

**Allocation of Seats
Political Balance Arrangements
Local Government & Housing Act 1989**

32 ORDINARY COMMITTEE SEATS

Ordinary Committees

Total Membership of Committees:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------|
| Planning Committee | 10 on 1 Committee | = 10 |
| Governance Committee | 7 on 1 Committee | = 07 |
| Regulatory Committee | 5 on 1 Committee | = 05 |
| General Purposes Committee | 5 on 1 Committee | = 05 |
| Electoral Matters Committee | 5 on 1 Committee | = 05 |
| Total Number of Seats on Committees | | = 32 |

Membership of Political Groups as a % of Total Membership

| | Number | PCT% |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Conservative | 24 | 58.54 |
| Labour | 17 | 41.46 |
| Total | 41 | 100.00 |

Overall Entitlement to Seats

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Conservative | 58.54% of 32 seats equals 18.73 | Equals | 18 seats |
| Labour | 41.46% of 32 seats equals 13.27 | Equals | 13 seats |
| Total | | | 31 seats |

Allocation of Seats

There are a total of 32 seats on Ordinary Committees of the Council to be allocated. Based on the above this leaves 1 unallocated seat. As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.54 as opposed to .46 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The Local Government and Housing Act (Section 15) require that the Council, in so far as is reasonably practical, give effect to the principles of political balance. In summary, these are as follows:

- (a) All the seats are not allocated to the same group;
- (b) The majority of the seats go to the group (if any) which has an overall majority on the Council (i.e. 23 or more seats);

- (c) Subject to the above two principles, that the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary committees allocated to each group bears the same proportion to the proportion on the full Council; and
- (d) Subject to (a) and (c), that the number of seats on each ordinary committee and each Sub-Committee allocated to each group bears the same proportion to the proportion on the full Council.

The principles are applied in order of priority as listed above.

Having allocated seats to committees in accordance with the political balance rules any seats remaining under/over allocated are allocated to the group with the nearest whole number having regard to the overall proportionality (where possible).

Planning Committee (10 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------|------------|----------|----|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 5.85 seats | Equal to | 5 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 4.15 seats | Equal to | 4 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 10 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 9 of the 10 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.85 as opposed to .15 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 6 Conservative and 4 Labour (total of 10 seats).

Governance Committee (7 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 4.10 seats | Equal to | 4 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.90 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 7 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 6 of the 7 seats.

As the Labour Group has the largest whole number rounding (.90 as opposed to .10 for the Conservative Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Labour Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 4 Conservative and 3 Labour (total of 7 seats).

Regulatory Committee (5 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 2.93 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.07 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 5 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 4 of the 5 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.93 as opposed to .07 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 3 Conservative and 2 Labour (total of 5 seats).

General Purposes Committee (5 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 2.93 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.07 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 5 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 4 of the 5 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.93 as opposed to .07 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 3 Conservative and 2 Labour (total of 5 seats).

Electoral Matters Committee (5 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 2.93 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.07 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 5 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 4 of the 5 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.93 as opposed to .07 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 3 Conservative and 2 Labour (total of 5 seats).

Non-Ordinary Committees Appointed on the Basis of Political Balance

Scrutiny (Policy and Performance) Committee (10 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|----|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 5.85 seats | Equal to | 5 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 4.15 seats | Equal to | 4 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 10 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 9 of the 10 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.85 as opposed to .15 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 6 Conservative and 4 Labour (total of 10 seats).

Scrutiny (Community & Regeneration) Committee (10 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|----|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 5.85 seats | Equal to | 5 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 4.15 seats | Equal to | 4 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 10 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 9 of the 10 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.85 as opposed to .15 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 6 Conservative and 4 Labour (total of 10 seats).

Dover Joint Transportation Board (7 DDC Seats – 7 KCC Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 4.10 seats | Equal to | 4 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.90 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 7 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 6 of the 7 seats.

As the Labour Group has the largest whole number rounding (.90 as opposed to .10 for the Conservative Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Labour Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 4 Conservative and 3 Labour (total of 7 seats).

Member Appointments Falling Outside Of The Political Balance Rules

(a) The Licensing Committee

The Political Balance Rules do not apply to this Committee. However, in accordance with previous practice it is suggested that it should be applied and the following allocation should be used:

Licensing Committee (15 Seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|----|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 8.78 seats | Equal to | 8 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 6.22 seats | Equal to | 6 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 15 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 14 of the 15 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.78 as opposed to .22 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 9 Conservative and 6 Labour (total of 15 seats).

(b) The East Kent Shared Services Committee

If proportionality were to be applied to this committee then it would split the seats between the two largest political groups. However, as the committee has no requirement to be politically balanced and the terms of reference of the committee require the appointment to be the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council (as well as the Leader and Deputy Leader for Canterbury City Council and Thanet District Council), the appointments should be made as per the terms of reference.

The East Kent Shared Services Committee (2 seats)

| Political Group | | | |
|------------------------|----------|--|---|
| Conservative | Equal to | | 2 |
| Labour | Equal to | | 0 |
| Total | | | 2 |

(c) Other Bodies – Advisory Bodies Not Open to Public

Joint Staff Consultative Forum (5 seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 2.93 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.07 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Unallocated Seats | | | | | 1 |
| Total | | | | | 5 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 4 of the 5 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.93 as opposed to .07 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 3 Conservative and 2 Labour (total of 5 seats).

Joint Health, Safety and Welfare Consultative Forum (5 seats)

| Political Group | Proportional Entitlement | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|----------|---|
| Conservative | 58.54% | Equals | 2.93 seats | Equal to | 2 |
| Labour | 41.46% | Equals | 2.07 seats | Equal to | 2 |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Unallocated Seats | 1 |
| Total | 5 |

The initial allocation based on proportionality allocates 4 of the 5 seats.

As the Conservative Group has the largest whole number rounding (.93 as opposed to .07 for the Labour Group) the unallocated seat is allocated to the Conservative Group.

The proposed allocation of seats is therefore 3 Conservative and 2 Labour (total of 5 seats).

Seat Adjustments and Final Allocation

The above allocates seats as follows:

| COMMITTEE | CON | LAB | TOTAL |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Electoral Matters | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| General Purposes | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Governance | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Planning | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| Regulatory | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Total | 19 | 13 | 32 |

This matches the overall entitlement and provides for the best compliance with the principles of political balance.

No adjustments are required for the remaining committees.

| COMMITTEE | CON | LAB | TOTAL |
|--|------------|------------|--------------|
| Dover Joint Transportation Board | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Scrutiny (Community & Regeneration) | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| Scrutiny (Policy & Performance) | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| Total | 16 | 11 | 27 |