

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting:	County Council
Date:	23 May 2023
Title of report:	Political Balance Arrangements within the Council
Report by:	Head of Democracy
Purpose of Report:	To review political balance on committees

Background

1. The Council needs to review political balance arrangements on its committees on an annual basis.
2. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 sets out the main principles governing political balance, which are:

“a) that not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group;

b) that the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the Authority’s membership;

c) subject to (a) and (b) above, the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority; and

d) subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority.”¹

¹ Local Government and Housing Act 1989 Sections 15(5)(a) to (d)

3. The position in terms of political group membership following the election on 5 May 2022 and one by-election on 30 March 2023 is as follows:

Plaid Cymru	21
Anglesey Independents	7
Y Grŵp Annibynnol	4
Welsh Labour	3
Total	35

Committee Arrangements

4. There has been one significant change to the Council's committees recently. In the Council meeting on 9 March, it was resolved to establish a new Planning Policy Committee and to dissolve the Joint Planning Policy Committee with Gwynedd Council. There were 7 Council members on the joint committee. There will be 11 elected members on the new Committee.
5. We also need to make one administrative change, which is to take out the Pay and Grading Panel from the calculations. The committee was established to deal with a job evaluation and regrading process some years ago and it is now defunct.
6. The net result of the changes highlighted in paragraphs 4 and 5 is a reduction of 2 in the total number of committee seats to be allocated for 2023/24. These changes have been included in the attached table outlining the political allocation for each committee.
7. Unless the calculation arrives at whole numbers for the total number of seats or the number of seats on each committee, then it is necessary to achieve the best possible compliance on the figures in accordance with the principles set out in paragraph 2 above.
8. Each political group on the Council can only allocate the seats it receives under the political balance arrangements to its own members and not to elected members who are not members of the same political group.
9. In accordance with political management protocol (5.8 in the Council's Constitution), group leaders have been consulted on the political management arrangements in this report.

10. Recommendations

- a. That the Council considers **Attachment A** and confirms the political balance arrangements for allocating committee seats.
- b. That group leaders advise the Head of Democracy as soon as possible if there any changes to group membership on Committees.

Mai / May 2023

PWYLLGORAU CRAFFU A THROSOLWG SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEES			
Pwyllgorau Committees	Partneriaeth	Corfforaethol	Cyfanswm Craffu
	Partnership	Corporate	Total Scrutiny
Aelodaeth Membership	12	12	24
	<i>7.20</i>	<i>7.20</i>	<i>14.4</i>
	7	7	14
	<i>1.03</i>	<i>1.03</i>	<i>2.1</i>
	1	1	2
	<i>1.37</i>	<i>1.37</i>	<i>2.7</i>
	1	1	2
	<i>2.40</i>	<i>2.40</i>	<i>4.8</i>
	3	3	6
	<i>12</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>24</i>
	12	12	24

ALLWEDD	KEY
<i>Chwith uchaf, italic = hawl ffracstynol damcaniaethol</i>	
<i>Top left, italic, theoretical fractional entitlement</i>	
	Dde isaf, arferol = awgrym rhif llawn
	Bottom right, normal = whole number suggestion

Balans ar y Cyngor Sir Balance on County Council	
Plaid Cymru Party of Wales	21
Llafur Cymru Welsh Labour	3
Y Grwp Annibynnol	4
Annibynwyr Mon Anglesey Independents	7
	35

Pwyllgorau Committees	LLED-FARNWROL QUASI-JUDICIAL								PWYLLGORAU ERAILL Y CYNGOR OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL				Cyfanswm Eraill Total Others
	Cynllunio a Gorchymnion Planning and Orders	Llywodraethu ac Archwilio Governance & Audit	Gwasanaethau Democratiaidd Democratic Services	Penodiadau Appointments	Ymchwilio Investigation	Disgyblu Disciplinary	Apeliadau Appeals	Trwyddedu Licensing	CYSAG SACRE	Pwyllgor Polisi Cynllunio Committee	Penodi Safonau Standards Appointing	Is-Bwyllgor Indemniadau Indemnities sub-Committee	
Aelodaeth Membership	13	8	9	12	3	3	12	13	6	11	3	5	98
Plaid Cymru Party of Wales	<i>7.8</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>7.8</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>58.8</i>
Llafur Labour	<i>1.1</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>8</i>
Grwp Annibynnol Independent Group	<i>1.5</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>11</i>
Annibynwyr Mon Anglesey Independents	<i>2.6</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>19.6</i>
	13	8	9	12	3	3	12	13	6	11	3	5	98
Cyfanswm	13	8	9	12	3	3	12	13	6	11	3	5	98

CYFANSWM LLAWN GRAND TOTAL
122
73.2
74
10.5
10
13.9
11
24.4
27
122
122