

# **Request for an Electoral Review of The District of Warwick**

**Submission to the Local Government  
Boundary Commission for England on  
proposed Council Size.**

**13 March 2017**

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### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Warwick District Council is making this request for an electoral review of Warwick District because it wishes to reduce its Council size by 3 Councillors from 46 to 43.
- 1.2 The Council has prepared this submission dealing with council size only at this stage in order to support effective, efficient and accountable local democracy in the District of Warwick. A further submission on the number of wards and number of councillors per ward will be made at a later date if this request is accepted.
- 1.3 The submission takes into account the political structure of the authority and the nature of the roles that the Councillors are required to undertake in order to deliver effective local government within the District.
- 1.4 The submission recognises the changing face of Local Government with reductions in both numbers of staff and budgets for the delivery of services at the same time as an increasing and changing population.

### **2. Warwick District Council: an Overview**

- 2.1 Warwick District lies in the heart of Warwickshire. The population of the District is 139,931 (2015 midyear estimates) compared with (137,700 from mid-2011), with an electorate of 103,956 (an increase from 99,901 in May 2011), living in a total of 67,303 dwellings (an increase of from 62,526 in 2011) within a land area of 69,813 acres (28,253 hectares).
- 2.2 The District's population is predominantly urban, and is centred upon the three historic towns of Kenilworth, Royal Leamington Spa and Warwick. Whitnash is the fourth town in the District. Each of these towns has its own distinct history and character with a very strong community. In addition, there are over 20 villages and hamlets.
- 2.3 80% of the District sits within the Green Belt and there are extensive natural and built environments that are protected. Even within these constraints there are significant proposals for development. The District's Local Plan envisages an expansion of housing of about 17,000 houses and a large sub regional employment land allocation around Coventry airport partly to help enable the growth of Jaguar Land Rover's HQ. There are also changes envisaged to allow for the removal of the Warwick University campus from the Green Belt and for the redevelopment of the Royal Showground at Stoneleigh. There is also the impact from HS2 that will split the District in two.
- 2.4 There are 20 parish or joint parish Councils in the District, of which and four Town Councils. There is only one small area (Bushwood) which is not represented by a Parish Council.

### **3. The Current Structure of the Council**

3.1 The Council is currently composed of 46 councillors made up from five political parties; 31 Conservative, 9 Labour, 3 Whitnash Residents Association, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Green. Each represent, one, two or three member Wards. Elections are held every four years and the next election will take place in May 2019. Each councillor currently represents an average of 2260 electors.

#### **4. Model of Local Governance for Warwick District and Committees**

4.1 Warwick District Council has adopted the strong Leader model for its democratic Structure. This means that while Council continues to have an important role in setting the broad budget and policy framework, the responsibility for the majority of decision-making rests largely with the Leader.

4.2 Under the model adopted by the Council the Leader has determined that the authority to take decisions will be made by an Executive of 8 Councillors including themselves. The Leader is appointed by Council for four years and they determine who will sit on the Executive.

4.3 The Council has established two Scrutiny Committees, each of 11 Councillors, to hold the Executive to account. One of these also acts as the Council's Audit Committee. The Council also has an Employment Committee, Planning Committee, Standards Committee and a Licensing & Regulatory Committee.

4.4 Seats are allocated to each group that nominate which of their Members will sit on a particular Committee, with Council taking the final decision on which Members are on each Committee. These allocations are politically proportional with the exception of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee where the Council has determined that the oppositions Groups should have the majority of seats.

4.5 Since the 2011 submission by this Council, the following changes have occurred in the democratic structure of this Council, all of which serve to reduce the number of formal meetings or numbers of Councillors necessary. In summary these are:

- Council – Delegated the approval of accounts to its Audit Committee
- Executive – Reduced in size by a Councillor
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Reduced in Size by 4 Councillors
- Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee – Designated as the Council's Audit Committee and taken on approval of statement of accounts from Council and as a result has reduced the number of times it meets by one per year
- Licensing & Regulatory Committee – These two committees have been merged from two Committees one of 11 and one of 15 to a single committee of 15 but in addition a larger proportion of their work has been delegated to officers
- Standards Committee – The introduction of the Localism Act has seen the work of this Committee significantly reduced and the previously required sub committees for considering cases at an early stage being removed and replaced by delegation to officers
- Planning Committee – The membership size has increased by 1 but the frequency of meetings has decreased from once every three weeks with a second night 8 times a year to once every four weeks with a reserve night only occasionally used for briefing all Councillors on planning matters.

- 4.6 *Council* - Council remains responsible for setting the budget, council tax and significant policies for the area. At Council meetings, Councillors receive in a limited number of cases recommendations from the Executive for them to determine; petitions and motions and the minutes of the Executive are received for information. The Council agenda also allows for the questioning of the Council's portfolio holders and Leader. The Council meets 9 times per year.
- 4.7 *The Executive* - The Executive is the Council's main decision making body, and is responsible for providing effective strategic leadership. The Executive is currently composed of 8 Conservative Councillors including the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council. The Executive meets collectively 10 or 11 times per year and make decisions, excluding those delegated to officers, and to the Standards, Employment, Audit, Planning and Licensing & Regulatory Committees.
- 4.8 *Portfolio Holders* - Each member of the Executive holds a Portfolio Holders who act as spokespersons for the service areas and may be given delegated authority by the Council to take Executive decisions within these areas.

The Portfolio Holders are:

- Neighbourhood
- Health & Community Protection
- Strategic Leadership
- Development
- Housing & Property
- Finance
- Culture
- Business

- 4.7 *Overview and Scrutiny* - The Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees provide ideas, challenge and debate that contribute to making Warwick District a great place to live, work and visit.

The Council has two Overview & Scrutiny committees, both comprising 11 Councillors, which carry out this role by conducting scrutiny reviews into issues affecting the District, contributing to the development and review of policies, monitoring performance and holding decision-makers to account.

The two scrutiny committees are both chaired by Councillors from opposition parties and always meet the day before Executive to consider, and if felt appropriate comment, on the reports the Executive will take decisions on the following evening.

The two Committees, Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee, have slightly different roles to play. This is because Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee also acts as the Council's Audit Committee.

The prime purpose of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to review items to be considered by the Executive, to review past decisions, policy development, health and wellbeing issues, specific issues and problems within any service area.

It will also be able to address any other matter not otherwise specifically delegated to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.

The prime purpose of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee is to provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment; independent scrutiny of the authority's financial and non-financial performance to the extent that it affects the authority's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment; and, issues of an audit nature and to oversee the financial reporting process.

The Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee will:

- Review the robustness of business cases
- Promote value for money and good procurement practice
- Make recommendation on good financial management practices
- Keep the treasury management performance under review
- Make recommendation to the Council regarding the approval of the Statement of Accounts in accordance with regulation 10 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003.
- Review specific Executive items and past decisions

The Committee is also the Audit Committee for the Council and undertakes the following:

- Approve (but not direct) internal audit's strategy, plan and performance
- Review summary internal audit reports and the main issues arising, and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary
- Consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies
- Consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements.
- Seek assurances that action is being taken on risk related issues identified by auditors and inspectors.
- Be satisfied that the authority's assurance statements, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it
- Ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and that the value of the audit process is actively promoted.
- Review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and report to members, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.
- Approve the Council's Audited Statement of Accounts.

The two Scrutiny Committees will occasionally hold a joint meeting to consider specific items; however this usually will be no more than twice a year and has not occurred in the current municipal year.

The Overview & Scrutiny has also established a Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee as a sub-committee. It has been delegated the task by its parent committee to handle most of the health and wellbeing scrutiny work that would otherwise fall to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The two Scrutiny Committees are also entitled to set up Task & Finish Groups to look at specific areas. On average a Task & Finish Group is established each year. At present there are two, which have recently concluded working on Houses in Multiple Occupation and Car Parking respectively.

- 4.8 *Employment Committee* - The Committee is responsible for setting policies relating to staffing matters as well as approving the staffing structure of the Council. It meets around 5 times per year. It has 11 members.
- 4.9 *Housing Appeals Review Panels* - These Panels are responsible for considering appeals made against the Council with regard to specific Housing decisions. It has 12 members although the panels that meet comprise of three members of the 12. It should be noted that there have been no more than two panel meetings per year.
- 4.10 *Licensing & Regulatory Committee* - This Committee comprises of 15 Councillors and meets seven times a year mainly for training purposes and consideration of minutes of its Panels. While the Committee has a wide range of responsibilities covering licensing as well as electoral matters and boundary review. However the majority of its work is delegated to Licensing & Regulatory Panels.
- 4.11 *Licensing & Regulatory Panels* - These sub-committees (of the Licensing & Regulatory Committee) are responsible for determining applications made to the authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 when representations have been made as well as specific matters relating hackney carriage, private hire drivers and private hire operators. They have 3 Members selected from the 15 Members of the Licensing & Regulatory Committee and normally meet 16 times a year although in the last 12 months they have met 30 times due to the introduction of two new policies relating to hackney carriage and private hire drivers. It is anticipated the number of panels meetings will reduce to 16 in 2017.
- 4.12 *Planning Committee* - The Planning Committee is responsible for the determination of planning applications of around 250 of the 2500 planning applications received by the Council each year. It meets around 13 times per year, plus site visits during the year. It has 11 Members.
- 4.13 *Standards Committee* - The Standards Committee's main purpose is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and governance within the Council and within the Parish and Town Councils within the District. It meets around 3 times per year. It currently has 15 Members comprising of 11 District Councillors and 4 Parish/Town Council representatives.

## **5. Joint Committees**

- 5.1 Warwick District Council is part of a Joint Committee comprise 8 elected Members appointed by the Authorities comprising 1 Councillor (Leader) for each of the Authorities in Warwickshire, Coventry and Hinckley and Bosworth. In addition the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership may provide 1 voting and 1 non-voting Member.
- 5.2 The overarching aim of the Joint Committee is to provide its constituent Local Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnership with a forum in which to address collaboratively, issues relating to economic development, regeneration and strategic planning at a sub-regional level and to enable collective decision-making on issues that require sub-regional agreement from the constituent authorities. In particular the Joint Committee will have the power to:

- (1) Develop and set the economic and growth strategies for the sub-region and to keep the same under review;
- (2) Develop and set joint investment strategies for the sub-region and to keep the same under review;
- (3) Consider, approve and implement decisions relating to sub-regional investment, including expenditure of external funding within the sub-region;
- (4) Develop and encourage a co-ordinated approach within the sub-region to inward investment;
- (5) Develop and facilitate collaboration between the constituent authorities in the discharge of functions relating to economic development, regeneration and strategic planning; and
- (6) Create a forum for elected Members to agree strategic direction and exert a collective influence over other bodies exercising similar functions.

## 6. Working Parties & Forums

6.1 The Council has a number of Working Parties and Forums for specific areas of work. In 2011 there were 21 active Groups of which there are now only 13. These are:

	<b>Number of places</b>
Conservation Grants Working Party	4 (1 Conservative, 1 Labour, one WRA and 1 vacancy)
Green Space Development Group	6 (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA and 2 vacancies)
Housing Advisory Group	11 (6 Conservatives, 2 Labour, 1 WRA, 1 Lib Dem and 1 Green)
Integrated Grants Panel	4 (1 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA and 1 vacancy).
Councillor IT Working Party	7 (4 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA, 1 Lib Dem)
Kenilworth Town Centre Joint Steering Group	1 Conservative
Leamington Town Centre Partnership	5 (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA, 1 Lib Dem)
Leisure Development Member Working Party	7 (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Lib Dem, 1 WRA and 1 vacancy)
Members – Trades Union Joint Consultation & Safety Panel	4 (1 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA and 1 vacancy)
Members’ Development Group	4 (The Four Group Leaders)
People Strategy Steering Group	5 (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA and 1 vacancy)
Planning Forum	46 (All members of the Council)
St Mary’s Lands Working Party	4 (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 WRA)
Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Commissioning Panel	4 (1 Conservative, 1 Labour and 2 vacancies) NB Executive approved increasing this to 7 on 8 March 2017)
Warwick District Conservation Advisory Forum	2 (both Conservative)

## **7. Appointments to Outside Bodies**

7.1 The Council currently makes 38 appointments to 31 organisations or bodies so as to enhance engagement meet legal requirements or because of financial contribution the Council has made to them. These are:

1. Warwickshire County Council - Supporting People Partnership
2. Warwickshire Police & Crime Panel
3. West Midlands Employers formerly West Midlands Councils and West Midlands Leaders Board
4. Coventry and Warwickshire LEP (Including City Deals)
5. Limited Liability Partnership Board
6. Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board
7. South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership
8. Warwickshire County Council Health & Wellbeing Board
9. Association of Retained Council Housing (ARCH)
10. Shakespeare's England
11. Coventry Airport Consultative Committee
12. Kenilworth Abbey Advisory Committee
13. Kenilworth Town Centre Partnership
14. LGA District Councils' Network
15. South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust
16. Warwick Town Centre Management Group
17. Warwickshire County Council – Adult Social Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
18. Warwickshire Waste Management Forum
19. HS2 Overview
20. National Association of Councillors
21. Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee
22. BID Leamington Board
23. Chase Meadow Community Centre
24. LGA Rural Services Network
25. Armed Forces Community Covenant Champion
26. National Parking Adjudication Service (PATROL)
27. Warwick District Mobility
28. Warwick District Citizens Advice Bureau
29. South Warwickshire Plato Trust
30. Friends of Leamington Art Gallery
31. Hill Close Gardens Trust

7.2 It should be noted that in 2011 the Council made appointments to 48 external bodies and that in addition to the reductions since then a further review is in progress which will see the current number of appointments reduce further.

7.3 In addition the Leader of the Council meets with the other Council leaders in the sub region on a regular basis.

## **8. Community Forums**

8.1 At present the Community Forums take place three times a year. There are seven forums within the District: Kenilworth Community forum, North Leamington Community forum, South Leamington Community forum, Warwick Rural East Community forum, Warwick Rural West Community forum, Warwick Town Community forum and Whitnash Community forum.



- 8.2 At present the forums are jointly organised by the District and County Council. They give an opportunity for residents to put their views and concerns about local issues directly to public service providers. Other local public sector bodies that attend these meetings include the Police, local Health services and Parish and Town councillors. The meetings generally take place in the evening.
- 8.3 Community forums are part of a wider strategy to improve local engagement and partnership working. There is an expectation, but not a requirement, that District Councillors will attend the community forum meetings in their area when possible because providing leadership at the forums is a vital part of their community leadership and engagement role. At present the forums are chaired by one of the Councillors from that area.
- 8.4 The role and remit of the Community forums has just been reviewed by the District Council and it is now proposed to reduce the frequency of the forums to twice a year, half that of 2011. In addition the County Council are due to publish their view on the future of community forums after the elections in May 2017.

## **9. The Role of Councillors at Warwick District Council**

- 9.1 The Council's Constitution sets out the following role of all Councillors:
- (i) collectively to be the ultimate policy-makers and carry out a number of strategic and corporate functions;
  - (ii) represent their communities and bring their views into the Council's decision making process, i.e. become the advocate of and for their communities;
  - (iii) deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;
  - (iv) balance different interests identified within the ward and represent the ward as a whole;
  - (v) be involved in decision making;
  - (vi) be available to represent the Council on other bodies; and
  - (vii) maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics.

## **10. Member Training and Development**

- 10.1 The Council considers that it is vital to have well trained councillors who are able to use their skills and knowledge to engage with their community and provide informed leadership within the Council itself and for the wider community.
- 10.2 To this end the Council has a comprehensive training and development programme for all councillors and participation in a wide range of developmental activities is encouraged and in some cases, compulsory.
- 10.3 There is some compulsory training for Councillors, which was agreed with Group Leaders, for example training on Planning and Licensing matters before the Councillor is permitted to sit on the relevant Committee.

10.4 There is an expectation that Councillors will take advantage of training and development opportunities offered to them and this does create an added time commitment for Councillors, but reflects the overall commitment of the Council to developing and providing high standards of service.

## **11. Council Size**

11.1 Warwick District Council asked officers to bring forward proposals for revised boundaries and Council size following the outcome of the Warwickshire County Council Divisions. The concerns arose because of the loss of coterminous boundaries at local government level, the impact of this on the town wards and therefore on the ability for residents to consistently identify with their local communities and Councillors.

11.2 The Council is committed to coterminous boundaries and recognises that it has been fortunate to have coterminous boundaries at local government level for many years. In its opinion this helps to build community cohesion, clear identification of elected representatives and therefore should take precedent over a simple enforcement of the ratio of electors to Councillors.

11.3 While County Council elections are held in different years to District and Parish/Town elections, the Council is of the opinion that the loss of coterminous boundaries will lead to confusion for electors and a loss of community identity with their elected representatives when the next District and Parish/Town Council elections are held in May 2019.

11.4 The Council were also mindful that while scheduled elections County Council and District/Parish/Town were not due on the same day, by-elections could occur on the same day with different boundaries. As an example of this, in May 2017 there will be the County Council election for the Division of Kenilworth St Johns and on the same day a by election for the Kenilworth Town Ward of Kenilworth St Johns but they do not have the same boundaries and this will add to voter confusion and complaints.

11.5 In addition, the Council is mindful of other key facts:

- There are currently 103,956 local government electors (at 01.02.17) in Warwick District and 46 Councillors, giving a current ratio of 2260 electors per Councillor;
- The current figure of electors per councillor is equal to or higher than 10% from the average predicted by the LGBCE for 2018 in three Wards, and below the said average by 10% or more in four wards within the District. The remaining fourteen wards are within 10% of the average number of electors per councillor ratio predicted by the LGBCE for Warwick District in 2018;
- The Council undertaken a forecasting process for its electorate and it is estimated there will be circa 113,831 electors in 2023 (Appendix 1);
- As a result of the predicted increase by 2018 there will be four wards above the 10% acceptable variance from the ratio of electors and four either equal 10% below the ratio (Appendix 1); and
- As a result by 2023 the number of ward over the tolerance of 10% will be 7 and three will be below the expected ratio by at least 10% (Appendix 1).

- 11.6 The Council is aware that from May 2017 all Official committee meetings will take place at 6.00pm on weekdays. The exemption is the Licensing & Regulatory Committee, which will meet late afternoon and its Panels that take place during normal office hours to accommodate the applicants and interested parties who will be attending them. However nearly half of all District Councillors are now employed and the need for meetings to take place outside normal working hours is emphasised. The informal meetings which take place during the day make it difficult for some councillors to commit to serving on such groups. Therefore, it is important that the future size of the Council is such that it will be possible to ensure that all meetings whether evening or day time will be well attended.
- 11.7 All Councillors are expected to carry out their community engagements and representational roles within their wards. This means a commitment to dealing with residents' individual issues as well as involvement in the wider community concerns which may arise. In addition, Councillors are expected to attend Council, any Committees of which they are a Member, task groups and working parties as well as regular attendance at Community forums and Parish or Town councils. In addition there is an expectation that Councillors will attend a number of training and briefing sessions throughout the year and act as the Council's representative on outside bodies.
- 11.8 Although demands vary with the number of Parish Councils and the way they operate, rural Councillors face work demands arising from the number of Parishes in the Ward they represent.
- 11.9 The average number of hours spent by councillors on Council work each week, based on the LGA survey of 2013/14 is 14 hours.
- 11.10 In respect of the budget pressures on the Council it recognises that the Banking Crisis and the resultant period of public sector austerity have severely impacted on it, as with the rest of the public sector. In 2010/11 The Council's net expenditure (as funded by council tax, business rates and Government Grant) was £18.2m, this has now reduced to below £13m for 2017/18. The main cause for this has been the reduction in Revenue Support Grant (RSG) which is now under £800k, this representing a reduction in funding of approaching £6m. Throughout most of this period the council tax charged in the district was frozen. In accommodating the funding reductions, substantial savings (or additional income generated) have been made in the cost of the services provided by the Council. However, it has not been necessary to cut or reduce any mainstream services.
- 11.11 These savings (or income) were made by reviewing how all services were provided, making sure services were provided as effectively and efficiently as possible and making use of new technology where possible. Further savings initiatives are planned over the next three years as the Revenue Support Grant reduces to zero over the next 2 years. The Council has a greater level of reserves than many comparable authorities. Whilst these do provide some resilience, the level of reserves is due to diminish in future years as some of these are invested in services.

- 11.12 Councillors further recognise the pressures on Local Government and that from 2011 to 2016 the number of full time equivalent officers (ftes) at the Council has reduced from 530 to 462. It is anticipated that in 2017 this will reduce by a further 42 ftes as a result in change of management of the Council Leisure Centres. This would therefore see the number of officers reducing by 20% over six years, while continuing to deliver the same level of service. In addition to this reduction, within the next two years there will be a review of senior management along with other proposals to further streamline the Committee structure. Members are mindful of the need to reflect the change in Council size themselves and they believe a small reduction in the number of Members is appropriate.
- 11.13 At the same time the Council is working to make its services capable of serving the significant development of homes across the District as part of its Local Plan up to 2029. This is likely to see the District increase, during this time by a further 17,000 properties. A number of significant capital investments and service changes are proposed. For example the Council has decided to make significant investment (£14m) in its leisure centres and transfer the management of them to an external party so that the same level of service can continue to be delivered while increasing their capacity and ensuring improved income for the Council.

## **12 Conclusion**

- 12.1 The Council recognises the changing face of local government but equally the significant increase expected in electorate within the District, particularly to the south of Leamington, Warwick, Whitnash and north of Bishop's Tachbrook.
- 12.2 It recognises the importance of communities and being accountable for its actions to those communities. It also looks to have joint working and effective relationships across all levels of government especially in a shire district between County, District and its Parishes and Towns. These are better fostered through coterminous boundaries and to enable clarity for the local community.
- 12.3 It recognises that even with the prospect of an increasing population, the Council is reducing in size in respect of budget, numbers of employees, direct services provided and so considers it is relevant to then consider a modification to the size of the Council alongside of those other changes.
- 12.4 Overall the commitment of Councillors to attend formal meetings has reduced especially of its quasi-judicial committees without significantly increasing the workload of Councillors by ensuring that appropriate delegations to officers are in place. The number of Councillors on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has reduced along with the workload of the Standards Committee.
- 12.5 The Council recognises that over recent years a number of Councillors have suffered with ill health for a number of reasons and this has in effect left the Council operating at reduced number but with no significant effect on community engagement. This indicates that it has some spare capacity at a Councillor level.
- 12.6. Therefore, Based on these considerations a consensus was reached on a proposed Council size of 43 councillors.

- 12.7 The Council considers that this proposal would be appropriate because the ratio of electors per councillor with 43 members would be 2647 electors per councillor and reflects the growth of the District but this is felt to be an appropriate and sustainable ratio and not inconsistent with similar authorities.
- 12.8 The proposed reduction would, in essence, see the removal of a District Councillor from each of the three towns which have engaged communities and strong town councils and therefore would not impact significantly on community engagement.
- 12.9 Any greater reduction of councillors would have an impact on the workload of councillors but it is felt that 43 councillors would still enable the council to carry out its responsibilities effectively and efficiently.
- 12.10 It is therefore the Council's view that a council size of 43 Councillors representing either, single, two and three member wards, would be appropriate.

## Appendix 1

	Councillors per ward	Register 1/2/17	LGBCE Predicted 2018	WDC estimated 2018	At 2018 variance from LGBCE Ratio	WDC estimate 2023	At 2023 variance from LGBCE Ratio
Abbey	3	5810	7164	5939	-14	6079	-12
Arden	2	4407	4391	4407	-5	4436	-4
Aylesford	2	4915	4370	5015	8	5015	8
Bishop's Tachbrook	1	2148	2044	2604	13	3953	71
Brunswick	2	5425	4886	5555	20	5629	22
Budbrooke	2	4769	4945	4835	5	4769	3
Clarendon	2	4619	4784	5054	9	5154	11
Crown	2	4704	4694	4704	2	4704	2
Emscote	2	4771	4699	4943	7	5325	15
Leam	2	3920	4358	4176	-10	3946	-15
Manor	2	5095	4627	5132	11	5132	11
Milverton	2	4638	4967	4665	1	4665	1
Myton & Heathcote	2	4058	4694	4647	0	8263	79
Newbold	2	4430	4676	4557	-1	4557	-1
Park Hill	3	6560	6827	6692	-4	6802	-2
Radford Semele	1	2135	2102	2187	-5	2336	1
Saltisford	2	5205	4858	5353	16	5387	16
St. John's	3	6650	6890	6697	-3	6697	-3
Stoneleigh & Cubbington	2	4089	4202	4186	-10	4089	-12
Sydenham	2	4797	5022	4958	7	5010	8
Whitnash	3	6689	6824	6803	-2	6807	-2
Woodloes	2	4122	4361	4169	-10	4259	-8
Others				819		819	
<b>Total</b>		<b>103956</b>	<b>106385</b>	<b>108096</b>		<b>113831</b>	

LGBCE Ratio for 2018 is 2313