



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Council

25 July 2022

Report of: Karen Bradford
Chief Executive



Political Balance and Allocation of Committee Seats

To note the revised political balance of the Council and allocation of seats to committees following changes in the political affiliation of two Councillors.

Report Author

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Corporate Priority:	Decision type:	Wards:
A High Performing Council	Administrative	All Wards
Signed off by:	Karen Bradford (Chief Executive)	6 July 2022
Recommendation (s) to the decision maker (s)		

That Council:

- Notes the revised political balance and allocation of seats to Committees.
- Approves the appointment of Conservative Group Members to the following vacant seats on Committees:
 - Finance, Economic Development and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat)
 - Planning Committee (one seat)

1 The Background to the Report

- 1.1 Councillor Louise Clack provided the necessary notice on 2 June 2022 that she no longer wished to be affiliated with South Kesteven District Council's Labour Group and instead requested that she be considered as a Labour and Co-operative Councillor, unaligned to a political group.
- 1.2 Prior to this notification, South Kesteven District Council's Labour Group consisted of two Councillors.
- 1.3 In order to be treated as a political group and be entitled to an allocation of the Council's committee seats, a political group must consist of more than one Councillor.
- 1.4 South Kesteven District Council's Labour Group can therefore no longer be constituted as a political group due to it no longer consisting of enough Councillors.
- 1.5 Appendix A of the report sets out the revised political proportionality and allocation of committee seats, resulting in the following committee seats previously allocated to the Labour Group now being allocated to the Conservative Group:
 - Finance, Economic Development and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – one seat
 - Planning Committee – one seat

2 Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications reviewed by: Richard Wyles, Assistant Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer

3 Legal and Governance Implications

- 3.1 Appointments to the Council's Committees must comply with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, which introduced statutory requirements that, where a relevant authority has a membership divided into different political groups, it must ensure that appointments reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Graham Watts, Assistant Director of Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer