
| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Report To: | The Inverclyde Council | Date: 14 April 2011 |
| Report By: | Chief Executive | Report No: EP/LA/681/11 |
| Contact Officer: | Elaine Paterson | Contact No: 01475 712139 |
| Subject: | Political Balance on and Membership of Committees and Outside Bodies | |

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to (i) highlight the requirement to ensure political balance on Committees and Outside Bodies, (ii) to advise of the resignation of Councillor Clocherty from the Audit Committee and to request the Council to fill the resultant vacancy, and (iii) request the Council to consider whether it would wish to make any changes in appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Paragraph 5.4 of the Scheme of Administration requires the Council to ensure, as far as practicable, that in making appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Outside Bodies (but only where more than two representatives of the Council to an Outside Body are required) the balance of political representation on the Council is reflected.

2.2 Following Councillor White's resignation from the Scottish Liberal Democrat Party and Group, the Council at its meeting on 7 October 2010 approved the re-balancing of Committees as set out in appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

2.3 Councillor White has subsequently joined the Coalition Administration. Members are asked to note that, as indicated in appendix 1, this has no impact on the political balance of Committees, but Groups may wish to take this opportunity to make amendments to their membership on Committees and Outside Bodies.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Council:-

- (a) notes the terms of this report;
- (b) appoints a Member to fill the vacancy on the Audit Committee following the resignation of Councillor Clocherty; and
- (c) considers whether it would wish to make any changes to appointments to Committees or Outside Bodies.

John W Mundell
Chief Executive

Political Split for Committees - Agreed - October 2010

| Political Representation | No. of Members | Proportion of Total (20) | Applied to Committees (11) | Representation 50% Committees Incl. Independent/ Liberal (Rounded up or down to nearest whole No.) | Representation 50% Committees Excl. Independent/ Liberal (Rounded up or down to nearest whole No.) |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Coalition* | 10 | 0.5 | 5.5 | 5 | 6 |
| SNP | 5 | 0.25 | 2.75 | 3 | 3 |
| Liberal Democrat | 3 | 0.15 | 1.65 | 1 | 2 |
| Liberal Party | 1 | 0.05 | 0.55 | 1 | 0 |
| Independent | 1 | 0.05 | 0.55 | 1 | 0 |
| | 20 | 1 | | 11 | 11 |

Note: Coalition*

8 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Independent

Political Split for Committees - April 2011-May 2012

| Political Representation | No. of Members | Proportion of Total (20) | Applied to Committees (11) | Representation 50% Committees Incl. Independent/ Liberal (Rounded up or down to nearest whole No.) | Representation 50% Committees Excl. Independent/ Liberal (Rounded up or down to nearest whole No.) |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Coalition* | 11 | 0.55 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| SNP | 5 | 0.25 | 2.75 | 3 | 3 |
| Liberal Democrat | 3 | 0.15 | 1.65 | 1 | 2 |
| Independent | 1 | 0.05 | 0.55 | 1 | 0 |
| | 20 | 1 | | 11 | 11 |

Note: Coalition*

8 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Independent, 1 Liberal