

44 COUNCILLORS

Proposed by Councillor Jeff Green

Seconded by Councillor Leah Fraser

Council notes the recent decision taken by Knowsley Council to begin consulting its residents over reducing the number of councillors from 63 to 45.

This Council believes that instead of presenting the public with petty, vindictive, rehashed and previously rejected budget options including:

- pulling the plug on school crossing patrols
- introducing car parking charges at Wirral's Country Parks
- not filling grit bins
- removing Council Tax over 70s discount
- closing public conveniences
- increasing fees and charges for football pitches, allotments, bowling greens, burials and cremations

The Leader of the Council should be consulting the public over reducing the number of councillors.

In the absence of the Leader of the Council's willingness to act Council requests the Boundary Commission for England commence an inquiry into the number of councillors, and the electoral cycle, in Wirral, on Council's wish to reduce the number of councillors to 44.

Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to invite the Boundary Commission for England to meet with representatives of all parties represented on the Council and agree a timetable for the inquiry.