

# Report to Council

26 July 2021

<b>Subject:</b>	Constitution and Political Balance of Committees and Boards
<b>Director:</b>	Surjit Tour Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
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## 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 To approve the political balance of the committees, boards and other fora for 2021-22, as set out in Appendix A.

## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 A by-election for the Tividale Ward took place on Thursday 15 July 2021. It is therefore necessary for the Council to consider the constitution and political balance of committees and boards for the 2021-22 Municipal Year following the outcome of the Election.

## 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		The Council's decision-making structures are designed to support the delivery of Sandwell's Vision 2030.
		
		



## 4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides, amongst other things, that where a local authority is divided into different political groups, it will have regard to the allocation to the different political groups on the Council, of all of those seats on any ordinary committee, sub-committee and Joint Authorities established pursuant to Part IV of the Local Government Act 1985.

4.2 The regulations provide for a political group to comprise two or more elected members of a local authority.

4.3 Notification has been received of 3 groups –

Labour	60
Conservative	10
Sandwell Together	2
	—
	72

The seats on committees have been allocated according to proportionality rules (as set out in Appendix A).

4.4 A political group represented on the Council may choose to allocate a proportion of its allocation of seats to an elected member who is not in a political group on the Council, without affecting proportionality.

## 5 Alternative Options

5.1 There is no alternative option, the Council has a duty to allocate seats according to political party, in accordance with the Act.



## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no direct resources arising from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	There is a duty on the Council to allocate seats to political groups, as per the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
<b>Risk:</b>	There are no direct implications arising from this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	
<b>Social Value</b>	

## 7. Appendices

Appendix A – Political Balance of Committees and Boards.

## 8. Background Papers

None

