

## **Agenda item**

### **POLITICAL BALANCE – PENNINE ACUTE JOSC 2017/18**

Under the Local Government Act 2000 provisions, overview and scrutiny must generally reflect the political nature of the full council. Where a Joint Committee is established, the political balance requirements apply for each participating local authority, unless Members of all authorities agree otherwise.

In the report that went to each authority to establish the Joint committees, the following was included:

- The rules concerning proportional political representation apply to the establishment of such Joint committees, unless members of all authorities agree that they need not apply.
- The two committees will need to be politically balanced reflecting the overall political balance of the appointing authorities.

#### **This municipal year, the Political Balance rules require:**

Across the whole Pennine Acute footprint, there are 267 seats. When taken together and the proportions worked out, it equates to:

With 221 of the 267, 83% of seats go to Labour  
With 28 of the 267, 10% of seats go to Conservatives  
With 15 of the 267, 6% of seats go to the Liberal Democrats  
With 3 of the 267, 1% of seats go to others.

Therefore for the Joint Committee to be politically balanced the membership would have to be constituted as follows:

Labour – 10 members  
Liberal Democrats – 1 member  
Conservatives – 1 member  
Independents/Others – 0 members

The proposed membership of the Joint Committee is as follows:

Labour – 9 members  
Liberal Democrats – 1 member  
Conservatives – 2 members

In previous municipal years the Joint Committee **has resolved to waiver the right** for the Joint Committee to be politically balanced.

**Julie Gallagher: Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Officer**  
**July 2017**