



City of Westminster

Annual Council Report

Date:	17 May 2017
Classification:	For General Release
Title:	Constitutional Issues – Review of Proportionality of Seats on Committees
Report of:	Chief Executive
Wards Involved:	Not applicable
Policy Context:	Management of the Council
Financial Summary:	No financial implications
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required to determine the allocation of places on standing committees to political groups in accordance with the proportionality rules. Members of Committees and Sub-Committees are appointed by the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the political groups following a notification process provided that the appointments are in accordance with the proportionality rules. Those committees which will need to will meet on the rising of the Annual Council Meeting to determine the allocation of places on their Sub-Committees. The names of the Members appointed to Committees and Sub-Committees is set out in Appendix A.
- 1.2 The Leader of the Council is responsible for the appointment of Cabinet Members and for the allocation of duties (terms of reference). The Cabinet Members are as appointed by the Leader. The Leader of the Council has indicated that for the purposes of this report there are no such changes to those reported to Council on 25 January 2017.

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 (including any

changes), 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 including the establishment of an additional Planning Applications Committee as shown in column 3 of Appendix A as set out below:

Committee	Members	Proportionality		
		Con	Labour	Independent
Audit and Performance	4	3	1	
General Purposes	4	3	1	
Westminster Scrutiny Commission	6	4	2	
Children, Environment and Leisure *	8	6	2	
P&S Services				
Adults, Health and Public Protection P&S	8	6	2	
Business, Planning and Transport P&S	8	6	2	
Housing, Finance and Corporate Services P&S	8	6	2	
Standards	6	4	2	
Pension Fund	4	3	1	
Licensing	15	11	3	1
City Planning and Development	16	12	4	
	87	64	22	1

* In addition there are 4 Co-opted Members with voting rights

3. Background

- 3.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities, where Members are divided into political groups, to review, at least annually, the representation of the political groups on their Committees and Sub-Committees to ensure a political balance.
- 3.2 The Conservative and Labour Groups hold, respectively, 44 and 15 of the total of 60 Council seats with one Independent Member. The proportion by which seats on Committees should be allocated is 73.33% Majority Group, 25% Minority Group and 1.67% for the Independent Member. This equates with rounding on the basis of 87 committee seats, to 64 Majority Party (63.8%), 22 Minority Party (21.75%) and 1 for the Independent Member (1.45%).

- 3.3 Membership of the Council's Standing Committees and Sub-Committees is governed by Standing Order 28 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 by the duly appointed party group officer. The Chief Executive has delegated power to appoint to all Standing Committees and their Sub-Committees in accordance with any notification received under the Regulations.
- 3.4 The Council will recall that at its meeting on 3 May 2017 it agreed, on the basis of legal advice, that the Licensing Committee would now come within the scope of the proportionality rules. The figures in this report now reflect this.
- 3.5 The Independent Member, Councillor Gassanly, has been consulted and indicated that he wishes to sit on the Licensing Committee. Councillor Gassanly is entitled to one Committee seat. The respective party Chief Whips have also indicated that they support Councillor Gassanly's seat being on the Licensing Committee. Nonetheless, it is a matter for the full Council to finally determine which Committee seat should be allocated to Councillor Gassanly. Recommendation 2.2 reflects the wish of Councillor Gassanly and the respective Chief Whips.
- 3.6 The proportionality figures have been impacted by the changes in the Planning Applications Committees becoming Sub-Committees of the Planning and City Development Committee.
- 3.7 Both political groups on the Council are required to notify the Chief Executive of the names of the Members allocated a seat on the Standing Committees, Sub-Committees and subsidiary bodies. It is for the Council to note the Committee memberships as set out in Appendix A to this report and for the Committees to note their Sub-Committee memberships. In addition, the Standing Committees will, where necessary, be asked to note the proportionality of Members on their Sub-Committees and also appoint new Sub-Committees where necessary. In accordance with the Council decision on 3 May 2017. The meeting of the Licensing Committee will consider the appointment of the additional Licensing Sub-Committee and the Planning and City Development Committee will consider the appointment of the Planning Application Sub-Committees in place of the Planning Application Committees.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Council is required to carry out a review of the representation of different political groups from time to time 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.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Mick Steward; Tel: 020 7641 3134
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Background Papers: There are no further background papers

Appendices

Appendix A – List of Committee/Memberships

APPENDIX A

**WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership (C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman (V.CH) Vice-Chairman
		Con	Lab	
Audit and Performance	4	3	1	Ian Rowley (CH) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Lindsey Hall (C) Judith Warner (C)
General Purposes	4	3	1	Tim Mitchell (CH) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Melvyn Caplan (C) Robert Davis (V.CH) (C)
Pension Fund Committee	4	3	1	Suhail Rahuja (CH) (C) Peter Cuthbertson (C) Patricia McAllister (L) Ian Rowley (C)
Planning and City Development Committee	16	12	4	Richard Beddoe (Ch) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Susie Burbridge (C) Ruth Bush (L) Iain Bott (C) Melvyn Caplan (C) Paul Church (C) Jonathan Glanz (C) Barbara Grahame (L) Angela Harvey (C) Louise Hyams (C) Tim Mitchell (C) Gotz Mohindra (C) Robert Rigby (C) Andrew Smith (C) Jason Williams (L)

**WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL
POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership
		Con	Lab	
				(C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman
Westminster Scrutiny Commission	6	4	2	Andrew Smith (C) Jonathan Glanz (C) Brian Connell (C) Tony Devenish (C) Barrie Taylor (L) _____ (L)
Adults, Health and Public Protection	8	6	2	Jonathan Glanz (CH) (C) Barbara Arzymanow (C) Susie Burbridge (C) Patricia McAllister (L) Jan Prendergast (C) Glenys Roberts (C) Gotz Mohindra (C) Barrie Taylor (L)
NB: The Urgency Sub-Committee membership of the Adults, Health and Public Protection P&S Committee will be determined as necessary on a proportional split of 2:1				
Business Planning and Transport Services	8	6	2	Tony Devenish (CH) (C) Julia Alexander (C) Tom Crockett (C) Louise Hyams (C) Paul Dimoldenberg (L) Karen Scarborough (C) Cameron Thomson (C) Jason Williams (L)
Children, Environment & Leisure	8	6	2	Andrew Smith (Ch) (C) Iain Bott (C) Rita Begum (L) Melvyn Caplan (C) Peter Cuthbertson (C) Nick Evans (C) Aicha Less (L) Robert Rigby (C)

* Plus 6 Co-opted Members (4 voting)

**WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL
POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership
		Con	Lab	
				(C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman
Housing, Finance and Corporate Services	8	6	2	Brian Connell (CH) (C) Paul Church (C) Adam Hug (L) Peter Freeman (C) Tim Roca (L) Adnan Mohammed (C) Jacqui Wilkinson (C) Nick Evans (C)
Standards Committee	6	4	2	Melvyn Caplan (C) David Boothroyd (L) Ruth Bush (L) Brian Connell (C) Louise Hyams (C) Judith Warner (CH) (C)
* Licensing Committee	15	11	3	Angela Harvey (CH) (C) (Ch Sub) Heather Acton (C) Rita Begum (L) Susie Burbridge (C) Melvyn Caplan (CH) (Sub) (C) Julia Alexander (C) JP Floru (Ch) (Sub) (C) Peter Freeman (C) Karen Scarborough (C) Louise Hyams (C) Tim Mitchell (CH) (Sub) (C) Murad Gassanly (Independent) Jan Prendergast (C) Shamin Talukder (L) Aziz Toki (L)
NB: The Licensing Urgency Sub-Committee membership is to be:		(1 Independent Member)		
Cllrs Angela Harvey (C) (Ch) Melvyn Caplan (C) Aziz Toki (L)				
or such other Members of the Licensing Committee appointed by the Head of Committee and Governance Services in accordance with his delegated authority.				

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

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO PLANNING AND CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership (C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman
		Con	Lab	
Planning Applications (1)	4	3	1	Richard Beddoe (Ch) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Susie Burbridge (C) Tim Mitchell (C)
Planning Applications (2)	4	3	1	Melvyn Caplan (Ch) (C) Ruth Bush (L) Gotz Mohindra (C) Paul Church (C)
Planning Applications (3)	4	3	1	Andrew Smith (Ch) (C) Barbara Grahame (L) Louise Hyams (C) Robert Rigby (C)
Planning Applications (4)	4	3	1	Angela Harvey (Ch) (C) Iain Bott (C) Jonathan Glanz (C) Jason Williams (L)
Planning (Sub) Reserve Members				Christabel Flight (C) Peter Cuthbertson (C) Tim Roca (L)

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership
		Con	Lab	
Urgency	3	2	1	(C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman Tim Mitchell (Ch) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Robert Davis (VCH) (C)
Education (Awards) Appeals	4	3	1	Richard Holloway (C) (Ch) Brian Connell (C) Barbara Grahame (L) Suhail Rahuja (C)

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS RELATING TO THE AUDIT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership (C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman
		Con	Lab	
Urgency	3	2	1	Ian Rowley (Ch) (C) David Boothroyd (L) Lindsey Hall (C)
Appointments	4	3	1	Nickie Aiken (Ch) (C) Robert Davis (C) Paul Dimoldenberg (L) Tim Mitchell (C)
Staff Appeals	3	2	1	Angela Harvey (CH) (C) Tim Mitchell (C) Guthrie McKie (L)

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

ADVISORY PANELS REPORTING TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES

Committee	Constitution	Proportionality		Membership (C) Conservative (L) Labour (CH) Chairman
		Con	Lab	
Council and Staff Joint Consultation Committee *	5	4	1	Tim Mitchell (C) Heather Acton (C) Angela Harvey (C) Guthrie McKie (L) Rachael Robathan (C)
Rating Panel *	4	3	1	Jonathan Glanz (CH) (C) Jacqui Wilkinson (C) Patricia McAllister (L) Judith Warner (C)
Discretionary Housing Payments Panel *	4	3	1	Jan Prendergast (CH) (C) Barbara Arzymanow (C) Susie Burbridge (C) Ruth Bush (L) Guthrie McKie (L) Nick Evans (C)
				Membership drawn from this panel

* Proportionality Rules do not formally apply