

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 11 October 2017
Report for: Information
Report of: Chief Executive

Report Title

**RESULT OF BY-ELECTION FOR BUCKLOW ST. MARTINS WARD AND
POLITICAL GROUP COMPOSITION**

Summary

To note the result of the Poll held on 14 September 2017 for the Bucklow St. Martins Ward of the Borough and to advise Council of a change to the political composition of the Council and the position in relation to the constitution of Council Committees for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year.

Recommendation(s)

- 1) That the election of Aidan James Williams as an elected Member for the Bucklow St. Martins Ward be noted.
- 2) That the current composition of the political groups on the Council, as set out in the report, be noted.
- 3) That the Council notes that there will be no consequential change to the allocation of Committee places.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Ian Cockill
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Background Papers: None.

1. Bucklow St. Martins By-election

- 1.1 The result of the Poll held on 14 September 2017 saw the candidate Aidan James Williams elected as a Member for the Bucklow St. Martins Ward of the Borough.
- 1.2 Aidan James Williams has duly made the prescribed Declaration of Acceptance of Office and will hold office until May 2019.

2. Political Composition of the Council

- 2.1 Following the result of the By-election, the political make-up of the Council is now:

- Conservative Group - 33 members
- Labour Group - 26 members
- Liberal Democrat Group - 3 members
- Independent - 1 member.

- 2.2 The regulations require that the composition of committees is in accordance with the political balance of the 63 members of the Council and that this is reviewed as a result of any changes.

- 2.3 Subject to the need to allocate each political group a total allocation of seats in proportion to its strength on the Council, the Membership of each Ordinary Committee should be made up of the following proportions: -

- Conservative (33/63) - 52.4%
- Labour (26/63) - 41.3%
- Liberal Democrat (3/63) - 4.8%
- Independent (1/63) - 1.6%

- 2.4 However, as there is no requirement to offer an independent person a seat as an individual does not constitute a group, the new political make-up has no significant effect on the total allocation of seats.

- 2.5 The existing allocations as shown in Appendix 1 remain consistent with the political proportions of the Council and therefore, there is no requirement to change the composition of Committees. All Group Leaders have agreed to the arrangements.

APPENDIX 1

CURRENT COMMITTEE ENTITLEMENTS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017/18

Committee	No. of Members	Ex-officio Members	Co-opted Members	Proposed Places		
				CON	LAB	L/D
<u>Ordinary Committees</u>						
Accounts and Audit	7	-	-	4	3	0
Employment	7	-	-	4	3	0
Planning and Development Management	13	-	-	7	5	1
Licensing *	15	-	-	8	7	0
Standards	11		5^^	6	4	1
Scrutiny	11	1#	5^	6	4	1
Health Scrutiny	11	1#	-	6	4	1
POLITICALLY BALANCED PLACINGS (excluding other Committees)	75			41	30	4
<u>Other Committee(s)</u>						
Health and Wellbeing Board**	2		7^^^	2	1	0
OVERALL PLACINGS	77			43	30	4

- * Committees for which political balance rules may be disappled
- ** Committee for which political balance rules do not apply
- # The Chairmen of both the Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee shall be appointed as ex-officio non-voting members of the opposite scrutiny committee.
- ^ 2 Church and 3 Parent-Governor representatives
- ^^ 2 Parish representatives and 3 Independent members
- ^^^ Corporate Director of Children, Families and Wellbeing plus 16 External Partners