



**Council**  
**28 February 2023**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Political Proportionality</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Head of Governance
<b>Wards</b>	All Wards
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Key</b>	No
<b>Enclosures</b>	Appendix A – Calculation of Political Balance
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### **Summary**

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 a casual vacancy arose following the sad death of Councillor Melvin Cohen which altered the political balance of the Council. A By-Election was held in the Golders Green Ward on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 where a Conservative councillor was elected. The result of the By-Election requires the political balance of the Council to be re-calculated. Following a recalculation of political balance there is no requirement to reallocate committee seats to different political groups to achieve political balance overall.

### **Officers Recommendations**

- 1. That Council note the political balance of the Council is:**
  - **40 Members of the Labour Group;**
  - **22 Members of the Conservative Group**
  - **1 Independent Member**
  
- 2. Council agree the allocation of seats as set out in the tables in Appendix A in order to comply with the political balance regulations requiring seats to be allocated proportionately to the political groups on Council.**

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 a casual vacancy arose in the Golders Green Ward following the sad passing of Councillor Melvin Cohen which has altered the political balance of the Council. A By-Election was held in the Golders Green Ward on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 where a Conservative councillor was elected. The result of the By-Election requires the political balance of the Council to be re-calculated. Details of the revised political balance of the Council is set out in Appendix A.
- 1.2 Following a recalculation of political balance there is no requirement to reallocate committee seats to different political groups to achieve political balance overall as detailed in Appendix A.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 A recalculation of political balance is required for the reasons set out in section 1.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 None.

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 N/A. There is no requirement to reallocate committee seats to different political groups to achieve political balance overall.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 N/A

### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1 There are no resource implications.

### **5.3 Social Value**

- 5.3.1 N/A

### **5.4 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.4.1 As set out in Appendix A.

### **5.5 Risk Management**

- 5.5.1 N/A

**5.6 Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 N/A

**5.7 Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 N/A

**5.8 Consultation and Engagement**

5.8.1 N/A

**5.9 Insight**

5.9.1 N/A

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 None