



**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
30 November 2016**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Environment Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme Update</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Chair of the Review Panel</b>

This report sets out the findings and recommendations arising from a Scrutiny Review completed in November 2016. The Review was commissioned by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. It was set up to explore the issue of the number of councillors in Wirral Council.

The aim of the review was for Members to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding this subject, including the role of the local councillor in Wirral, the role of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, and a review of data comparing Wirral with other local authorities in England.

Panel Members aimed to reach an informed view on whether the Council should actively progress a referral to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to conduct an Electoral Review.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

- Members are requested to consider the contents of this report and endorse the findings and recommendations of the review.
- The committee refers the report and recommendations to Cabinet for its endorsement.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

For the Committee to endorse the work of the Panel and refer the findings and recommendations on to Cabinet.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not Applicable.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At its meeting 21 September 2016, the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a scrutiny review to consider issues around the number of councillors at Wirral Council.

The scope of the scrutiny review focussed on determining if the number of councillors and councillors per ward in Wirral was appropriate with regard to the Council's stated priorities and key challenges, and if the number of councillors in Wirral was consistent with comparable local and national authorities. The report of the Scrutiny Review Panel is included as Appendix 1 to this report.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are none arising from this report.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are none arising from this report.

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

There are none arising from this report.

### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

There are none arising from this report

### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

There are none arising from this report.

### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are none arising from this report.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 – Number of Councillors Scrutiny Review Draft Report

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date