



**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 the establishment of a new political group at the Council.

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)		21 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 Alliance SK Group Members to the following seats on Committees:
 - Constitution Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Companies Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Culture and Visitor Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Employment Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Finance, Economic Development and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat which is currently vacant)

- **Governance and Audit Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)**
- **Licensing Committee and Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night Refreshment Licensing Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)**
- **Planning Committee (one seat which is currently vacant)**
- **Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)**

3. Approves the consequential membership of each Committee.

1 The Background to the Report

- 1.1 Further to the publication of the report on political proportionality and allocation of committee seats as part of the agenda for this meeting, notice under Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations was provided to the Chief Executive on 21 July 2022 that a new political group at South Kesteven District Council has been established.
- 1.2 The name of the new political group is Alliance SK and consists of Councillors Ashley Baxter (Group Leader), Phil Dilks (Deputy Leader), Virginia Moran and Charmaine Morgan.
- 1.3 Councillors Baxter, Dilks and Moran were previously aligned with the Council's Independent Group and Councillor Morgan was an independent unaligned Councillor.
- 1.4 Appendix A of this report sets out the revised political proportionality and allocation of committee seats, with the resulting changes being the allocation of committee seats to the Alliance SK political group as follows:
 - Constitution Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Companies Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Culture and Visitor Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Employment Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Finance, Economic Development and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat which is currently vacant arising from the former Labour Group)
 - Governance and Audit Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Licensing Committee and Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night Refreshment Licensing Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
 - Planning Committee (one seat which is currently vacant arising from the former Labour Group)
 - Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (one seat from the Independent Group)
- 1.5 The Alliance SK Group is invited to nominate members to the Group's allocated seats.
- 1.6 The Independent Group is invited to confirm its membership on those Committees where seats have been re-allocated to the Alliance SK Group.
- 1.7 This report provides all political groups with the opportunity to consider their respective membership on the Council's Committees.
- 1.8 Appendix A to this report also corrects an error in the appendix to the originally published report, confirming that the Governance and Audit Committee consists of 7 Members of the Council as opposed to 9.

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