

# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

## COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2022

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND POSITIONS</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To update the allocation of seats in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and appoint changes to membership of committees and appointments with effect from 20 October 2022.
<b>Decision(s)</b>	<b>Council RESOLVES to</b> a) approve the changes to committee membership and positions as set out in the report and appendix; and b) approve an additional seat on Strategy and Resources Committee.
<b>Consultation and Feedback</b>	The proposed appointments have been subject to consultation with the Group Leaders.
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<b>Options</b>	Members may make alternative nominations to the places available on committees subject to compliance with the allocation rules.
<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix A – Tables showing changes to committee membership and appointments.

### 1. POLITICAL COMPOSITION

The Council consists of a number of political groupings. The various groups comprise the following Members.

<b>Conservative Group Councillors (19)</b>		
Jason Bullingham	Nick Housden	Lorraine Patrick
Gordan Craig	Nick Hurst	Keith Pearson
Stephen Davies*	Julie Job	Mark Ryder
Trina Davis	Haydn Jones	Haydn Sutton
Chris Evans	John Jones	Brian Tipper
Victoria Gray	David Mossman	
Lindsey Green	Gill Oxley	
<b>Green Group Councillors (13)</b>		
Beki Aldam	Jonathan Edmunds	Lucas Schoemaker
Martin Baxendale	Steve Hynd	Chloe Turner
Catherine Braun*	Chris Jockel	Tricia Watson
Martin Brown	Norman Kay	
Kate Crews	Martin Pearcy	
<b>Labour Group Councillors (6)</b>		
Laurie Davies*	Jenny Miles	Steve Robinson
Jessie Hoskin	Nigel Prenter	Ashley Smith
<b>Independent Left Group Councillors (5)</b>		
Natalie Bennett*	Chris Brine	Mattie Ross

Paula Baker	Helen Fenton	
<b>Community Independent Group Councillors (4)</b>		
Doina Cornell*	Colin Fryer	Trevor Hall
Robin Layfield		
<b>SDC Liberal Democrat Group Councillors (3)</b>		
George James	Ken Tucker*	Rich Wilsher

\* Group Leader

**Note:** In addition to the above, there is one Independent Member, namely, Councillor Nigel Studdert-Kennedy (known as 'Conservative - No Group').

## 2. COMMITTEES

The committees which are subject to political balance requirements currently comprise the following:

Committee	No. of Members on each committee
Audit & Standards	9
Community Services & Licensing	12
Development Control	12
Environment	13
Housing	12
Strategy and Resources	13 (to increase to 14)

2.1 In relation to the membership of the Strategy and Resources Committee the Constitution states that "The Chair of the Community Services, Environment and Housing committees will each have seats on the Committee as will the leaders of each political group".

2.2 In order to allow for the increased number of political group leaders that Stroud District Council currently have it is proposed that the number of seats on Strategy and Resources Committee is increased from 13 to 14.

## 3. ALLOCATIONS TO COMMITTEES SUBJECT TO POLITICAL BALANCE REQUIREMENTS

The seats on each committee must be allocated to each political group as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. On the basis of the existing committee structure, the changes to the political balance and agreement between the Alliance Groups, the allocations are as set out below (changes have been highlighted in red).

	Conservative (19 Cllrs)	Green (13 Cllrs)	Labour (6 Cllrs)	Independent Left (5 Cllrs)	Community Independents (4 Cllrs)	Liberal Democrats (3 Cllrs)	Total seats available
<b>Audit &amp; Standards</b>	4	2	1	1	0	1	9
<b>Community Services &amp; Licensing</b>	4	3	2	1	1	1	12
<b>Development Control</b>	5	3	2	1	1	0	12
<b>Environment</b>	5	5	1	0	1	1	13
<b>Housing</b>	4	3	2	2	1	0	12
<b>Strategy &amp; Resources</b>	5	3	1	3	1	1	14

<b>Seats to be allocated per Group</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>
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3.2 Committee Memberships were agreed at the Council Annual Meeting on 19 May 2022 and again on the 21 July 2022.

3.3 Due to the change to the political balance following the formation of a new political group all Group Leaders have been asked to report any changes to committee membership and appointments. The nominations are shown in the tables in Appendix A to this report.

#### **4. IMPLICATIONS**

##### **4.1 Financial Implications**

The addition of a Group Leader will increase the overall cost of the Members allowance scheme by £3,054 per year. This will be allocated in the budget setting process.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources

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##### **4.2 Governance Implications**

The Council is required to appoint Councillors to committees in accordance with the proportionality rules.

Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer

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##### **4.3 Equality Implications**

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

##### **4.4 Environmental Implications**

There are no significant implications within this category.