

30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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## **WLGA COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND POLITICAL BALANCE 2023-24**

### **Purpose**

1. This report sets out the membership and political balance of the WLGA Council for the 2023-24 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 WLGA Constitution. 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authority ceases to be in membership of the Association, or their nomination to serve on the Council has been withdrawn in writing by their authority.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 of 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023) is:

	<b>Number of seats</b>	<b>Percentage (%) (rounded down/up to nearest %)</b>
<b>Conservative</b>	1	1
<b>Independent</b>	13	18
<b>Labour</b>	44	61
<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	3	4
<b>Plaid Cymru</b>	11	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>100</b>

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. Membership of the WLGA 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 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, 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. **The WLGA Council is invited to:**

- 14.1 **Note the political balance of the WLGA Council;**
- 14.2 **Note the membership of the WLGA Council ANNEXES 1 & 2; and**
- 14.3 **Note the manner in which local authorities in full membership will express their votes through their nominated representatives ANNEX 3.**

**WLGA Council Members 2023-24 (listed by Member Authority)**

**BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Leader**



Cllr Stephen Thomas  
Labour



Cllr Helen Cunningham  
Deputy Leader, Labour

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Leader**



Cllr Huw David  
Labour



Cllr Jane Gebbie  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Jon-Paul Blundell  
Labour

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Leader**



Cllr Sean Morgan  
Labour



Cllr James Pritchard  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Eluned Stenner  
Labour



Cllr Nigel George  
Labour

## CARDIFF COUNCIL

### Leader



Cllr Huw Thomas  
Labour



Cllr Sarah Merry  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Russell Goodway  
Labour



Cllr Peter Bradbury  
Labour



Cllr Norma Mackie  
Labour



Cllr Ashley Lister  
Labour



Councillor Lynda Thorne  
Labour



Cllr Christopher Weaver  
Labour

## CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Leader



Cllr Darren Price  
Leader, Plaid Cymru



Cllr Linda Evans  
Deputy Leader, 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 Emily Owen  
Deputy Leader,  
Labour



Cllr Julie Fallon  
Independent

## DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Jason McLellan  
Leader, Labour



Cllr Gill German  
Deputy Leader, Labour

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Ian Roberts  
Labour



Cllr Dave Hughes  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Bernie Attridge  
Independent



Cllr Andrew Parkhurst  
Welsh Liberal Democrats

## GWYNEDD COUNCIL

### Leader



Cllr Dyfrig L Siencyn  
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Nia Wyn Jeffreys  
Deputy Leader, Plaid Cymru



Cllr Dafydd Meurig  
Plaid Cymru

## ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Llinos Medi  
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Robin Williams  
Deputy Leader, Plaid  
Cymru

## MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Geraint Thomas  
Independent



Cllr Andrew Barry  
Deputy Leader,  
Independent

## MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby  
Labour



Cllr Paul Griffiths  
Deputy Leader, Labour

## NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Steve Hunt  
Leader, Independent



Cllr Simon Knoyle  
Independent



Cllr Alun Llewelyn  
Plaid Cymru

## NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Jane Mudd  
Leader, Labour



Cllr Deb Davies  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr James Clarke  
Labour



Cllr Mark Spencer  
Labour

## PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr David Simpson  
Independent



Cllr Paul Miller  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Neil Prior  
Independent

## POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr James Gibson-Watt  
Welsh Liberal  
Democrats



Cllr Matthew Dorrance  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Jackie Charlton  
Welsh Liberal  
Democrats

## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Andrew Morgan  
Labour



Cllr Maureen Webber  
Deputy Leader,  
Labour



Cllr Christina Leyshon  
Labour



Cllr Ann Crimmings  
Labour



Cllr Rhys Lewis  
Labour

## CITY & COUNTY OF SWANSEA



### **Leader**

Cllr Rob Stewart  
Labour



Cllr Andrea Lewis  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr David Hopkins  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Louise Gibbard  
Labour



Cllr Robert Francis-  
Davies  
Labour

## TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



### **Leader**

Cllr Anthony Hunt  
Labour



Cllr Richard Clark  
Deputy Leader, Labour

## VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Lis Burnett  
Labour



Cllr Bronwen Brooks  
Deputy Leader, Labour



Cllr Gwyn John  
Independent

## WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



### Leader

Cllr Mark Prichard  
Independent



Cllr David A Bithell  
Deputy Leader,  
Independent



Cllr Jeremy Kent  
Conservative

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



### **NORTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Cllr Dylan Rees (Ynys Mon)



### **MID & WEST WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Cllr Gwynfor Thomas (Powys)



### **SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Cllr Steve Bradwick (Rhondda Cynon Taf)



### **PARC CENEDLAETHOL EYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Cllr Dilwyn Roberts (Conwy)



### **PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Cllr Di Clements (Pembrokeshire)



### **BANNAU BRYCHYEINIOG NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe (Powys)

**WLGA Council Members listed by reference to Political Party/Group****Conservative Member**

1. Cllr Jeremy Kent	Wrexham
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**Independent Group Members**

1. Cllr Jane Tremlett	Carmarthenshire
2. Cllr Charlie McCoubrey	Conwy
3. Cllr Julie Fallon	Conwy
4. Cllr Bernie Attridge	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 Stephen Thomas	Blaenau Gwent
2. Cllr Helen Cunningham	Blaenau Gwent
3. Cllr Huw David	Bridgend
4. Cllr Jane Gebbie	Bridgend
5. Cllr Jon-Paul Blundell	Bridgend
6. Cllr Sean Morgan	Caerphilly
7. Cllr James Pritchard	Caerphilly
8. Cllr Nigel George	Caerphilly
9. Cllr Eluned Stenner	Caerphilly
10. Cllr Huw Thomas	Cardiff
11. Cllr Sarah Merry	Cardiff
12. Cllr Ashley Lister	Cardiff
13. Cllr Lynda Thorne	Cardiff
14. Cllr Norma Mackie	Cardiff
15. Cllr Peter Bradbury	Cardiff
16. Cllr Russell Goodway	Cardiff
17. Cllr Chris Weaver	Cardiff
18. Cllr Emily Owen	Conwy
19. Cllr Jason McLellan	Denbighshire

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



### Welsh Liberal Democrat Members

1. Cllr Andrew Parkhurst	Flintshire
2. Cllr James Gibson-Watt	Powys
3. Cllr Jackie Charlton	Powys



### Plaid Cymru Group Members

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

## ANNEX 3

### WLGA Council Voting for 2023-24

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	

