



## Public Document Pack

# Uttlesford District Council

Chief Executive: Dawn French

## SUPPLEMENTARY PACK

### Council Remote Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, 19th May, 2020

**Time:** 7.00 pm

**Venue:** Zoom - <https://zoom.us/>

**Chair:** Councillor R Freeman

**Members:** Councillors A Armstrong, H Asker, G Bagnall, S Barker, M Caton, A Coote, C Criscione, C Day, A Dean, G Driscoll, D Eke, J Evans, P Fairhurst, M Foley (Vice-Chair), N Gregory, N Hargreaves, V Isham, R Jones, A Khan, P Lavelle, G LeCount, P Lees, M Lemon, B Light, J Lodge, J Loughlin, S Luck, S Merifield, E Oliver, R Pavitt, L Pepper, N Reeve, G Sell, A Storah, M Sutton, M Tayler and J De Vries

## ITEMS WITH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PART 1

### Open to Public and Press

**9 Committees and Political Balance 2020-21** 3 - 6

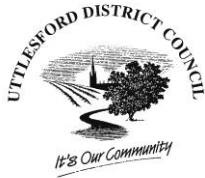
To review the political balance of the Council.

- An updated report has been published to incorporate the revised political balance calculation in light of the formation of the Thaxted and Eastons Independent Group.

**10 Appointment of Members to Committees 2020-21** 7

To appoint the Council's committees for 2020-21 and agree the nominations from the Group Leaders for Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs, members and substitutes.

- An updated Committee membership list has been published to incorporate the revised allocation of committee seats.



# Uttlesford District Council

Chief Executive: Dawn French

**For information about this meeting please contact Democratic Services**

Telephone: 01799 510369 or 510548

Email: [Committee@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:Committee@uttlesford.gov.uk)

**General Enquiries**

Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER

Telephone: 01799 510510

Fax: 01799 510550

Email: [uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk)

Website: [www.uttlesford.gov.uk](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk)

# Agenda Item 9

**Committee:** Annual Council  
**Title:** Revised Political Balance – following the formation of the Thaxted and Eastons Independent Group  
**Report Author:** Ben Ferguson, Democratic Services Manager  
[bferguson@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:bferguson@uttlesford.gov.uk)

**Date:** Tuesday 19 May 2020

---

## Summary

1. This report considers the political composition of the Council following the resignations of Councillors Foley and Tayler from the Liberal Democrat Group, and the subsequent formation of the Thaxted and the Eastons Independent Group. The Group was formally established on Friday, 15 May 2020.
2. The Council's political composition is now 23 Residents for Uttlesford, 5 Liberal Democrats, 4 Conservatives, 2 Greens, 2 Uttlesford Independents and 2 Thaxted and the Eastons Independent Group.
3. The agenda papers for Annual Council were published on the Monday, 11 May and therefore the political balance calculation detailed in the initial report requires revision.

## Recommendations

4. That the Council reviews its political composition and achieves political balance by allocating seats on its committees as set out in the report.

## Financial Implications

5. None.

## Background Papers

6. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None.

## Impact

- 7.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	None

Equalities	To ensure political representation on the council's committees is proportional to the council's political composition.
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	To ensure compliance with the Local Government Housing Act 1989
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

### Situation

8. Ahead of any decision by Council, it has been assumed the number of seats on ordinary committees of the Council (excluding Standards Committee) will be as follows:

Committee	Number of Seats
Governance, Audit and Performance	9
Licensing and Environmental Health	10
Planning	12
Scrutiny	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>

9. Based on the 41 seats, the number of seats available to each group is as follows:

Group	Percentage	Calculated Seats	Number of Seats
Residents for Uttlesford	60.53%	24.82	25
Liberal Democrats	13.16%	5.39	6
Conservative	10.53%	4.32	4
Uttlesford Independents	5.26%	2.16	2

Green Group	5.26%	2.16	2
Thaxted and the Eastons Independents	5.26%	2.16	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>

### Standards Committee

10. The Council's Constitution recognises that that the rules of political balance contained in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply but acknowledges that a politically balanced Standards Committee would be undesirable. It provides that subject to no member present voting against the proposal each political group on the Council would have at least one member on the Standards Committee. The aim is to achieve an even balance on the Committee.
11. Article 9 of the Constitution provides for three nominations for each political group, until the point when the Committee reaches a maximum of 9 members. As there are now 6 political groups it is proposed that membership of the Standards Committee should be allocated as follows:

<b>Political Party</b>	<b>Number of Seats</b>
Residents for Uttlesford	3
Liberal Democrats	2
Conservatives	1
Uttlesford Independents	1
Green Group	1
Thaxted and the Eastons Independents	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

### Proposal for Allocation of Seats

12. Group Leaders have seen the revised political balance calculation and have been asked to put forward proposals in regard to the allocation of the 41 seats. A consensus has been reached and officers have been presented with the following proposal:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>R4U</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Utt. Independent Group</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Thaxted and Easton Independent Group</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Governance, Audit and Performance</b>	6	1	1	0	0	1	9
<b>Licensing and Environmental Health</b>	6	1	1	0	1	1	10
<b>Planning</b>	7	2	1	1	1	0	12
<b>Scrutiny</b>	6	2	1	1	0	0	10
<b>Standards</b>	3	2	1	1	1	1	9
<b>Total</b>	28	8	5	3	3	3	50

### **Risk Analysis**

13. There are no risks associated with this report.

## PROPOSED COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS 2020-21

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr S Merifield  
Vice-Chair: Cllr M Lemon

Cllr G Bagnall	Cllr J Loughlin
Cllr M Caton	Cllr R Pavitt
Cllr R Freeman	Cllr N Reeve
Cllr G LeCount	Cllr A Storah
Cllr P Fairhurst	Cllr M Sutton

Substitutes:

Cllr S Barker	Cllr E Oliver
Cllr N Gregory	Cllr G Sell
Cllr R Jones	Cllr J de Vries
Cllr B Light	

### LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr P Lavelle  
Vice-Chair: Cllr C Day

Cllr S Barker	Cllr V Isham
Cllr R Freeman	Cllr P Lees
Cllr J Loughlin	Cllr L Pepper
Cllr B Light	Cllr M Taylor

Substitutes:

Cllr A Armstrong	Cllr M Foley
Cllr A Coote	Cllr A Khan
Cllr C Criscione	Cllr E Oliver
Cllr P Fairhurst	

### GOVERNANCE, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr E Oliver  
Vice-Chair: Cllr G Driscoll

Cllr G Bagnall	Cllr M Foley
Cllr V Isham	Cllr S Luck
Cllr R Jones	Cllr J de Vries
Cllr A Khan	

Substitutes:

Cllr H Asker	Cllr C Criscione
Cllr S Barker	Cllr M Taylor
Cllr M Caton	Cllr M Sutton

### SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr N Gregory  
Vice-Chair: Cllr G LeCount

Cllr A Dean	Cllr R Jones
Cllr A Coote	Cllr P Lavelle
Cllr C Criscione	Cllr N Reeve
Cllr G Driscoll	Cllr G Sell

Substitutes:

Cllr S Barker	Cllr M Lemon
Cllr M Caton	Cllr R Pavitt
Cllr A Khan	Cllr A Storah
	Cllr M Sutton

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr N Reeve  
Vice-Chair: Cllr V Isham

Cllr H Asker	Cllr B Light
Cllr M Foley	Cllr S Barker
Cllr N Gregory	
Cllr A Khan	
Cllr A Dean	

#### **Independent Members (non-voting):**

Georgina Butcher-Doulton  
David Pearl  
Catherine Wellingbrook-Doswell

Substitutes: Cllr G Sell, Cllr J Evans, Cllr P Fairhurst, Cllr G LeCount, Cllr J Loughlin, Cllr E Oliver, Cllr R Pavitt and Cllr M Taylor