

Part A

Report to: Council

Date of meeting: Tuesday, 23 May 2023

Report author: Democratic Services Officer

Title: Notification of Constitution of Political Groups

1.0 Summary

1.1 Regulations made under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires formal notice to be given each year of the composition of political groups. This information also enables the council to comply with the requirements of the relevant section of that Act dealing with political balance on Council committees.

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (treat, tolerate, terminate or transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
If political groups are not established this will impact upon being able to form the politically balanced committees.	Council committees may not be able to be politically balanced.	The group secretaries have been asked to confirm the members of their political groups. When possible, all members will be asked to sign the notification of political groups form.	Treat	2

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 That Council notes the composition of the political groups on the council as at 23 May 2023.

Further information:

Ian Smith

ian.smith@watford.gov.uk

Report approved by: Carol Chen, Group Head of Democracy and Governance

4.0 Detailed proposal

4.1 Following notification from the groups, details of Group Leaders, Deputy Leaders, Group Secretaries and membership are set out below.

4.2 Liberal Democrats

Leader:	Councillor Jennifer Pattinson
Deputy Leader:	Councillor Glen Saffery
Group Secretary:	Councillor Peter Hannon
Group Members:	Councillors Ahmed, Allen-Williamson, Clarke-Taylor, Devonish, Dychton, Feldman, Grimston, Hannon, Hill, Hofman, Jeffree, Johnson, Kloss, Martins, Nembhard, Newstead, Osborn, Pattinson, Rodrigues, A Saffery, G Saffery, Saunders, Stotesbury, Walford, Watkin, Wenham, Williams and Mayor Taylor

4.3 Labour

Leader:	Councillor Nigel Bell
Deputy Leader:	Councillor Favour Ezeifedi
Group Secretary:	Councillor Asif Khan
Group Members:	Councillors Bell, Dhindsa, Ezeifedi, Khan, Shah, Smith, Trebar, Turmaine, Watling

5.0 Implications**5.1 Financial**

5.1.1 The Shared Director of Finance comments that there are no financial implications of this report.

5.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

5.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that it is a legal requirement for council to be notified of the composition of the political groups that make up membership of the council.

5.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

5.3.1 Having had regard to the council's obligations under s149 of the Equality Act, it is considered that there will be no impact upon councillors' equalities or human rights.

5.3.2 Having had regard to the council's obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, it is considered that officers are not required to undertake a Data Processing Impact Assessment (DPIA) for this report.

5.4 Staffing

5.4.1 None.

5.5 Accommodation

5.5.1 None.

5.6 Community Safety/Crime and Disorder

5.6.1 None.

5.7 Sustainability

5.7.1 None.

Appendices

None.

Background papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.