

Options to reduce the number of main reporting committees on a temporary basis

Option 1: Full Council + double up of existing committees	
<p>Suggestion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Resources + Audit and Scrutiny [Policy and Audit] • Economic Development and Infrastructure + Communities [Development and Housing] • Children and Young People Services • Licensing Board and licensing Committee (note separate proposal in main report recommending this) 	
Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal changes to Scheme of Administration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The splits would span the Depute Chief Exec roles and tie them up in meetings, more behind the scenes administration with multiple committees to service

Option 2: Full Council +3 committees by theme	
<p>Suggestion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance/audit committee • Environmental/housing committee • Social/Education committee 	
Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for some transformational thinking, themes could for example be related to the LOIP outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Themes would span the Depute Chief Exec roles and tie them up in meetings, more behind the scenes administration with multiple committees to service • Labour intensive to carve up and re-assemble Scheme of Admin

Option 3: Full Council + 2 committees built around Depute Chief Executive Roles	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Communities and Organisational Development To include CYPS, A&S and service elements of P&R. • Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability To include Communities, EDIS and finance element of P&R 	
Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes best use of CMT resource, Chief Exec and 2 Depute Chief Executives each responsible for one meeting each. • Depute Chief Exec functions within Management Review could be used to redirect responsibility from the Scheme of Admin without a major re-write. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some items currently on P&R would fall within the 2 roles. For example Council wide policies/programmes or council wide financial/asset management issues. As a solution such reports could be directed to Full Council.

Issues to be resolved from these options	
Issue	Suggestion
1. Numbers on temp committees/political balance	Membership of the new temporary committees remains at 14. Seek nominations from the political groups as to who they wish to sit on each committee using political balance recently agreed by the Council. Administration group to nominate Chairs.
2. Frequency of meeting cycle	Keep to an 8 week cycle as we do have other 'partnership' meetings scheduled in which may cause unnecessary complications in trying to re-arrange them. Put full council in the middle of this 8 week cycle to allow more frequent decision making.
3. Reporting for Children's Services +remnants of Social Work	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s services are in the process of transferring to the IJB. This is being referred to as a shadow period. Meantime there still needs to be direct democratic accountability for these services within the Councils structure. • The role of the CSWO and remnants of social work services, although managed on a day to day basis through the IJB, need a direct report to the Council. There is no statutory power to delegate them to the IJB. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Services report to the committee taking on C&YPS (in addition to any reporting required by the IJB) during shadow period. When the IJB takes on statutory responsibility for these services there this accountability will cease. • CSWO and non-delegated social work services report through full Council
<p>4. Tenant reps – should they be included in membership of any temporary committee</p>	<p>Membership is temporarily suspended and other consultation/engagement is put in place to ensure their views can be represented at meetings.</p>
<p>5. Religious, teacher, parent pupil reps - should they be included in membership of any temporary committee? Requirement for 3 religious reps on a committee which advises on education policy.</p>	<p>Membership is temporarily suspended with circulation of papers to ensure their views can be represented at meetings. Restriction is viewed as a proportionate measure for temporary period.</p>
<p>6. Having a separate audit and scrutiny function</p>	<p>The Internal Audit Standards Advisory Board has recognised that internal auditors are not working under ‘business as usual’ arrangements, consequently so suspending this committee during the current crisis could be seen as a proportionate step, provided there is a forum for Audit reports to be considered. Scrutiny arrangements were under review at the start of the lockdown and for now scrutiny can be achieved can be effectively through political balance on committees, until such time as this review can be completed.</p>
<p>7. Scheme of administration</p>	<p>A temporary change to the SOA is agreed to give effect to these proposals.</p>
<p>8. Role of Committee Chairs</p>	<p>Reinforce the portfolio role of a Chair and allow them to lead on/introduce items within their portfolio</p>