

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title:	Constitutional Arrangements and Allocation of Seats to Party Groups 2023/24
Name of Committee:	Annual Council
Date of Meeting:	18 May 2023
Report Director:	Chief Officer - Legal and Governance
Portfolio:	Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance
Ward Relevance:	All
Prior Consultation:	Group Leaders
Contact Officer:	Claire Waleczek, Democratic and Support Services Manager 01788 533524 or claire.waleczek@rugby.gov.uk
Public or Private:	Public
Report Subject to Call-In:	No
Report En-Bloc:	No
Forward Plan:	Yes
Corporate Priorities:	This report relates to the following priority(ies): <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change. (C) <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents. (E) <input type="checkbox"/> Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected. (HC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation. (O) Corporate Strategy 2021-2024 <input type="checkbox"/> This report does not specifically relate to any Council priorities but
Summary:	Under the Council's Constitution the constitutional arrangements and the allocation of seats to party groups for each municipal year need to be approved at the annual meeting of Council. The constitutional arrangements and allocation of seats

to Party Groups for 2023/24 are set out in the report.

Financial Implications: There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications: There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications: There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications: There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity: There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

- (1) Councillor Poole be elected Leader of the Council;
- (2) the composition of Cabinet for the 2023/24 municipal year, as detailed in the report, be noted;
- (3) the following appointments be made to the Audit and Ethics Committee:

Paul Dudfield (Chairman);
John Eves (Vice Chairman); and
Four borough councillors and named substitutes as set out in Appendix 2 to this report;
- (4) the following appointments be made to the Shareholders Committee:

Paul Shackley (Chairman); and
five borough councillors and named substitutes as set out in Appendix 2 to this report; and
- (5) appointments to all other committees be made in accordance with the arrangements set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

Reasons for Recommendation: To comply with the Council's Constitution.

Annual Council - 18 May 2023

**Constitutional Arrangements and Allocation of Seats
to Party Groups 2023/24**

Public Report of the Chief Officer - Legal and Governance

Recommendation

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- (2) the composition of Cabinet for the 2023/24 municipal year, as detailed in the report, be noted;
- (3) the following appointments be made to the Audit and Ethics Committee:

Paul Dudfield (Chairman);
John Eves (Vice Chairman); and
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- (4) the following appointments be made to the Shareholders Committee:

Paul Shackley (Chairman); and
five borough councillors and named substitutes as set out in Appendix 2 to this report; and
- (5) appointments to all other committees be made in accordance with the arrangements set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Council's Constitution it falls to this meeting to approve the constitutional arrangements and the allocation of seats to party groups for this municipal year.
- 1.2 Following this year's elections, the Council now has the following groups - Conservatives with 21 seats, Labour with 12 seats and Liberal Democrats with 9 seats.
- 1.3 The Group Leaders have met with the Chief Executive and agreed that the seats on the committees be allocated as shown in the table in Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Election of Leader of the Council

- 2.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the position of Leader of the Council becomes vacant when the current Leader's term of office as councillor expires or they lose their seat. In this case, the Leader must be elected at the next Annual Meeting of Council.
- 2.2 Councillor Lowe did not retain his seat in the borough elections in May of this year. Council must, therefore, elect a Leader.

3. Cabinet

- 3.1 The Constitution requires the Leader of the Council to appoint a Cabinet of between two and nine councillors plus the leader. Cabinet will be chaired by the Leader of the Council. The Cabinet is not subject to the proportional representation of party groups.
- 3.2 In light of the above, and subject to being appointed as Leader of the Council, Councillor Poole has appointed the following Cabinet, comprising 6 councillors with the portfolios indicated below:

Councillor Poole	Leader of the Council, Change and Transformation and Regulation and Safety Portfolios
Councillor Picker	Deputy Leader of the Council and Growth and Investment Portfolio
Councillor Willis	Communities, Homes, Digital and Communications Portfolio
Councillor Ms Robbins	Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio
Councillor Daly	Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio
Councillor Ms Watson-Merret	Operations and Traded Services Portfolio

4. Audit and Ethics Committee

- 4.1 The Audit and Ethics Committee consists of six non-Cabinet members, two of whom will be independent of the Council and who will be the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It is proposed that four Councillors be appointed to the Committee as set out in the Appendix to the report. It is also proposed that Paul Dudfield and John Eves continue in their roles as chairman and vice chairman respectively of the Committee.

- 4.2 Under the Council's Constitution, no member of the Scrutiny Committee may be a member of, or named substitute for, Audit and Ethics Committee. Members of the Committee are also required to appoint a named substitute each, details of which are set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

5. Shareholders Committee

- 5.1 The Shareholders Committee consists of six non-Cabinet members, one of whom will be independent of the Council and who will be the Chair. It is proposed that five Councillors be appointed to the Committee as set out in Appendix 2 to the report. It is also proposed that Paul Shackley continues in his role as Chair of the Committee.

6. Allocation of Seats

- 6.1 Party Group Leaders have notified the Chief Executive of their provisional allocation of seats and these are set out in Appendix 2 to this report. Appeals and Grievance Committees will be appointed to if they are required to meet during the municipal year. All other Committees have been summoned to meet immediately following the conclusion of this meeting to appoint their Chair and Vice-Chair.

Name of Meeting: Annual Council

Date of Meeting: 18 May 2023

Subject Matter: Constitutional Arrangements and Allocation of Seats to Party Groups 2023/24

Originating Department: Legal and Governance

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY YES NO

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink

The background papers relating to reports on planning applications and which are open to public inspection under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972, consist of the planning applications, referred to in the reports, and all written responses to consultations made by the Local Planning Authority, in connection with those applications.

Exempt information is contained in the following documents:

Doc No	Relevant Paragraph of Schedule 12A

ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO PARTY GROUPS 2023/24 MUNICIPAL YEAR

	Council	Scrutiny	Planning Committee	Licensing & Safety Committee	Audit and Ethics Committee*	Appeals Committee	Grievance Committee	Shareholders Committee**
Conservatives	21	4	6	6	2	3	2	3
Labour	12	3	3	4	1	1	2	1
Liberal Democrats	9	2	3	2	1	1	1	1
Total	42	9	12	12	4	5	5	5

*Independent Chair and Vice-Chair for Audit and Ethics Committee. Named substitutes also appointed. Members of Scrutiny Committee cannot sit on Audit and Ethics Committee

** Independent Chair of Shareholders Committee

Appointments to Scrutiny Committee and Regulatory Committees

(1) Scrutiny Committee (9 seats – 4 Cons, 3 Lab, 2 Lib Dem)

Councillors Mrs Brown, Lawrence, Ms Livesey, Mrs McKenzie, Mistry, Mrs New, Mrs Parker, Rabin and Mrs Timms

(2) Licensing and Safety Committee (12 seats - 6 Cons, 4 Lab, 2 Lib Dem)

Councillors Mrs A'Barrow, Barnett, Miss Dumbleton, Mrs Garcia, D Keeling, J Keeling, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Roodhouse, Russell, Mrs Sayani, and Srivastava

(3) Planning Committee (12 seats - 6 Cons, 3 Lab, 3 Lib Dem)

Councillors Mrs Garcia, Gillias, Edwards, Harrington, Mrs Hassell, Karadiar, Lawrence, Lewis, Mrs Maoudis, Sandison, Srivastava and Ward

(4) Audit and Ethics Committee (4 seats - no PR required, 2 Cons, 1 Lab, 1 Lib Dem)

Councillors Mrs Roberts, Roberts, Roodhouse and Slinger

Named substitutes: Councillors Mrs A'Barrow, Mrs Hassell, Moran and 1 Liberal Democrat Councillor (to be confirmed)

(5) Shareholders Committee (5 seats – 3 Cons, 1 Lab, 1 Lib Dem)

Councillors Mrs Garcia, Mrs Maoudis, Moran, Rabin and Roodhouse

Named substitutes to be confirmed