

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND PROPORTIONALITY



I. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS OF PROPORTIONALITY

- I.1. Section 15 (5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty on Councils to review the representation of different political groups on bodies to which the Council makes appointments. The Act requires that the review should be held at the Annual General Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting or when the membership of the Council changes.
- I.2. The Act provides four principles concerning political representation that must be observed when conducting a review. These are:
- a) that not all the seats on committees are allocated to the same political group;
 - b) that the majority of the seats on each committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the authority's membership;
 - c) subject to (a) and (b), that the number of seats on committees which are allocated to each group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on committees of the council as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority, and
 - d) Subject to (a) to (c) above, that the number of seats on each committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.
- I.3. The legislation provides that the Council may make alternative arrangements to the 'proportionality' principles only by a unanimous vote, with no member voting against.
- I.4. The Committees and Panels to which the provisions of Section 15 of the Act apply, and the recommended allocation of seats on each, applying the principles of the Act as closely as is reasonably practicable, are shown in Section 2 below. The recommended allocation of seats reflects the four proportionality principles so far as reasonably practicable.

2. OVERALL PROPORTIONALITY 2024/2025 - NUMBER OF SEATS ON COUNCIL

| Group | May 2024 |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Labour Group | 42 (73.68%) |
| Conservative Group | 7 (12.28%) |
| Green Group | 2 (3.51%) |
| Independent Group | 6 (10.53%) |

* There are 57 members on Plymouth City Council. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989, which sets out how seats should be allocated to members on a Council, describes the distribution of seats between the political Groups into which the Council has divided itself. There is no seat entitlement to members who are not in a Group. The definition of what constitutes a group on a Council is covered in The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and can be found in the following link <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uk/si/1990/1553/part/III/made>

A single representative does not constitute a Group which is defined as a number of persons bound together by common interests. As such, a single Member is not entitled to any Committee seats. This is consistent with practice previously employed by the Council in similar circumstances.

2.1. The application of the legislative principles is set out below:

| Local Government Act 1989 – Principles | Is this principle met? |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| a. that not all the seats on committees are allocated to the same political group | Yes |
| b. that the majority of the seats on each committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the authority’s membership; | Yes |
| c. subject to (a) and (b), that the number of seats on committees which are allocated to each group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on committees of the council as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority; | Yes |
| d. Subject to (a) to (c) above, that the number of seats on each committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority. | As far as reasonably practicable. |

| | Labour | Conservative | Green | Independent | Total Seats | Allocated Seats |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Councillors | 42 (73.68%) | 7.00 (12.28%) | 2.00 (3.51%) | 6.00 (10.53%) | | |
| Planning Committee | 10 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 13 |
| Taxi Licensing Committee | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Licensing Committee | 10 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 13 |
| Chief Officer Appointments Panel | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Chief Officer Disciplinary Panel | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Chief Officer Appeals Panel | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Audit and Governance Committee | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry JC | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Scrutiny Management Board | 8 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Housing and Communities Scrutiny Panel | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Children Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Standards Committee | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Lord Mayor's Selection and Advisory Committee | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Seats allocated | 96 | 17 | 5 | 14 | 132 | 132 |

Regulatory Committees

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| Planning Committee |
| Thirteen councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Bill Stevens (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Angela Penrose (Vice Chair) |
| 3. Councillor Sarah Allen |
| 4. Councillor Jeremy Goslin |
| 5. Councillor Josh McCarty |
| 6. Councillor Paul McNamara |
| 7. Councillor Carol Ney |
| 8. Councillor Zoe Reilly |
| 9. Councillor Matt Smith |
| 10. Councillor Kevin Sproston |
| 11. Councillor Ian Darcy |
| 12. Councillor Kathy Watkin |
| 13. Councillor Maddi Bridgeman |
| |
| Substitutes |
| Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed planning training. |

Taxi Licensing Committee

Seven councillors (proportional)

- 1. Councillor Dylan Tippetts (Chair)**
- 2. Councillor Keith Moore (Vice Chair)**
- 3. Councillor Lindsay Gilmour**
- 4. Councillor Ray Morton**
- 5. Councillor Carol Ney**
- 6. Councillor Andy Lugg**
- 7. Councillor Sally Nicholson**

Substitutes

Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed training

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| Licensing Committee |
| Thirteen councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Neil Hendy (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor John Stephens (Vice Chair) |
| 3. Councillor Sarah Allen |
| 4. Councillor Jon Dingle |
| 5. Councillor Charlotte Holloway |
| 6. Councillor Stefan Krizanac |
| 7. Councillor Maria Lawson |
| 8. Councillor Alison Simpson |
| 9. Councillor Matt Smith |
| 10. Councillor Dylan Tippetts |
| 11. Councillor Chip Tofan |
| 12. Councillor Kathy Watkin |
| 13. Councillor Steve Ricketts |
| |
| Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed planning training |

Audit and Governance Committee

Six councillors (proportional)

1. Councillor Sarah Allen (Chair)**2. Councillor Chris Cuddihee****3. Councillor Alison Raynsford****4. Councillor Bill Stevens****5. Councillor Lee Finn (Vice Chair)****6. Councillor Patrick Nicholson**

Any councillor may act as a substitute member if they have undergone the Council's prescribed training

Scrutiny Management Board and Panels

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| Scrutiny Management Board |
| Eleven councillors (proportional) (Largest Group Chair) |
| |
| 1. Councillor John Stephens (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Pauline Murphy |
| 3. Councillor Zoe Reilly |
| 4. Councillor Carol Ney |
| 5. Councillor Charlotte Holloway |
| 6. Councillor Jon Dingle |
| 7. Councillor Tess Blight |
| 8. Councillor Lewis Allison |
| 9. Councillor Lee Finn |
| 10. Councillor Ian Darcy (Vice Chair) |
| 11. Councillor Steve Ricketts |
| With the exception of Cabinet Members, any councillor may act as a substitute member |

Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Eleven councillors (proportional)
(Largest Opposition Group Chair)

1. Councillor Tess Blight (Vice Chair)

2. Councillor Lewis Allison

3. Councillor Chris Cuddihee

4. Councillor Jon Dingle

5. Councillor Anne Freeman

6. Councillor Jeremy Goslin

7. Councillor Neil Hendy

8. Councillor Bill Stevens

9. Councillor Lee Finn (Chair)

10. Councillor Ian Poyser

11. Councillor Patrick Nicholson

With the exception of Cabinet Members, any councillor may act as a substitute member

| Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel |
|--|
| Eleven councillors (proportional) (Largest Group Chair) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Zoe Reilly (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Lindsay Gilmour |
| 3. Councillor Stefan Krizanac |
| 4. Councillor Paul McNamara |
| 5. Councillor Alison Simpson |
| 6. Councillor Daniel Steel |
| 7. Councillor John Stephens |
| 8. Councillor Dylan Tippetts |
| 9. Councillor Rebecca Smith (Vice Chair) |
| 10. Councillor Lauren McLay |
| 11. Councillor Mrs Terri Beer |
| With the exception of Cabinet Members, any councillor may act as a substitute member |

| Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel |
|--|
| Eleven councillors (proportional) (Largest Group Chair) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Pauline Murphy (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Maria Lawson |
| 3. Councillor Ray Morton |
| 4. Councillor Carol Ney |
| 5. Councillor Will Noble |
| 6. Councillor Zoe Reilly |
| 7. Councillor Kate Taylor |
| 8. Councillor Angela Penrose |
| 9. Councillor Kathy Watkin (Vice Chair) |
| 10. Councillor Lauren McLay |
| 11. Councillor Sally Nicholson |
| With the exception of Cabinet Members, any councillor may act as a substitute member |

| Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel |
|--|
| Eleven councillors (proportional) (Largest Opposition Group Chair) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Charlotte Holloway (Vice Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Sarah Allen |
| 3. Councillor Jaime Bannerman |
| 4. Councillor Josh McCarty |
| 5. Councillor Keith Moore |
| 6. Councillor Alison Raysford |
| 7. Councillor Matt Smith |
| 8. Councillor Kevin Sproston |
| 9. Councillor Ian Darcy (Chair) |
| 10. Councillor Lauren McLay |
| 11. Councillor Steve Ricketts |
| |
| With the exception of Cabinet Members, any councillor may act as a substitute member |

Chief Officer Panels

| Chief Officer Appointments Panel |
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| Seven councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Tess Blight |
| 3. Councillor Mary Aspinall |
| 4. Councillor Jemima Laing |
| 5. Councillor John Stephens |
| 6. Councillor Andy Lugger |
| 7. Councillor Mrs Terri Beer |
| |
| Cabinet Members must not be in the majority on the panel |
| Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed personnel training |
| Chief Officer Disciplinary Panel |
| Five councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Tess Blight (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Sally Haydon |
| 3. Councillor Mark Lowry |
| 4. Councillor John Stephens |
| 5. Councillor Maddi Bridgeman |
| |
| Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed personnel training. |
| Chief Officer Appeals Panel |
| Five councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Sarah Allen (Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Sue Dann |
| 3. Councillor Chris Penberthy |
| 4. Councillor Bill Stevens |
| 5. Councillor Andrea Loveridge |
| Any councillor may act as a substitute member provided that they have undergone the Council's prescribed personnel training. |

Joint Committees / Authorities

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| Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee |
| Five councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Jon Dingle (Co-Chair) |
| 2. Councillor Anne Freeman |
| 3. Councillor Neil Hendy |
| 4. Councillor Mark Coker |
| 5. Councillor Chris Wood |

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| Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority |
| Four councillors (proportional) |
| |
| 1. Councillor Lindsay Gilmour |
| 2. Councillor Neil Hendy |
| 3. Councillor Kevin Sproston |
| 4. Councillor Andy Lugger |

Other Committees

Lord Mayor Selection and Advisory Committee

Seven councillors (proportional)

1. **Councillor Sue Dann (Chair)**
2. **Councillor Mary Aspinall**
3. **Councillor Pauline Murphy**
4. **Councillor Chris Penberthy**
5. **Councillor Andy Lugger**
6. **Councillor Terri Beer**
7. **Councillor Ian Poyser**

Standards Committee

Five councillors (proportional)

1. **Councillor Neil Hendy (Chair)**
2. **Councillor Alison Raynsford**
3. **Councillor Kevin Sproston**
4. **Councillor Maddi Bridgeman**
5. **Councillor Andy Lugger**

Health and Wellbeing Board

Four councillors (not proportional)

1. **Councillor Mary Aspinall (Chair)**
2. **Councillor Jemima Laing**
3. **Councillor Kathy Watkin**
4. **Councillor Patrick Nicholson**