

Birmingham City Council

City Council

21 May 2024



Subject: City Council Appointments
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Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out appointments to Committees and other Bodies to be approved by the City Council for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.
- 1.2 Despite the request from the West Midlands Combined Authority for members to be appointed to Combined Authority Committee for a 4-year term and following agreement with Group Leaders, appointments to the West Midlands Combined Authority will be made for a 2-year term up until May 2026 which is when elections to the City Council will next take place.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That City Council notes the current proportionality calculations set out at **Appendix 1** to the report.
- 2.2 That City Council notes that at the meeting of the Council Business Management Committee held on 7 May 2024, a decision was made to opt out of proportionality in respect of the Council Business Management Committee and for City Council Members on the Standards Committee for the municipal year 2024/25.
- 2.3 That City Council makes appointments to Committees and other bodies as set out in **Appendix 2** to the report.
- 2.4 That City Council notes the Committee dates for the municipal year

2024/25 as set out in **Appendix 3** to the report.

3 Legal Implications

- 3.1 By law, seats on committees must be allocated in proportion to the political composition of the Council. An authority can only decide that it wishes to adopt an arrangement other than a proportional one if no Member votes against it. This is known as a “nem con” vote.
- 3.2 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that as far as reasonably practicable, the following principles must be adhered to when determining the allocation of seats on committees to political groups:
 - (a) The seats on a committee cannot be allocated to members of one political group.
 - (b) The largest group on the council must be allocated the majority of seats on any committee.
 - (c) Subject to (a) and (b) the total number of committee seats allocated to each political group must reflect the proportion of total members of the authority from each political group.
 - (d) Subject to (a) to (c) above, the number of the seats on a committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on the committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.
- 3.3 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities to review committee membership and political representation annually and when notice is received of a change in the size of the political groups.
- 3.4 In determining the allocation of seats on ordinary committees, the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the Council is applied to the total number of elected Member seats on each committee.
- 3.5 Generally, fractional entitlements of less than one half are rounded down and entitlements of one half or more are rounded up. So that this process of rounding does not result in advantage to one political group, the aggregate membership of all the ordinary committees must also be in line with the proportions on the Council.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

5 Public Sector Equality Duty

5.1 There are no immediate equality implications arising from this report.

6 Other Implications

6.1 None.

7 Background Papers

7.1 None.

9 Appendices

9.1 **Appendix 1** – Current proportionality calculations.

Appendix 2 – City Council Appointments 2024/25

Appendix 3 – City Council Meeting Dates 2024/25