

Annex A:

Political Proportionalities on Committees and Sub-Committees 2024-2025

Committee Allocations (For Appointment by Council)

Seats on committees are allocated based on the principles set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Section 15). The allocation of seats to political groups has been reviewed based on the political composition of the Council following elections held on 2 May 2024:

- Liberal Democrat: 21
- Conservative: 13
- Labour and Co-Operative: 11
- Green: 4

Table A: Initial Seat Allocations

Committee	Seats	Lib Dem	Con	Lab & Co-op	Green	Total	Balance
Audit and Governance	11	5	3	2	1	11	0
Development Control	24	10	6	5	2	23	-1
Licensing Committee	11	5	3	2	1	11	0
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	24	10	6	5	2	23	-1
Performance and Appointments Committee	5	2	1	1	0	4	-1
Total seats allocated (real entitlement) (rounded entitlement)	75	32 32.14 (32)	19 19.90 (20)	15 16.84 (17)	6 6.12 (6)	72	-3

The Conservative Group has an overall under-allocation of 1 seat. The Labour and Co-operative Group has an overall under-allocation of two seats. One seat remains unallocated on each of Development Control, Overview and Scrutiny, and Performance and Appointments.

Steps to Allocate Remaining Seats:

1. Of the three committee seats available, the Conservative Group has the strongest proportional entitlement to an additional seat on the Performance and Appointments Committee (0.39) (as opposed to 0.37 on Development Control and Overview and Scrutiny).
2. The Labour and Co-operative Group has the strongest proportional entitlement to additional seats on Development Control (0.39) and Overview and Scrutiny (0.39) (as opposed to 0.12 on Performance and Appointments Committee).

3. Seats are allocated as follows:
 - a. Conservative Group gains one additional seat on Performance and Appointments Committee.
 - b. Labour and Co-operative Group gains one additional seat on each of Development Control Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Table B: Final Seat Allocation After Adjustments

Committee	Seats	Lib Dem	Con	Lab & Co-op	Green	Total	Balance
Audit and Governance	11	5	3	2	1	11	0
Development Control	24	10	6	6	2	24	0
Licensing Committee	11	5	3	2	1	11	0
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	24	10	6	6	2	24	0
Performance and Appointments Committee	5	2	2	1	0	5	0
Total seats allocated (real entitlement)	75	32	20	17	6	75	0
(rounded entitlement)		32.14 (32)	19.90 (20)	16.84 (17)	6.12 (6)		

Sub-Committee Allocations (For Appointment by Committees)

Seats on sub-committees are allocated to groups by the appointing committee. Members of sub-committees must be members of the appointing committee. The initial allocations on sub-committees are as follows:

Sub-Committee	Seats	Lib Dem	Con	Lab & Co-op	Green	Total	Balance
Miscellaneous Licensing (for appointment By Licensing Committee)	5	2	1	1	0	4	-1
Standards (for appointment by Audit & Governance Committee)	5	2	1	1	0	4	-1

Lowlands and Uplands (for appointment by Development Control Committee)	<p>The Uplands and Lowlands sub-committees must have a minimum of 11 members, with the Chair of the Development Control Committee being appointed to both sub-committees and all other members of the Development Control Committee being appointed to either the Uplands or Lowlands sub-committee, depending on the ward they represent.</p> <p>Where wards cross the Lowlands and Uplands boundary the ward member may be appointed to either sub-committee.</p>
---	---

The licensing and standards sub-committees each have one seat vacant after all groups have received their full proportional entitlement of seats.

Steps to Allocate Remaining Seats:

1. Of the four political groups, the Green Group has the strongest proportional entitlement to the unallocated seat on both the licensing and standards sub-committees (0.41), higher than the Conservative Group (0.33), the Liberal Democrat Group (0.14) and the Labour and Co-Operative Group (0.12).
2. The Green Group gains one seat on each of the licensing and standards sub-committees.
3. Appointments to the Lowlands and Uplands Sub-Committees were discussed at a Group Leader’s meeting on 13 May 2024. The intention is to appoint to these sub-committees based on ward rather than political balance, as in previous years. This requires a nem con vote at the Development Control Committee (i.e. with no member voting against).

Sub-Committee	Seats	Lib Dem	Con	Lab & Co-op	Green	Total	Balance
Miscellaneous Licensing (for appointment By Licensing Committee)	5	2	1	1	1	5	0
Standards (for appointment by Audit & Governance Committee)	5	2	1	1	1	5	0
Lowlands and Uplands (for appointment by Development Control Committee)	<p>The Uplands and Lowlands sub-committees must have a minimum of 11 members, with the Chair of the Development Control Committee being appointed to both sub-committees and all other members of the Development Control Committee being appointed to either the Uplands or Lowlands sub-committee, depending on the ward they represent.</p> <p>Where wards cross the Lowlands and Uplands boundary the ward member may be appointed to either sub-committee.</p>						

External (Outside) Bodies

Council is invited to appoint members to certain external committees. Appointments to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel should be made with regards to the political balance of the Council. The seat on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee does not have to be appointed based on political proportionality.

The Conservative group has declined to take up a seat on the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. The seat was offered to the Green group to ensure that three groups are represented on the panel.

External Body	Seats	Lib Dem	Con	Lab & Co-op	Green	Total	Balance
Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel (real entitlement)	3	1 (1.29)	1 (0.80)	1 (0.67)	0 (0.24)	3	0
Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1			1		1	0

(END)