Report to:	Annual Council		
Date:	21 May 2019		
Title:	Establishment of Council Committees, Appointment of Chairs, Deputy Chairs and Members to Serve on Council Committees and Appointment of Chair and Non-Executive Directors to Boards and Other Appointments.		
Report of: Ward(s):	Assistant Director – Corporate Governance All		
Purpose of report:	To bring before the annual meeting information governing the allocation of seats for the 2019/20 Council year in order that proposals and nominations can be put before the annual meeting of the Council.		
Officer recommendation:	 To approve the proposed number and allocation of seats and nominations as set out in Appendix 1. 		
	2. That the continuation of the following bodies be confirmed with terms of reference as set out in the Council's Constitution, and that they have a fixed membership or to which members are appointed by the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive or relevant Director as the need arises: Equality Steering Group, Council Panels, Recruitment Panels, Task Groups and Project Boards.		
Reasons for recommendations:	To enable the Council to proceed with decision-making in the relevant bodies.		
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Simon Russell, Post title: Committee and Civic Services Manager E-mail: Simon.Russell@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 01323 415021		

1. Introduction

1.1 Whole council elections were held on 2 May 2019. As a result, the total number of councillors used in the calculation of committee seat numbers is 27 and the break down of seats is 18 Liberal Democrats and 9 Conservatives. The seat allocations are set out below.

2. Current Structure

2.1 This paper is based on the current democratic governance structure. and Group Leaders have submitted nominations on this basis. It is also assumed that all 27 members will be joining the two political party groups on the Council.

2.2 Base percentages:-

No. of Councillors: 27	% seats on Council
Liberal Democrats 18	66.67
Conservatives 9	33.33

2.3 **Committees**. The allocation of seats in accordance with the rules is as follows:

Committee	No. of Seats	Controlling Group	Opposition Group
Planning	8	5	3
General	12	8	4
Licensing			
Audit and	8	6	2
Governance			
Scrutiny	8	5	3
Totals:	36	24	12

- 2.4 **Scrutiny Committee**. There is constitutional provision for a 7 or 8 seat committee. The proposed allocation of seats is for the latter in order to achieve overall balance.
- 2.5 **Licensing Committee (General and Licensing Act).** This is now a single committee merging the business of the previous two committees (General Licensing and Licensing Act). The law requires there to be not less than 10 members and not more than 15 members of a committee dealing with Licensing Act functions. In order to achieve overall balance, the proposal is for a 12-member committee in 2019/20. 5 members are appointed as chairs of ad hoc Licensing sub-committees.

2.6 Advisory Bodies

Body	No. of Seats	Controlling Group	Opposition
Conservation Area Advisory Group	4 (or 3)	2	2 (or 1)
Downland Forum	3 (or 4)	2 (or 3)	1

In 2018/19 the Conservation Area Advisory Group had 4 members. Past Council practice has been to allow the opposition an equality of seats. The Downland Forum had 3 members and nominations have been made on the basis that this continues.

2.7 **Other Task Groups and Boards.** So far as is possible, groups are

recommended to retain existing membership so as to maintain continuity and enable ongoing work to continue.

2.8 **Nominations.** The schedule of nominations from political groups based on these allocations will be circulated in due course.

3. Financial appraisal

There are no financial implications from these proposals.

4. Legal implications

The Council must act in accordance with requirements of the under Section 15 and Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in relation to calculation of group Committee places.

5. Appendices

 Appendix 1 – Proposed Allocations to Committee and Other Bodies, to Chairs and Deputy Chairs, and Appointments to Outside Bodies. (Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet appointments are included for information only)

6. Background papers

None