

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD**

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**Date:** 08 May 2012

Dear Councillor,

**Annual Council Meeting (Wednesday 9 May 2012): “To Follow” Papers**

Please find attached the following item marked as “To Follow” on the agenda for tomorrow night’s Annual Council meeting:

**Agenda Item 11: Membership of Committees & Panels (Report No.1)**

(Pages 1 – 6)

Please note the list of membership on Council bodies (Agenda Item 12.1) and list of Council representation on outside bodies and organisations (Agenda Item 13), are currently being finalised and will therefore be tabled at tomorrows meeting.

I hope the attached papers are clear, but if you should have any queries in advance of tomorrow’s meeting then please come back to me.

Yours sincerely

Governance Team Manager

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**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012/13 REPORT NO. 1****MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**

COUNCIL  
- 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012

**REPORT OF:**

Director of Finance, Resources  
and Customer Services

Contact Officer:

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AGENDA - PART:	1	ITEM: 11
SUBJECT:		
MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS 2012/13		
WARDS: All		

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council is required to determine the constitution and political balance of the committees, joint committees and panels that have been set up for the purpose of discharging its functions.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the seats allocated to each political party, on the committees and boards to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply, be as set out in Appendix A of this report.
- 2.2 In accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolves without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to those bodies marked with an asterisk on Appendix A.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Section 15 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 Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting.
- 3.2 The Act provides four principles concerning political representation that must be observed when conducting a review. The four principles are:-
- (a) That not all seats are allocated to the same political party.
  - (b) That the political group with the majority of seats should have the majority of seats on each committee.

- (c) Subject to (a) and (b) that the total number of seats allocated to political groups on all committees (to which Section 15 of the Act applies), shall be in the same proportion as the total number of seats on the authority held by each political group.
  - (d) Subject to (a) to (c) that the number of seats allocated to each political group on a committee (to which Section 15 of the Act applies), shall be the same as the proportion of the total number of seats on the authority held by each political group.
- 3.3 The fourth principle can be waived if the members of the Council agree with no member voting against. Where the fourth principle is waived the allocation of seats on the committee in question must still be included in the calculation as to the total number of seats held by each political group on all committees.
- 3.4 The committees and boards to which the provisions of Section 15 of the Act apply are shown in Appendix A together with the overall political balance of the Council.

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None – Council is required under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to review the representation of different political groups on bodies to which it makes appointments. The Act requires that the review should be held at the Annual Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 There is a duty imposed on the Council to review, at the Annual Meeting or as soon as possible thereafter, the political balance of bodies to which it makes appointments.
- 6.2 The bodies in question are the committees and boards shown in the table contained in the appendix to this report.
- 6.3 The table shows the political balance of the Council and the number of seats suggested for allocation to each political party in respect of each committee or board, so as to comply with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

## **7. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES & CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

### **7.1 Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

## **7.2 Legal Implications**

There is a specific duty imposed on the Council to review each year at the Annual meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the representation of different political groups. The legislation provides that the Council may make alternative arrangements to the 'proportionality' principles within this report only by a unanimous vote. However a political group may decide to offer a seat on a committee or panel to another political group. This does not affect the proportionality principles as it remains within the gift of that political group to determine how it wishes to exercise that discretion, if at all.

## **8. KEY RISKS**

The Council has a statutory duty to review at its Annual meeting, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the representation of different political groups. The proposals detailed in this report support that duty.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

The review and proposals within this report will help to ensure the fair, equal and consistent allocation of seats between each political party on Council bodies. The proposals have not been subject to a detailed equalities impact assessment.

## **10. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

### **Fairness for All and Strong Communities**

The review will have a positive impact on members representational roles and a consequential impact on communities and the Council's overall governance arrangements.

## **11. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

None identified.

## **Background Papers**

None.

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## MEMBERS PROPORTIONALITY FOR MEETINGS

## APPENDIX A

Title of Meeting	No. of Members	Labour	Conservative	Total %
		36 57.14%	27 42.86%	63 100%
Overview & Scrutiny Committee*	7	5	2	7
Children & Young Peoples Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Sustainability & Environment Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Housing, Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Crime and Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Older People & Vulnerable Adults Scrutiny Panel	9	5	4	9
Commission on Worklessness	3	2	1	3
Councillor Conduct Committee *	4	2	2	4
Audit Committee	7	4	3	7
Remuneration Sub Committee	3	2	1	3
Planning Committee	15	9	6	15
Conservation Advisory Group	5	3	2	5
Members & Democratic Services Group	5	3	2	5
Green Belt Forum	5	3	2	5
Licensing Committee	15	8	7	15
Learning Difficulties Partnership Board *	2	1	1	2
Joint Consultative Group for Teachers & Staff Forum	5	3	2	5
Member Governor Forum	5	3	2	5
Secondary Tuition Centre *	2	1	1	2
Schools Forum *	1	1	0	1
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education *	4	2	2	4
Adoption Panel *	1	1	0	1
Fostering Panel *	1	0	1	1
Corporate Parenting Group *	2	1	1	2
Appointment Panel	5	3	2	5
Edmonton Partnership Working Group	5	3	2	5
Electoral Review Panel	7	4	3	7
Pension Fund Board	7	4	3	7
Public Transport Consultative Group*	10	5	5	10
Staff Appeals Panel	11	6	5	11
Tourism & Twinning Working Party*	6	3	3	6
Housing Services Board	3	2	1	3
Enfield Council Working Group on the Olympic and Paralympics Games	5	3	2	5
TOTAL	205	117	88	205
Actual Percentage of Representation		57.07%	42.93%	100%

\*In accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolves without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to those bodies marked above with an asterisk.

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