

24th June 2022

WLGA COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND POLITICAL BALANCE 2022-23

Purpose

1. This report sets out the membership and political balance of the Association's Council for the 2022-23 Council year based on the nominations received from the local authorities in full membership of the WLGA.

Background

2. Whilst the WLGA is not a statutory body, the Association is nevertheless guided by the relevant legislation deriving from Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
3. The procedure for determination of the political management of the Association follows from the formation of the Council and derives from the Constitution of the WLGA. The key provisions are that a local authority in full membership is entitled to appoint one member of the Council for each 50,000 population (or part thereof).
4. The period of office for members shall commence with effect from the Annual General Meeting and shall end immediately before the next Annual Meeting subject to the provision that those individuals shall cease to be eligible for membership of the Council if they cease to hold office as a member of the local authority which nominated them, the nominating authority ceases to be in membership of the Association, or their nomination to serve on the Council has been withdrawn in writing by their authority.

Membership

5. From the information provided to date by the local authorities in membership of the WLGA, the political balance of the WLGA Council (as at 16th June 2022) is:

| | Number of seats | Percentage (%) (rounded down/up to nearest %) |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Conservative | 1 | 1 |
| Independent | 13 | 18 |
| Labour | 45 | 63 |
| Liberal Democrat | 2 | 3 |
| Plaid Cymru | 11 | 15 |
| Total | 72 | 100 |

6. The WLGA Council also includes 6 non-voting members from Associate Member Authorities, one member each from the National Park Authorities and Fire and Rescue Authorities. As non-voting members, these members are not included in any political

balance calculations. Not all Associate Members have been able to submit their members to the WLGA Council in advance of the AGM given the timing of their own AGMs.

7. The Membership of Council is set out in Annex 1 and 2.

Political Groups

8. The constitution (section 8) sets out the process for determining political groups within the Association, including:

“8.1 Any group of members of the Council may elect to form themselves into a political group; political groups may combine to form a coalition.

8.2 The Council shall afford accreditation to any political group which comprises two or more members, which must be from two or more Member Councils. Any individual member of the Council may not belong to more than one political group and not more than one group shall be afforded accreditation for any single party.”

8. As of 16th June 2022, based on the allocation of members and votes within Council, there are three political groups on the Council: Labour, Independent and Plaid Cymru

Voting at Council

9. Each member of the Council appointed by a local authority in full membership shall be entitled to one vote to be cast at the Council of the Welsh Local Government Association.
10. A local authority shall have the facility to vest all the votes of its appointed members of the Council with one of its appointed members (*en bloc*), or these can be exercised individually.
11. A member of the Council may nominate another councillor to attend on his or her behalf and exercise his or her vote(s), provided written notice is given to the Chief Executive by the constituent authority.
12. This substitute must be another elected member of the same authority, and a member of the same political group as the member being substituted for.
13. The local authorities in full membership have indicated that their representatives will express their votes as set out in Annex 3.

Recommendations

14. **WLGA Council Members are asked:**

- 14.1 **To note the political balance of the WLGA Council;**
- 14.2 **To note the membership of the WLGA Council; and**
- 14.3 **To note the manner in which local authorities in full membership will express their votes through their nominated representatives.**

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ANNEX 1

WLGA Council Members (listed by Member Authority)

BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Stephen Thomas
Labour



Cllr Helen Cunningham
Labour

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Huw David
Labour



Cllr Jane Gebbie
Labour

TBC

3rd Member/Labour TBC

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Sean Morgan
Labour



Cllr Nigel George
Labour



Cllr James Pritchard
Labour



Cllr Eluned Stenner
Labour

CARDIFF COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Huw Thomas
Labour



Cllr Peter Bradbury
Labour



Cllr Russell Goodway
Labour



Cllr Ashley Lister
Labour



Cllr Norma Mackie
Labour



Cllr Sarah Merry
Labour



Councillor Lynda Thorne
Labour



Cllr Christopher Weaver
Labour

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Darren Price
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Linda Evans
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Alun Lenny
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Jane Tremlett
Independent

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Bryan Davies
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Alun Williams
Plaid Cymru

CONWY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Charlie McCoubrey
Independent



Cllr Julie Fallon
Independent



Cllr Emily Owen
Labour

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Jason McLellan
Labour



Cllr Gill German
Labour

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Ian Roberts
Labour



Cllr Christine Jones
Labour

TBC

Cllr Dave Hughes
/Cllr Michelle Perfect
Labour



Cllr Bernie Attridge
Independent

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Dyfrig L Siencyn
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Nia Wyn Jeffreys
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Dafydd Meurig
Plaid Cymru

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Leader

Cllr Llinos Medi
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Carwyn Jones
Plaid Cymru

MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Geraint Thomas
Independent



Cllr Andrew Barry
Independent

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby
Labour



Cllr Paul Griffiths
Labour

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Leader



Cllr Steve Hunt
Independent



Cllr Simon Knoyle
Independent



Cllr Alun Llewelyn
Plaid Cymru

NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Jane Mudd
Labour



Cllr James Clarke
Labour



Cllr Deb Davies
Labour



Cllr Mark Spencer
Labour

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr David Simpson
Independent



Cllr Paul Miller
Labour



Cllr Neil Prior
Independent

POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr James Gibson-Watt
Liberal Democrats



Cllr Jackie Charlton
Liberal Democrats



Cllr Matthew Dorrance
Labour

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Andrew Morgan
Labour



Cllr Rhys Lewis
Labour



Cllr Christina Leyshon
Labour



Cllr Mark Norris
Labour



Cllr Maureen Webber
Labour

CITY & COUNTY OF SWANSEA



Leader

Cllr Rob Stewart
Labour



Cllr Andrea Lewis
Labour



Cllr David Hopkins
Labour



Cllr Louise Gibbard
Labour



Cllr Robert Francis-
Davies
Labour

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Anthony Hunt
Labour



Cllr Richard Clark
Labour

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Lis Burnett
Labour



Cllr Bronwen Brooks
Labour



Cllr Gwyn John
Independent

WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



Leader

Cllr Mark Prichard
Independent



Cllr David A Bithell
Independent



Cllr Jeremy Kent
Conservative

Associate Member Authorities

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY



Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe

(To Note: Brecon Beacons National Park Authority AGM on 1st July)

PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY



Cllr Mike James (Pembrokeshire)

SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY



Cllr Dilwyn Roberts (Conwy)

MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY



Cllr Elwyn Williams (Carmarthenshire)

NORTH WALES FIRE AUTHORITY



Cllr Dylan Rees (Ynys Môn)

SOUTH WALES FIRE AUTHORITY



Cllr Steven Bradwick (Rhondda Cynon Taf)

ANNEX 2

WLGA Council Members listed by reference to Political Party/Group



Conservative Member

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1. Cllr Jeremy Kent | Wrexham |
|---------------------|---------|

Independent Group Members

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Cllr Jane Tremlett | Carmarthenshire |
| 2. Cllr Charlie McCoubrey | Conwy |
| 3. Cllr Julie Fallon | Conwy |
| 4. Cllr TBC | Flintshire |
| 5. Cllr Andrew Barry | Merthyr Tydfil |
| 6. Cllr Geraint Thomas | Merthyr Tydfil |
| 7. Cllr Simon Knoyle | Neath Port Talbot |
| 8. Cllr Steve Hunt | Neath Port Talbot |
| 9. Cllr David Simpson | Pembrokeshire |
| 10. Cllr Neil Prior | Pembrokeshire |
| 11. Cllr Gwyn John | Vale of Glamorgan |
| 12. Cllr David A Bithell | Wrexham |
| 13. Cllr Mark Pritchard | Wrexham |



Labour Group Members

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Cllr Helen Cunningham | Blaenau Gwent |
| 2. Cllr Stephen Thomas | Blaenau Gwent |
| 3. Cllr Huw David | Bridgend |
| 4. Cllr Jane Gebbie | Bridgend |
| 5. Cllr TBC | Bridgend |
| 6. Cllr Eluned Stenner | Caerphilly |
| 7. Cllr James Pritchard | Caerphilly |
| 8. Cllr Nigel George | Caerphilly |
| 9. Cllr Sean Morgan | Caerphilly |
| 10. Cllr Ashley Lister | Cardiff |
| 11. Cllr Chris Weaver | Cardiff |
| 12. Cllr Huw Thomas | Cardiff |
| 13. Cllr Lynda Thorne | Cardiff |
| 14. Cllr Norma Mackie | Cardiff |
| 15. Cllr Peter Bradbury | Cardiff |
| 16. Cllr Russell Goodway | Cardiff |
| 17. Cllr Sarah Merry | Cardiff |
| 18. Cllr Emily Owen | Conwy |
| 19. Cllr Gill German | Denbighshire |
| 20. Cllr Jason McLellan | Denbighshire |
| 21. Cllr Christine Jones | Flintshire |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 22. Cllr Dave Hughes/Michelle Perfect (TBC) | Flintshire |
| 23. Cllr Ian Roberts | Flintshire |
| 24. Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby | Monmouthshire |
| 25. Cllr Paul Griffiths | Monmouthshire |
| 26. Cllr Deb Davies | Newport |
| 27. Cllr James Clarke | Newport |
| 28. Cllr Jane Mudd | Newport |
| 29. Cllr Mark Spencer | Newport |
| 30. Cllr Paul Miller | Pembrokeshire |
| 31. Cllr Matthew Dorrance | Powys |
| 32. Cllr Andrew Morgan | Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| 33. Cllr Christina Leyshon | Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| 34. Cllr Mark Norris | Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| 35. Cllr Maureen Webber | Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| 36. Cllr Rhys Lewis | Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| 37. Cllr Andrea Lewis | Swansea |
| 38. Cllr David Hopkins | Swansea |
| 39. Cllr Louise Gibbard | Swansea |
| 40. Cllr Rob Stewart | Swansea |
| 41. Cllr Robert Francis-Davies | Swansea |
| 42. Cllr Anthony Hunt | Torfaen |
| 43. Cllr Richard Clark | Torfaen |
| 44. Cllr Bronwen Brooks | Vale of Glamorgan |
| 45. Cllr Lis Burnett | Vale of Glamorgan |



Liberal Democrat Members

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1. Cllr Jackie Charlton | Powys |
| 2. Cllr James Gibson-Watt | Powys |



Plaid Cymru Group Members

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Cllr Alun Lenny | Carmarthenshire |
| 2. Cllr Darren Price | Carmarthenshire |
| 3. Cllr Linda Evans | Carmarthenshire |
| 4. Cllr Alun Williams | Ceredigion |
| 5. Cllr Bryan Davies | Ceredigion |
| 6. Cllr Dyfrig L Siencyn | Gwynedd |
| 7. Cllr Nia Wyn Jeffreys | Gwynedd |
| 8. Cllr TBC | Gwynedd |
| 9. Cllr Carwyn Jones | Isle of Anglesey |
| 10. Cllr Llinos Medi | Isle of Anglesey |
| 11. Cllr Alun Llewelyn | Neath Port Talbot |

ANNEX 3

WLGA Council Voting for 2022-23

| Local Authority | WLGA seats | Use of votes |
|-------------------|------------|----------------|
| Blaenau Gwent | 2 | One per person |
| Bridgend | 3 | One per person |
| Caerphilly | 4 | One per person |
| Cardiff | 8 | En bloc |
| Carmarthenshire | 4 | One per person |
| Ceredigion | 2 | One per person |
| Conwy | 3 | One per person |
| Denbighshire | 2 | One per person |
| Flintshire | 4 | One per person |
| Gwynedd | 3 | En bloc |
| Isle of Anglesey | 2 | One per person |
| Merthyr Tydfil | 2 | En bloc |
| Monmouthshire | 2 | En bloc |
| Neath Port Talbot | 3 | One per person |
| Newport | 4 | En bloc |
| Pembrokeshire | 3 | One per person |
| Powys | 3 | One per person |
| Rhondda Cynon Taf | 5 | En bloc |
| Swansea | 5 | En bloc |
| Torfaen | 2 | En bloc |
| Vale of Glamorgan | 3 | En bloc |
| Wrexham | 3 | One per person |
| Total | 72 | |