance of one seat in favour of the Majority party. The Chief Executive and the Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) have confirmed that this proposed allocation is in accordance with the proportionality rules.
- 3.6 Membership of the Council's Standing Committees and Sub-Committees is governed by Chapter 5, Section 22.1 which, in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, as amended, provides for Members of Standing Committees and Sub-Committees to be those whose names have been notified to the Chief Executive, who is the duly appointed proper officer for these purposes. The Chief Executive has the delegated power to appoint to all Standing Committees and Sub-Committees in accordance with notifications received from Party officers under the Regulations.
- 3.7 Both political groups on the Council have to notify the Chief Executive of the names of the Members to serve on the Standing Committees, Sub-Committees and subsidiary bodies. It is for the Council to note the Standing Committee memberships as set out in Appendix A to this report and for the Standing Committees to note their Sub-Committee memberships in due course. In addition, the Standing Committees will be asked to appoint their Chairs, where necessary, as set out in the Constitution.
- 3.8 The City Council is required to appoint a Licensing Committee in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. In accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act the minimum number of Members who can be appointed to the Licensing Committee is 10 and the maximum 15. The Council, as the busiest Licensing authority, has always appointed the maximum number of Members.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report as all positions which are remunerated are covered by the existing Members' Allowances scheme.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The Council is required to carry out a review of seats at least annually in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. These requirements are reflected in this report.

**If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect any of the background papers please contact Tristan Fieldsend.  
Email: [tfieldsend@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:tfieldsend@westminster.gov.uk)**

### **Background Papers**

The Constitution – available via the Council's website

#### **Appendices:**

- Appendix A – Memberships of the Standing Committees

**WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Key:

(Ch) Chairman

(VCh) – Vice Chairman

**STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

COMMITTEE	CONSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP	
		LAB	CON
Audit and Performance	4	3 Cllr Aziz Toki (Ch) Cllr Jessica Toale Cllr Paul Fisher	1 Cllr Alan Mendoza
General Purposes	4	3 Cllr David Boothroyd (Ch) Cllr Aicha Less Cllr Ellie Ormsby	1 Cllr Mark Shearer
Pension Fund	4	3 Cllr Robert Eagleton (Ch) Cllr Ryan Jude Cllr Maggie Carman	1 Cllr Ed Pitt-Ford
Westminster Scrutiny Commission	7	4 Cllr Angela Piddock (Ch) Cllr Concia Albert Cllr Jason Williams Cllr Paul Fisher	3 Cllr Rachael Robathan Cllr Tim Mitchell Cllr Lorraine Dean
Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector  Nb. The membership of this P&S Committee will include 4 co-opted members with voting rights on Education matters only)	7	4 Cllr Angela Piddock Cllr Ellie Ormsby Cllr Max Sullivan Cllr Iman Less	3 Cllr Lorraine Dean Cllr Ralu Oteh-Osoka Cllr Selina Short

Communities, City Management & Air Quality	7	4 Cllr Jason Williams (Ch) Cllr Hamza Taouzalle Cllr James Small-Edwards Cllr Judith Southern	3 Cllr Mark Shearer Cllr Tim Mitchell Cllr Laila Cunningham
Finance, Planning & Economic Development	7	4 Cllr Paul Fisher (Ch) Cllr Patrick Lilley Cllr Sara Hassan Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury	3 Cllr Paul Swaddle Cllr Ian Rowley Cllr Alan Mendoza
Climate Action, Housing and Regeneration	7	4 Cllr Concia Albert Cllr Gillian Arrindell Cllr Cara Sanquest Cllr Robert Eagleton	3 Cllr David Harvey Cllr Elizabeth Hitchcock Cllr Ed Pitt Ford
Standards Committee	5	3 Cllr Ruth Bush (Ch) Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury Cllr Sara Hassan	2 Cllr Louise Hyams Cllr Tim Mitchell
Licensing Committee	15	8 Cllr Aziz Toki (Ch) Cllr Maggie Carman (VCh) Cllr Concia Albert Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury Cllr Robert Eagleton Cllr Judith Southern Cllr Angela Piddock Cllr Iman Less	7 Cllr Jim Glen Cllr Tim Mitchell Cllr Jacqui Wilkinson Cllr Louise Hyams Cllr Melvyn Caplan Cllr Caroline Sargent Cllr Karen Scarborough
Planning and City Development	14	8 Cllr Ruth Bush (Ch) Cllr Jason Williams (VCh) Cllr Paul Fisher Cllr Nafsika Butler-Thalassis Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury Cllr Ryan Jude Cllr Cara Sanquest Cllr Sara Hassan	6 Cllr Robert Rigby Cllr Elizabeth Hitchcock Cllr Jim Glen Cllr Barbara Arzymanow Cllr Ed Pitt-Ford Cllr Amanda Langford



**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO PLANNING**

SUB-COMMITTEE	CONSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP	
		LAB	CON
Planning (Major Applications) Sub-Committee	6	4 Cllr Ruth Bush (Ch) Cllr Jason Williams Cllr Paul Fisher Cllr Nafsika Butler-Thalassis	2 Cllr Robert Rigby Cllr Jim Glen
Planning Applications Sub (1)  Nb. membership of individual sub-committees will vary depending on member availability. This will notified in advance of the meeting	4	3 Cllr Jason Williams (Ch) Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury Cllr Sara Hassan	1 Cllr Elizabeth Hitchcock
Planning Applications Sub (2)	4	3 Cllr Paul Fisher (Ch) Cllr Ryan Jude Cllr Md Shamsed Chowdhury	1 Cllr Barbara Arzymanow
Planning Applications Sub (3)	4	3 Cllr Nafsika Butler-Thalassis (Ch) Cllr Cara Sanquest Cllr Ryan Jude	1 Cllr Amanda Langford

Planning Reserves: Councillor Ed-Pitt-Ford

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO POLICY AND SCRUTINY**

<b>SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
		<b>LAB</b>	<b>CON</b>
Health Urgency Sub-Committee (Sub of Children & Adults, Public Health & Voluntary Sector P&S Committee)	3	2 Cllr Angela Piddock (Ch) Cllr Ellie Ormsby	1 Cllr Lorraine Dean

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE**

<b>SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
		<b>LAB</b>	<b>CON</b>
AP Urgency	3	2 Cllr Aziz Toki (Ch) Cllr Jessica Toale	1 Cllr Alan Mendoza
Appointments  Nb. This represents the core membership. Substitutions will be made based on the content of roles under consideration and availability of members	4	3 Cllr Adam Hug (Ch) Cllr Matt Noble Cllr Liza Begum	1 Cllr Rachael Robathan
Staff Appeals	3	2 Cllr Adam Hug (Ch) Cllr Robert Eagleton	1 Cllr Rachael Robathan

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO GENERAL PURPOSES**

<b>SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
		<b>LAB</b>	<b>CON</b>
GP Urgency	3	2 Cllr David Boothroyd (Ch) Cllr Ellie Ormsby	1 Cllr Mark Shearer
Education Appeals	3	2 Cllr Judith Southern (Ch) Cllr Angela Piddock	1 Cllr Karen Scarborough

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO LICENSING**

SUB-COMMITTEE	CONSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP	
		LAB	CON
Licensing Urgency	3	2 Cllr Aziz Toki (Ch) Cllr Maggie Carman	1 Cllr Karen Scarborough

*The membership of the Licensing Sub-Committees (3 Members) are drawn from the list of Licensing Committee Members & appointed by the Director of Law in accordance with delegated authority.*

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO PENSIONS**

<b>SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
		<b>LAB</b>	<b>CON</b>
Pension Fund Urgency	3	2 Cllr Robert Eagleton (Ch) Cllr Ryan Jude	1 Cllr Ed-Pitt-Ford

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO STANDARDS**

<b>SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
		<b>LAB</b>	<b>CON</b>
Standards Urgency	3	2 Cllr Ruth Bush (Ch) Cllr Sara Hassan	1 Cllr Louise Hyams

**ADVISORY PANELS REPORTING TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR  
FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

Proportionality Rules do not apply to these Committees and Panels

SUB-COMMITTEE	CONSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP	
		LAB	CON
Ratings Panel	4	3 Cllr Concia Albert (Ch) Cllr Robert Eagleton Cllr Patrick Lilley	1 Cllr Paul Swaddle
Discretionary Housing Payments Panel	4	3 Cllr Gillian Arrindell (Ch) Cllr Angela Piddock Cllr Maggie Carman	1 Cllr Lorraine Dean