

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ALL-MEMBER MEETING**



Date: 21 June 2012

Subject: **Political Balance on SEEC Executive following  
May 2012 Local Elections**

Report of: Cllr Paul Watkins, SEEC Secretary

**Recommendation:**

That Members note the results of the May 2012 local election results and the implications for allocation of seats by political party on the SEEC Executive.

**1. Determining political balance on SEEC's Executive**

- 1.1 SEEC's constitution sets out a formula for allocating seats on the SEEC Executive to political parties in proportion to the percentage of the vote that each party receives across the 74 South East local authorities. This means seat allocation reflects the share of votes cast for each political party, rather than the number of councils controlled by each party.
- 1.2 The constitution also specifies a minimum vote threshold. This means that Executive seats are only allocated to parties who return more than 5% of total councillors in the South East.
- 1.3 The template for Executive seats has been recalculated to reflect the results of local elections on 3 May 2012. Some rounding is required to deliver a whole number of places on the Executive for each party.
- 1.4 Although there were changes in voting patterns this year, once votes for parties with less than 5% of seats are excluded from the calculation to produce the adjusted vote percentage in the table below, the allocation of seats in 2012 remains the same as it was in 2011. The new template is:

Political Party	Total vote % 2011	Total vote % 2012	Adjusted Vote % 2012*	Executive seats	Change from Last Year
Conservative	66.85%	65.15%	69.19%	13	No change
Liberal Democrat	17.78%	17.41%	18.49%	4	No change
Labour	9.55%	11.60%	12.31%	2	No change
Other (various parties)	5.83%	5.84%	-	-	No change
<b>Total</b>				<b>19</b>	

\* Excludes votes cast for parties holding less than 5% of councillor seats in the South East

- 1.5. This template comes into immediate effect for today's SEEC Executive Committee elections.