

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting:	County Council
Date:	5 March 2026
Title of report:	Political Balance of Committees
Report by:	Head of Democracy
Purpose of Report:	To review the political balance on committees in accordance with the Council's constitution and local government legislation.

Background

1. The Council needs to review political balance arrangements on its committees on an annual basis. The last review took place in May 2025, but following the result of the Ynys Gybi by-election in February and a change in the membership of the Anglesey Independents group, there has been a change in the political balance of the Council, and the allocation of committee seats needs to be reconsidered.

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

3. The political situation on the Council following the by-election and the change to the membership of Anglesey Independents group is as follows (political balance only recognises political groups on the Council and for that there have to be at least two members):

Plaid Cymru -	19 (-1)
Anglesey Independents -	7 (-1)
Y Grŵp Annibynnol -	4
Welsh Labour -	3
Unaffiliated members	2 (+2)
Total -	35

Allocation of Seats on Committees

4. 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.
5. Committee seats are for political groups; there is no specific right for unaffiliated members who do not belong to a group to any seat, apart from on the County Council itself. As paragraph 3 shows, the Council currently has two individual/unaffiliated members. If there is no objection from the County Council, it is possible to assign the unallocated seats to those members.
6. If any member of the County Council opposes the principle of assigning unallocated seats to the two unaffiliated members, the seats will remain unallocated. Political groups cannot fill these seats. The situation will be reviewed again at the County Council's annual meeting in May.
7. Appendix A explains the allocation of committee seats based on political balance following the recent changes. There is a change to 7 seats across 7 committees. Two fewer seats for the Plaid Cymru group (Planning and Orders Committee and the Licensing Committee) and 5 fewer seats for the Anglesey Independents group (Appointments Committee, Appeals Committee, Planning Policy Committee and the two scrutiny committees).

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

8. That leaves 7 unallocated seats to be allocated between the two individual / unaffiliated members if there is no objection. Subject to there being no objection from any member to the general principle of allocation to the unaffiliated members, they are advised to agree between themselves which seats each would occupy. If they have not agreed, then Council will allocate specific seats.
9. 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.
10. In accordance with political management protocol, Group Leaders have been consulted on the change to the allocation of seats as outlined in this report.
11. Recommendations
 - a. That the Council confirms the political balance arrangements for allocating committee seats as outlined in Appendix A.
 - b. That the unallocated seats are allocated between the two individual / unaffiliated members.
 - c. That group leaders advise the Head of Democracy as soon as possible of any changes to group membership on Committees.

Chwef / Feb 26

PWYLLGORAU CRAFFU SCRUTINY COMMITTEES				
Pwyllgorau Committees	Partneriaeth Partnership	Corfforaethol Corporate	Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig CJC	Cyfanswm Craffu Total Scrutiny
Aelodaeth Membership	12	12	2	26
	7	7	1	15
	1	1		2
	1	1		2
	(-1)	(-1)		
	2	2	1	5
	(+1)	(+1)		
	12	12	2	26

ALLWEDD	KEY
<i>Chwith uchaf, italic = hawl ffracsïynol 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	19 (-1)	54.30%
Llafur Cymru Welsh Labour	3	8.60%
Y Grwp Annibynnol	4	11.40%
Annibynwyr Mon Anglesey Independents	7 (-1)	20%
Unigol / Unaffiliated	2	

Cyfanswm / Total 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	CYS SAC	Pwyllgor Polisi Cynllunio Planning Policy Committee	Penodi Safonau Standards Appointing	Is-Bwyllgor Indemniadau sub-Committee		
Aelodaeth Membership	13	8	9	12	3	3	12	13	6	11	3	5	98	
Plaid Cymru Party of Wales	(-1) 7	4	5	7	2	2	7	7	3	6	2	3	55	
Llafur Labour	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	8	
Grwp Annibynnol Independent Group	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	9	
Annibynwyr Mon Anglesey Independents	3	2	2	(-1) 2	1	1	(-1) 2	3	1	(-1) 2	1	1	21	
Unigol / Unaffiliated* Cyfanswm	(+1) 13	8	9	(+1) 12	3	3	(+1) 12	(+1) 13	6	(+1) 11	3	5	98	

CYFANSWM LLAWN	
GRAND TOTAL	124
	70
	10
	11
	26
	117