

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 POLITICAL BALANCE RULES

1. The political balance rules require the Council to allocate places on relevant committees according to the strengths of the political groups on the Council. The rules apply to the following committees. They do not apply to the Executive or area committees.

2. The political groups and their current strengths are:-

Conservative	14
Labour	11
Liberal Democrat	7

3. Under the political balance rules a single councillor cannot constitute a political group. Therefore, the Independent councillor cannot be considered as a political group and is not eligible to be allocated any of the committees set out below.

4. He is however, entitled to a place on Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee because area committees must comprise all councillors for the wards in the area. In addition, he will be able to put himself forward for membership of the Scrutiny 'Task and Finish' Groups.

5. The overall allocation of seats in committees is as follows:

Total: Conservative 19 Labour 15 Lib Dem 11

6. This is achieved by multiplying the number of committee places 45 by the number of members in the group and then dividing this by the overall number of eligible Councillors (32).

7. Membership of individual committees is as follows:

Accounts and Audit Committee (5)

Con 2.18 (2) Labour 1.71 (2) Lib Dem 1.09 (1)

Development Management (12)

Con 5.25 (5) Labour 4.12 (4) Lib Dem 2.62 (3)

Licensing Committee (9)

Con 3.93 (4) Labour 3.09 (3) Lib Dem 1.96 (2)

Taxi Licensing Committee (7)

Con 3.06 (3) Labour 2.40 (2) Lib Dem 1.53 (2)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (7)

Con 3.06 (3) Labour 2.40 (2) Lib Dem 1.53 (2)

Standards Hearing Committee (5)

Con 2.18 (2) Labour 1.71 (2) Lib Dem 1.09 (1)

Conservatives have one less seat than their overall entitlement and the Liberal Democrats have one more. However, the Liberal Democrats have a stronger case to be rounded up on some Committees than the Conservatives.