

By: Director of Law and Governance

To: Selection and Member Services Committee – 22 March  
2011

Subject: PROPOSED REVISED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND  
PROPORTIONALITY

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: Invites the Committee to make recommendations to the Council on 6 April on the revised total number of Committee places and the allocation of those places between the political groups arising out of the new proposed committee structure.

FOR DECISION

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### Composition of the County Council

1. (1) The current composition of the County Council is set out in the table below:

Political Group	Number of seats	Proportion of seats
Conservative	73	87% (86.90%)
Liberal Democrat	7	8% (8.33%)
Labour	3	4% (3.57%)
Other	1	1% (1.19%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Revisions to the County Council's Committee Structure

2. (1) The Leader of the Council has proposed a revised Committee structure for the County Council, as follows:

(a) the three Children, Families and Education POSCs would be replaced by and Education, Learning and Skills POSC;

(b) the Adult Social Services POSC would be replaced by an Adult Social Services & Public Health POSC and a Specialist Children's Services POSC; and

(c) the Communities POSC would become the Customer and Communities POSC

(2) The net effect of these changes would be to reduce the number of POSCs by 1. This would bring about a consequent reduction in the overall number of Committee places to be allocated.

(3) The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires Committee places to be allocated between the political groups in accordance with the following principles:

(a) the group with the majority of seats on the Council is allowed to have a majority of seats on each Committee;

(b) subject to (a) above, the number of seats on the total of all Committees allocated to any political group must be proportional to the number of seats which that group holds on the County Council;

(c) subject to (a) and (b) above, the number of seats on each Committee allocated to any political group must be proportional to the number of seats which that group holds on the County Council;

(3) The Table below shows how the total number of seats would be allocated within the new proposed structure.

(4) The Liberal Democrat Group has currently 1 more seat than it is entitled to because places on the Flood Risk Management Committee were allocated according to a calculation for the Committee with no reference being made to overall proportionality. The County Council agreed on 17 January 2011 to vary the proportionality rules so that the Liberal Democrat Group retained its place.

(5) Entitlement to places on Select Committees and Panels is unaffected by the proposed changes.

Committee	Con	Lib Dem	Lab	independent	Total	Non KCC
Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	11 (11.30)	1 (1.08)	1 (0.46)	1 (0.15)	13 + 1	*5
Corporate Policy Overview Committee	11 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	0 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	
Adult Social Services and Public Health POSC	11 (11.30)	1 (1.08)	1 (0.46)	0 (0.15)	13	
Customer and Communities POSC	10 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	1 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	
Education, Learning and Skills POSC	11 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	0 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	@ 11
Specialist Childrens Services POSC	10 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	1 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	@ 11
Environment Highways and Waste POSC	11 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	0 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	
Regeneration and Economic Development POSC	11 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	0 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	10 (10.42)	1 (1.00)	1 (0.43)	0 (0.14)	12	4 \$
Scrutiny Board	9 (8.69)	1 (0.83)	0 (0.36)	0 (0.12)	10	+
Governance and Audit Committee	12 (11.30)	1 (1.08)	0 (0.46)	0 (0.15)	13	
Electoral & Boundary Review Committee	7 (6.95)	1 (0.66)	0 (0.29)	0 (0.10)	8	
Personnel Committee	6 (6.95)	1 (0.66)	1 (0.29)	0 (0.10)	8	
Planning Applications Committee	16 (14.77)	1 (1.41)	0 (0.61)	1 (0.20)	17+1	
Regulation Committee	15 (13.90)	1 (1.33)	0 (0.57)	1 (0.20)	16 +1	
Selection and Member Services Committee	7 (7.82)	1 (0.75)	1 (0.31)	0 (0.11)	9	
Superannuation Fund Committee	7 (6.95)	1 (0.66)	0 (0.29)	0 (0.10)	8	3 (1/1/1)#
Children's Champions Board	7 (6.95)	1 (0.66)	0 (0.29)	0 (0.10)	8	
Flood Risk Management Committee	6 (6.08)	1 (0.58)	0 (0.25)	0 (0.08)	7	
<b>TOTAL</b>	188	19	7	3	217	
<b>Proportionate Share of Total</b>	189 (188.57)	18 (18.08)	8 (7.75)	3 (2.58)	218 (+3)	
<b>Difference to Proportionate share</b>	-1	+1	-1	0		

<b>Sub-Committees</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind/un-allocated</b>	<b>Non KCC</b>	<b>Total</b>
Select Committees	7	1	0	0		8
Regulation Committee Panels (School-related Appeals ( mainly Transport); Enforcement, Public Rights of Way, Marriage Premises, Village/Town Greens, Mental health Guardianship)	4	1	0	0		5
<b>Advisory Boards</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>LD</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind/un-allocated</b>	<b>Non KCC</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gypsy and Traveller Advisory Board	7	1	0	0		8
School Organisation Advisory Board	7	1	0	0		8

(6) In respect of the Regulation Committee Member Panels, the Chairman of the Regulation Committee has requested that a place be offered to the Independent Member of that Committee whenever either the Conservative or Liberal Democrat Groups offers to give up a place.

## **Recommendations**

4. (1) The Committee is asked to recommend to the County Council on 6 April 2011:

(a) the revised Committee structure and proportionality calculations, including the establishment of the Education, Learning and Skills POSC; the Adult Social Services & Public Health POSC; the Specialist Children's Services POSC; and the Customer and Communities POSC.

(b) that the Independent Member of the Regulation Committee be offered a seat on one of its Panels whenever either the Conservative or Liberal Democrat Group elect to give up a place.

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