



<b>Report To:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
<b>Subject:</b>	Committee Seats Review
<b>Purpose:</b>	To review committee seat allocations to political groups in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and confirm appointments to committees.
<b>Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	N/A
<b>Report Of:</b>	John Medler, Assistant Director Governance & Monitoring Officer.
<b>Report Author:</b>	Ann Good, Democratic Services Manager.
<b>Ward(s) Affected:</b>	None
<b>Exempt Report:</b>	No

### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to set out a revised allocation of seats and associated appointments for committees and panels following a review undertaken in response to a recent change in political proportionality.

### **Recommendations**

That the Council approves the revised allocation of seats to political groups as detailed in Appendix A and appointments to committees as detailed in Appendix B.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

To comply with legal requirements as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

## **Other Options Considered**

The Council may agree alternative seat allocation arrangements other than those prescribed by the 1989 Act and the 1990 Regulations. A decision in these circumstances would require no member to vote against the proposed alternative arrangements.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Council last reviewed its allocation of seats to committees and panels on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025, in response to a change to its proportionality in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and associated Regulations.
- 1.2 At that time, it was also noted that Councillor Stephen Evans (Conservative Group), had resigned as a District Councillor for Chapel St Leonards Ward on 22 September 2025. A By Election for the Chapel St Leonards Ward was held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Paul Sutton was duly elected and his group membership for Reform UK at East Lindsey District Council has since been confirmed.
- 1.3 This has resulted in a change to the political group membership of the Council, which is as follows:

Conservative 26  
District Independent/Liberal Democrat 2  
East Lindsey Independent Group 12  
East Lindsey Progressives 2  
Labour 6  
Non-aligned 1  
Reform UK 6

## **2. Report**

- 2.1 Under Regulation 16 of the 1990 Regulations, where some of the members of the relevant authority are members of one or more political groups and the others are not, the Council's obligations are as follows:
  - i) To determine the proportion of the total membership of the Council who are members of one or more political groups and ensure that the same proportion of the total number of seats to be filled is allocated to each of the political groups in the proportion that the number of members of that group bears to the membership of the authority; and
  - ii) To secure that persons appointed to any seats that do not fall to be allocated to a political group under the above requirement are not allocated to a person who is a member of a political group.

- 2.2 Appendix A sets out the allocation of committee seats to political groups and non-grouped members based on their proportion of the total membership of the authority.
- 2.3 *Having determined the overall seat allocations, the next step is to assign seats to individual committees. The 1989 Act requires the Council to apply the following principles in sequential order and as far as reasonably practicable when determining seat allocations:*
- a. That not all the seats on a body are allocated to the same political group.*
  - b. If the number of persons belonging to a political group is a majority of the authority's membership, then the majority of seats on a body are allocated to that political group.*
  - c. That subject to (a) and (b) the number of seats allocated to a political group on the ordinary committees of the Council should bear the same proportion to all the seats on such ordinary committees as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole.*
  - d. That subject to (a), (b) and (c) the number of seats allocated to a political group on a body should bear the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole.*
- 2.4 Applying the principles set out in paragraph 2.3 produces the allocation of committee seats set out in Appendix A.
- 2.5 Once the allocation of seats has been determined, there is a duty on the Council to give effect to the allocation by making appointments to seats in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group. The appointments to committee seats, as expressed by Group Leaders, are set out in Appendix B. Details of any further changes to appointments received from Group Leaders will be confirmed at the Council Meeting.

### **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1. The Council is required to allocate seats on the committees and panels of the Council to political groups in accordance with the law relating to political proportionality. The recommendations within this report meet these requirements.

### **Implications**

#### **South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership**

None.

#### **Corporate Priorities**

None.

#### **Staffing**

None.

### **Workforce Capacity Implications**

None.

### **Constitutional and Legal Implications**

*The Council is required to allocate seats on the Committees of the Council in accordance with the law relating to political proportionality as set out in the report.*

### **Data Protection**

None.

### **Financial**

*The costs of delivering the Council's Committee structures are factored into the approved Council budget.*

### **Risk Management**

None.

### **Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales**

Group Leaders have been consulted.

### **Reputation**

None.

### **Contracts**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding**

None.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

None.

## **Climate Change and Environment Impact Assessment**

Not undertaken.

## **Acronyms**

None.

## **Appendices**

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix A Allocation of seats to committees and panels

Appendix B Appointments to committees and panels

## **Background Papers**

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

<b>Document title</b>	<b>Where the document can be viewed.</b>
The Council Constitution	<a href="#">Council Constitution</a>

## **Chronological History of this Report**

*A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.*

## **Report Approval**

Report author:	Ann Good, Democratic Services Manager: <a href="mailto:ann.good@e-lindsey.gov.uk">ann.good@e-lindsey.gov.uk</a>
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Signed off by:	John Medler, Assistant Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer: <a href="mailto:john.medler@e-lindsey.gov.uk">john.medler@e-lindsey.gov.uk</a>
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