

POLITICAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides Members with updated information in relation to Political Groups on the Council.

2. Recommendations

Members are asked to:-

- 2.1 note the change of name of the 'Dumfries and Galloway Council Conservative and Unionists' Group' to the 'Dumfries and Galloway Independent Group';
- 2.2 note that Councillor Yen is an Independent Councillor associated with the Dumfries and Galloway Independent Group;
- 2.3 note that Councillor McCutcheon is a member of The Independent Group; and
- 2.4 consider allocation of the one place on Sub-Committees of 7 to the non-aligned/non-affiliated Members.

3. Considerations

3.1 By email dated 29 July 2015, the Proper Officer received notification from Councillor Ian Carruthers to the change of Group name from the 'Dumfries and Galloway Council Conservative and Unionists' Group' to the 'Dumfries and Galloway Independent Group'.

3.2 Councillor Yen advised the Proper Officer of her resignation from the SNP Group on 14 July 2015. Councillor Yen subsequently advised the Proper Officer on 14 September 2015 that she was now associating with the Dumfries and Galloway Independent Group while remaining as an Independent Councillor.

3.3 Councillor McCutcheon advised the Proper Officer of her resignation from the Labour Group on 15 July 2015. The Proper Officer was subsequently advised on 16 July 2015 that Councillor McCutcheon had become a member of the Independent Group.

3.4 The political make-up of the Council is therefore as follows:

Political Group/Affiliation	No. of Members
Labour plus Cllr Peacock (Administration)	15
SNP	9
Dumfries & Galloway Conservative and Unionist Council Group	8
Dumfries and Galloway Independent Group plus Cllr Yen	7
The Independent Group	5
Non-Aligned Group	2
Non Affiliated Councillor – Cllr Wyper	1
Total	47

3.5 At the first meeting of Full Council on 22 May 2012, the Council agreed that it would determine the allocation of Committee seats to non-affiliated Members and this remains the position, and remains unchanged. In updating proportionality for the changes notified above, Members are required to consider the allocation of one place on Sub-Committees of 7 to non-aligned/non-affiliated Members.

4. Governance Assurance

This report is a procedural report and complies with the legislative requirements of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and supervening amendment legislation.

5. Impact Assessment

As this report does not propose a change in policy/strategy/plan/project, it is not necessary to complete an Impact Assessment.

Author

NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Claire Thomson	Governance Officer and Elections Manager	Council Offices English Street Dumfries

NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Lorna Meahan	Director Corporate Services	Council Offices English Street Dumfries

Appendices – none

Background Papers at

<http://egenda.dumgal.gov.uk/aksdumgal/users/public/admin/kab71.pl>