



## **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee**

Date: 30 January 2018 at 9.30 am

Venue: HMS Phoebe Committee Room, Town Hall, Bournemouth

### Membership:

Councillor Janet Walton	Borough of Poole – Chair
Councillor John Beesley	Bournemouth Borough Council – Vice-Chair
Councillor David Flagg	Christchurch Borough Council – Vice-Chair
Councillor Philip Broadhead	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor David Brown	Borough of Poole
Councillor John Challinor	Borough of Poole
Councillor Blair Crawford	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Deborah Croney	Dorset County Council
Councillor Beverley Dunlop	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Mike Greene	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Nicola Greene	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor May Haines	Borough of Poole
Councillor Trish Jamieson	Christchurch Borough Council
Councillor David Jones	Dorset County Council
Councillor Jane Kelly	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Robert Lawton	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Drew Mellor	Borough of Poole
Councillor Karen Rampton	Borough of Poole

Contact: Karen Tompkins Tel: 01202 451255 – Email – [karen.tompkins@bournemouth.gov.uk](mailto:karen.tompkins@bournemouth.gov.uk)

The agenda and reports are available at <https://bcjointcommittee.wordpress.com/meetings/>

# AGENDA

## **1. Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence and notification of any substitute Members.

## **2. Declarations of Interests**

Councillors are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

## **3. Confirmation of Minutes**

The Joint Committee is asked to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2018 circulated at **3**.

## **4. Public Issues – deputation/questions/petitions**

A request to speak as a deputation, ask a question or present a petition must be sent in writing or email to Karen Tompkins at the address above by no later than 9.30 am on Monday 29 January 2018.

## **5. Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels/Committees**

To consider any recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels/Committees.

## **6. Electoral Arrangements for Structural Change Order – Report of Task and Finish Group**

See report circulated at **6**.

## **7. The Structural Change Order – Update**

See report circulated at **7**.

**BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE JOINT COMMITTEE**  
**15 January 2018**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Janet Walton	Borough of Poole - Chair
Councillor John Beesley	Bournemouth Borough Council - Vice-Chair
Councillor David Flagg	Christchurch Borough Council - Vice-Chair
Councillor Philip Broadhead	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor David Brown	Borough of Poole
Councillor John Challinor	Borough of Poole
Councillor Blair Crawford	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Deborah Croney	Dorset County Council
Councillor Mike Greene	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Nicola Greene	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor May Haines	Borough of Poole
Councillor Trish Jamieson	Christchurch Borough Council
Councillor Robert Lawton	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Drew Mellor	Borough of Poole
Councillor Pat Oakley	Bournemouth Borough Council
Councillor Karen Rampton	Borough of Poole
Councillor David Smith	Bournemouth Borough Council

**OFFICERS:**

Andrew Flockhart, Chief Executive, Borough of Poole  
David McIntosh, Chief Executive, Christchurch and East Dorset Councils  
Jane Portman, Managing Director, Bournemouth Borough Council  
Richard Bates, Chief Financial Officer, Dorset County Council  
Ian Milner, Strategic Director, Christchurch Borough Council  
Julian Osgathorpe, Joint Executive Director, Corporate Services  
Adam Richens, Service Director, Strategic Finance  
Tanya Coulter, Service Director, Legal and Democratic & Monitoring Officer  
Sarah Longdon, LGR Programme Manager  
Georgia Turner, Head of Communications and Marketing

The meeting commenced at 10.07 am

**Note: To see a copy of the public reports that were considered by the Committee at this meeting please visit:**

<https://bcpjointcommittee.wordpress.com/meetings/>

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Beverley Dunlop and Jane Kelly - Bournemouth Borough Council and from Councillor David Jones - Dorset County Council. Named Substitute Members, Councillors Pat Oakley and David Smith - Bournemouth Borough Council were in attendance.

An apology for absence was also received from Debbie Ward - Chief Executive, Dorset County Council. Richard Bates - Chief Financial Officer, Dorset County Council was in attendance.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests by Joint Committee Members.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**DECISION MADE:**

That the minutes of the meeting on 15 December 2017, be confirmed.

**4. DEPUTATION - COUNCILLOR JOHN PARKER - DORSET ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS**

The Joint Committee were informed of the following deputation:-

Deputation from Councillor John Parker on behalf of the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils.

**DECISION MADE:**

That the deputation from Councillor John Parker, be received and the relevant Officers be asked to prepare a report in response to the issues raised in the deputation, for consideration by the Joint Committee in due course.

A copy of the deputation statement can be viewed at the following link:-

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/councildemocratic/CouncilMeetings/Previousquestionsdocs/daptc-statement-to-bcpjc-150118.pdf>

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION - COUNCILLOR LESLEY DEDMAN**

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

The Joint Committee received a public question from Councillor Lesley Dedman on Council Tax Harmonisation figures, Town Councils and the Mayoralty in Christchurch.

A copy of the question and answer can be viewed at the following link:-

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/councildemocratic/CouncilMeetings/Previousquestionsdocs/public-question-from-councillor-lesley-dedman-and-response.pdf>

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS/COMMITTEES**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Andrew Morgan to the meeting to present the following recommendations of the Bournemouth Local Government Reorganisation and Shared Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel:-

1. The O&S Panel recommends that the Joint Committee does not agree the recommendation of the Task and Finish Group on the Structural Change Order relating to the election of the Leader of the Shadow Executive, and that the Joint Committee instead agrees that the Leader of the Shadow Executive be elected by all Members of the Shadow Authority.
2. The O&S Panel also informs the Joint Committee that it intends to give consideration to the arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny in the Shadow Authority.

**DECISION MADE:**

That the recommendations of the Bournemouth Local Government Reorganisation and Shared Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel be taken into account at the relevant item, at clause 8 of these minutes.

**7. PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Programme Director, circulated at '6'. The report provided an overview of programme activity undertaken on behalf of the Joint Committee. The Programme Director introduced the report and informed Members that despite the complexity of the programme, it was performing as expected at this stage. Attention was drawn to paragraphs 5 and 8 of the report in relation to electoral arrangements and the impact of the Structural Change report to be considered by the Joint Committee at clause 8 of these minutes.

## **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

One Member was encouraged that no risks had required escalation to the Joint Committee to date. Despite that, the Joint Committee emphasised paragraph 25 and that there was no room for complacency given the scale and complexity of the programme. In connection with this, one Member reiterated their concern for the scale, complexity and timescales involved. The Programme Director shared these concerns.

In response to questions relating to future Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, the Service Director, Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer confirmed that this was included in the Legal and Democratic Workstream and work would be undertaken with Members in due course to set out options for scrutiny arrangements, for approval by the Shadow Authority. Consequently, there would be no gap in scrutiny arrangements.

### **DECISION MADE:**

- a. That the progress made since the last Joint Committee on approved workstreams, be noted.
- b. That the proposed activity to progress approved workstreams in the lead up to the next Joint Committee, be noted.

## **8. THE STRUCTURAL CHANGE ORDER - REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Service Director, Legal and Democratic & Monitoring Officer, circulated at '7'. The report detailed the Task and Finish Group's responses and recommendations regarding outstanding issues relating to the Structural Change Order. The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group introduced the report and had regard to the recommendations of the Bournemouth Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group highlighted that it was not for the Executive to impose Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, and welcomed further work by Overview and Scrutiny Panels and Committees across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole to consider future options. It was noted that the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group were agreed by a majority decision.

In clarifying the role of the 'Leader of the Executive', the Task and Finish Group Chairman highlighted that whilst a crucial role, the terminology 'Chair of the Executive' better reflected the requirements and role description. Consequently, the Task and Finish Group Chairman moved the adoption of a revised set of recommendations to reflect this terminology. With regard to recommendation 3, the Chair asked the Joint Committee to agree that the additional Joint Committee meeting be held at 9.30 am on 30 January 2018 at the Town Hall, Bourne Avenue, Bournemouth.

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

One Member reported on the work of the Poole Business Improvement Sub-Committee, tasked to consider issues relating to Local Government Reorganisation. No specific recommendations were reported on this particular report and the Sub-Committee were comfortable with the recommendations as presented.

In response to one Member's questions relating to a casting vote of the Chair of the Executive, the Service Director, Legal and Democratic confirmed that this would be a matter for the Shadow Authority as part of agreeing its Standing Orders. No decisions had been made at this stage and issues such as this would be developed through the Legal and Democratic Workstream in due course. Further to this, the Member reiterated that he would be unable to support the recommendations in view of a long standing view that political balance should be reflected on the Shadow Executive. Similarly, one Member was grateful for clarity in relation to the Chair of the Executive position but would not be supporting the recommendation in relation to the process for establishing this position for all party engagement across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

The Joint Committee briefly discussed the Electoral Workstream, of which a Task and Finish Group would be convened shortly before reporting back to the Joint Committee. Members were reminded that this Task and Finish Group would be making recommendations to the Joint Committee. In relation to cross party representation, the Overview and Scrutiny item on each agenda of the Joint Committee provided a platform ...

**DECISION MADE:**

That the Joint Committee:-

- a. Agrees the recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group as set out in the report in respect of the process for establishing the Chair and the Executive of the Shadow Authority and that these decisions are communicated to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
- b. Requests the Electoral Arrangements Task and Finish Group to consider the issues about the Electoral Order which are not yet resolved and to report back to the Committee.
- c. Agrees to meet at 9.30 am on Tuesday 30 January 2018 at the Town Hall, Bourne Avenue, Bournemouth to consider the report in respect of electoral arrangements referred to in recommendation b.
- d. That the title, 'Chair of the Executive' be used, replacing 'Leader of the Executive' in the report.

Notes:

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

Councillors David Flagg - Vice-Chairman, and Trish Jamieson requested that their dissent from decision a. be recorded.

Councillor David Brown requested that his dissent from decisions a. - d. be recorded.

**9. DISAGGREGATION UPDATE**

The Joint Committee considered a report by the LGR Programme Manager, circulated at '8'. The report provided an update on the progress made with the Disaggregation Workstream, as detailed planning and preparation for the service analysis had completed, and the series of service reviews were underway. The Chief Financial Officer, Dorset County Council, introduced the report and for the benefit of members of the public, explained what disaggregation meant in practice. In the event of a new unitary authority being created for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, the cost of services, staffing resources and assets relating to the Dorset County Council services provided in Christchurch would need to transfer to this new authority. Funding associated with these issues would also transfer. With regard to the funding, the Chief Financial Officer, Dorset County Council, explained the process for analysing the cost of services and for splitting the funding such as Council Tax and stated that the percentage of Dorset County Council services in Christchurch would not necessarily reflect the percentage of associated funds.

One Member highlighted previous disaggregation exercises in 1997 on the creation of Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole Council, and emphasised that adequate funding for long term commitments was vital for the success of any new unitary authority for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. In connection with this, the Joint Committee discussed the resource available for disaggregation and was informed that a core team of three Officers had been seconded within Dorset County Council. Back-filling arrangements would apply to the substantive roles. Work would be required from existing staff to bring together the information relating to service reviews.

In response to questions in relation to the financial framework, Officers reported that all Section 151 Officers were Members of the Oversight Group, feeding into the work of the relevant Task and Finish Groups. One Member highlighted the size and importance of the task of disaggregation and reiterated comments that there was no room for complacency despite the positive progress made. In connection with this, Members acknowledged the work between both Joint Committees across Dorset on the model of library service disaggregation, which focused on a number of key areas such as staff protection and ensuring a fair and accurate disaggregation in the interest of residents across the whole of Dorset.

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

The Chair summarised by highlighting the experience drawn from previous disaggregation exercises and that the expertise of some individuals was crucially still available to draw on.

**DECISION MADE:**

That the progress of the disaggregation plan, be noted.

**10. COUNCIL TAX HARMONISATION**

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Service Director, Strategic Finance - Bournemouth and Poole and the Strategic Director, Christchurch Borough Council, circulated at '9'. The report provided an update to the Joint Committee with regard to the implications of the recent provisional Local Government Settlement 2018/19 announcement and the impact on the work of the Task and Finish Group on Council Tax Harmonisation.

The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group introduced the report and informed the Joint Committee that the Task and Finish Group had met three times, with the business very much focused around the direction of the Joint Committee to prioritise options that included freezes and reductions to the absolute level of Council Tax paid by Christchurch residents, alongside the priority of no Borough Council Tax level rising at a rate that exceeded the Government's referendum limits. Attention was drawn to the appendix which featured 18 models, although the Joint Committee noted that these had been superseded due to the change in core referendum limits by the Government. The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group highlighted that due to this change, the workstream could not proceed until each authority had set its budget and associated medium term financial plans.

The Task and Finish Group would therefore have further work to undertake and would report back to the Joint Committee by March at the earliest, which required the removal of the item from the Forward Plan for February. One Member emphasised the view that Council Tax Harmonisation should apply from day one of the new unitary authority and therefore reiterated the position of the Christchurch Borough Council representatives on the Joint Committee on this issue.

One Member welcomed the information contained within appendix a, but highlighted that a freedom of information request had been made with regard to this information. The Member encouraged openness and transparency with regard to the work of Task and Finish Groups feeding into the Joint Committee.

**DECISION MADE:**

- a. That the content of the report, be noted.

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee, 15 January 2018**

- b. That a further update be provided once Council Tax setting decisions made by Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset County Councils are known.

**11. FORWARD PLAN FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

The Joint Committee considered the Forward Plan, circulated at '10'.

The Programme Director introduced the Forward Plan and highlighted a number of changes that required an update to the Forward Plan arising from decisions made by the Joint Committee.

Council Tax Harmonisation would be removed from the February 2018 agenda, whilst the agreed special meeting of the Joint Committee to consider electoral arrangements would be added to the Forward Plan for 30 January 2018. In respect of the Task and Finish Group on Civic Arrangements, a meaningful update would not be completed for February 2018 and further work was planned in relation to the outcome of the Community Governance Review in Christchurch.

**DECISION MADE:**

That the Forward Plan be received and updated in light of decisions taken by the Joint Committee.

The meeting closed at 11.11 am.

Contact: Matt Wisdom, Deputy Head of Democratic Services  
☎ 01202 451107 ✉ [matthew.wisdom@bournemouth.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.wisdom@bournemouth.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.bournemouth.gov.uk](http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk)

Report Subject	<b>Electoral Arrangements for Structural Change Order – Report of the Task and Finish Group</b>
Meeting date	30 January 2018
Report Author	Tanya Coulter, Monitoring Officer, Bournemouth & Poole
Contributors	Members of the Task and Finish Group – Cllrs Flagg (Chairman), Challinor, M Greene, Walton and Lawton.
Status	Public
Classification	For decision by full members of the Committee
Executive summary	The report details the Task and Finish Group’s responses and recommendations regarding outstanding issues relating to the Structural Change Order. The Group make recommendations in respect of matters concerning the size of the Council and other aspects of the electoral arrangements which have to be included within the Order.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p><b>That the Joint Committee:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Agrees the recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group as set out in this report in respect of the size and warding arrangements of the new council to be included in the Structural Change Order.</b></li> <li><b>2. Authorises the Chief Executives and Managing Director, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs, to submit the required information to MHCLG regarding council size and five year forecasts.</b></li> <li><b>3. Notes that the Electoral Arrangements Task and Finish Group will consider matters relating to the boundary review referred to in previous reports at its</b></li> </ol>

	<b>next meeting in February 2018, and will further update the Joint Committee on this work at future meetings.</b>
Reason for Recommendations	To enable the Committee to contribute to the development of the Structural Change Order before it is laid before Parliament.

**Background detail**

1. At its meeting on 21 November 2017, the Committee established a Task and Finish Group (The Group) to work with officers on Electoral Arrangements. At its meeting on the 15 January 2018 the Committee agreed that this Group consider the electoral arrangements aspects of the Structural Change Order (the Order) and report back to the Committee at an additional meeting to take place on the 30 January 2018.
2. There are outstanding issues to be considered and agreed by the Joint Committee to enable further submissions about the content of the Order to be made to MHCLG. These relate to the electoral arrangements to be contained within the Order which will come into effect for the elections in May 2019 should a boundary review not have been completed prior to this date. If a boundary review does take place and recommendations from that review are approved by Parliament at the end of 2018, then the provisions in the Order will not be required.

**The size of the new council and electoral arrangements**

3. As referred to above, the intention of MHCLG is that a boundary review will be undertaken as set out in the report to the Joint Committee on 15 December 2017. Nevertheless, it is necessary to ensure there are provisions in the Order setting out the size of the council, and electoral arrangements based upon existing wards and divisions, which would operate for the elections in May 2019 should a boundary review for any reason not have been completed.
4. MHCLG has stated that it anticipates the number contained within the Order will be based upon the Future Dorset proposal. The number contained within the Future Dorset proposal is 76. In addition, the Order will need to contain a schedule setting out the names of the wards, and numbers of councillors per ward.

5. Work has been undertaken to consider options for councillor numbers by ward. MHCLG has confirmed that although existing wards must be used, it would be possible, if necessary, to merge existing wards.
6. The key driver in considering options is the need to maximise electoral equality. This means that the aim is to ensure the number of electors per councillor in each ward deviates from the average by as small a percentage as possible.
7. The spreadsheet at Appendix A sets out the existing position in the first column for reference purposes showing the wards and divisions; numbers of councillors and the ratio of councillor to elector. The second column sets out the recommended option for inclusion in the Order. This option is based upon the size of the council being 76 councillors. It uses the opportunity to merge wards in Canford Heath, Branksome and Hamworthy to ensure that electoral equality is maximised, as these wards will have three members per ward. This option best complies with Boundary Commission Guidance and ensures that no ward exceeds 30% variance from the average and minimises the number which exceed 10% variance.
8. The option proposed is therefore an option which complies with statutory guidance and which is a more positive position in terms of electoral equality than exists currently.

The Group recommends to the Joint Committee that the option contained within column two of Appendix A attached is agreed and submitted to MHCLG for inclusion in the Structural Change Order

9. The Group noted that the work to provide MHCLG with five year electoral forecasts was ongoing and due to be completed at MHCLG's request by the end of January 2018. The Group requested that this information be provided for noting to the Joint Committee. The Group noted that this data would be used to inform the next stage of the work on electoral arrangements, which is to consider the information to be provided to MHCLG in preparation for any boundary review to take place later in the year. The Group agreed that it would meet again in February to consider this information and the options and process relating to a potential boundary review, and report back to the Joint Committee in this respect at its later meetings.
10. In addition to the five year forecast data referred to in paragraph 9 above MHCLG requires additional initial information in the form of a document which will contain the forecast data, to support the council size proposal and to inform any potential boundary review. This document has been requested in a preliminary form for consideration and further discussion with MHCLG and will then form part of the

information to be considered by the Task and Finish Group at its next meeting. As this preliminary document needs to be submitted to MGCLG by the end of January for further discussion it is proposed that authority be given to the Chief Executives and Managing Director, in consultation with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Joint Committee, to send this to MHCLG when completed.

## **Appendix A – proposed option for electoral arrangements for inclusion in the Order**

### **Background Papers**

Reports on the Structural Change Order and Electoral Arrangements to the Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Joint Committee on 15 December 2017 and 15 January 2018.

<https://bcpjointcommittee.wordpress.com/meetings/>

**BCP Proposed Electoral Representation using existing wards & divisions (Electorate Data December 2017)**

		CURRENT RATIOS (for reference)				Merging current two member wards (East & West) together, before dropping all current Ward Cllr numbers down by 1 with the exception of East Cliff & Springbourne, keeping Christchurch at two Cllr wards				
Authority	Ward Name	Cllr Numbers	Elec per Cllr	Electorate	Variance	Proposed Cllr Numbers	Potential Elec per Cllr	Electorate	Variance	Revised Ward Name
Bournemouth	Boscombe East	3	2866	8598	+ 19.0%	2	4299	8598	+ 8.5%	
Bournemouth	Boscombe West	3	2564	7691	+ 6.5%	2	3846	7691	- 2.9%	
Bournemouth	Central	3	2648	7944	+ 10.0%	2	3972	7944	+ 0.3%	
Bournemouth	East Cliff & Springbourne	3	3328	9983	+ 38.2%	3	3328	9983	- 16.0%	
Bournemouth	East Southbourne & Tuckton	3	2820	8460	+ 17.1%	2	4230	8460	+ 6.8%	
Bournemouth	Kinson North	3	2643	7928	+ 9.7%	2	3964	7928	+ 0.1%	
Bournemouth	Kinson South	3	2668	8005	+ 10.8%	2	4003	8005	+ 1.1%	
Bournemouth	Littledown & Iford	3	2592	7776	+ 7.6%	2	3888	7776	- 1.8%	
Bournemouth	Moordown	3	2606	7818	+ 8.2%	2	3909	7818	- 1.3%	
Bournemouth	Queens Park	3	2942	8825	+ 22.2%	2	4413	8825	+ 11.4%	
Bournemouth	Redhill & Northbourne	3	2685	8055	+ 11.5%	2	4028	8055	+ 1.7%	
Bournemouth	Strouden Park	3	2521	7564	+ 4.7%	2	3782	7564	- 4.5%	
Bournemouth	Talbot & Branksome Woods	3	2513	7539	+ 4.4%	2	3770	7539	- 4.8%	
Bournemouth	Throop & Muscliff	3	2336	7009	- 3.0%	2	3505	7009	- 11.5%	
Bournemouth	Wallisdown & Winton West	3	2641	7923	+ 9.7%	2	3962	7923	+ 0.0%	
Bournemouth	West Southbourne	3	2482	7446	+ 3.1%	2	3723	7446	- 6.0%	
Bournemouth	Westbourne & West Cliff	3	3018	9055	+ 25.3%	2	4528	9055	+ 14.3%	
Bournemouth	Winton East	3	2671	8013	+ 10.9%	2	4007	8013	+ 1.2%	
Christchurch	* Burton Grange	1	7573	7573	+ 214.5%	2	3787	7573	- 4.4%	
Christchurch	* Christchurch Central	1	7634	7634	+ 217.0%	2	3817	7634	- 3.6%	
Christchurch	* Commons	1	8300	8300	+ 244.7%	2	4150	8300	+ 4.8%	
Christchurch	* Mudeford & Highcliffe	1	7932	7932	+ 229.4%	2	3966	7932	+ 0.1%	
Christchurch	* Walkford	1	7997	7997	+ 232.1%	2	3999	7997	+ 1.0%	
Poole	Alderney	3	2813	8439	+ 16.8%	2	4220	8439	+ 6.5%	
Poole	Branksome East	2	2785	5570	+ 15.7%	3	3761	11283	- 5.0%	Branksome
Poole	Branksome West	2	2857	5713	+ 18.6%					
Poole	Broadstone	3	2859	8576	+ 18.7%	2	4288	8576	+ 8.3%	
Poole	Canford Cliffs	3	2762	8287	+ 14.7%	2	4144	8287	+ 4.6%	
Poole	Canford Heath East	2	2846	5692	+ 18.2%	3	3613	10839	- 8.8%	Canford Heath
Poole	Canford Heath West	2	2574	5147	+ 6.9%					
Poole	Creekmoor	3	2474	7421	+ 2.7%	2	3711	7421	- 6.3%	
Poole	Hamworthy East	2	2528	5056	+ 5.0%	3	3438	10314	- 13.2%	Hamworthy
Poole	Hamworthy West	2	2629	5258	+ 9.2%					
Poole	Merley & Bearwood	3	2715	8146	+ 12.8%	2	4073	8146	+ 2.8%	
Poole	Newtown	3	2878	8635	+ 19.5%	2	4318	8635	+ 9.0%	
Poole	Oakdale	3	2754	8262	+ 14.4%	2	4131	8262	+ 4.3%	
Poole	Parkstone	3	2986	8958	+ 24.0%	2	4479	8958	+ 13.1%	
Poole	Penn Hill	3	2794	8383	+ 16.0%	2	4192	8383	+ 5.8%	
Poole	Poole Town	3	2797	8392	+ 16.2%	2	4196	8392	+ 5.9%	
Christchurch	Wards	24								
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>2408</b>	<b>301003</b>		<b>76</b>	<b>3961</b>	<b>301003</b>		
	<b>Ideal elector to Cllr ratio:</b>			2408					3961	
	<b>Variance Range</b>			- 3.0%					- 16.0%	
				+ 244.7%					+ 14.3%	

**Local Government Boundary Commission for England Guidance**

More than 30% of a Council's wards/divisions having electoral imbalance of more than 10% from the average ratio for that authority; and/or

;One or more wards/divisions with an electoral imbalance of more than 30%

The imbalance is unlikely to be corrected by foreseeable changes to the electorate within a reasonable period.

36 wards in Council (11 Wards = 30%)

Ward level overview of proposed option

6 wards over 10%  
0 wards over 30%  
30 wards within 10% of which 20 within 5%

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Local Government Boundary Commission look at three main criteria

- Electoral Equality
- Community identities and interests
- Effective and convenient local government

[The Local Government Boundary Commission for England Principal Area Boundary Reviews: technical guidance](#)  
[Electorate forecast guidance](#)

\* Christchurch Wards are current County Divisions

more than 10% variance  
more than 30% variance



Report Subject	<b>The Structural Change Order – Update</b>
Meeting date	30 January 2018
Report Author	Andrew Flockhart, Chief Executive, Borough of Poole
Contributors	Tanya Coulter, Monitoring Officer, Bournemouth & Poole
Status	Public
Classification	For decision by full members of the Committee
Executive summary	<p>The report summarises the decisions made at previous meetings by the Joint Committee which relate to the Structural Change Order, provides an update on the advice and asks Members to confirm the decisions before they are submitted on 31 January to the MHCLG for its consideration.</p> <p>It also draws the Committee’s attention to a decision made by the Dorset Area Joint Committee about the electoral cycle for the new Dorset Council.</p> <p>It is expected that the MHCLG will reflect the Committee’s decisions in the Structural Change Order to be presented to Parliament.</p>
Recommendations	<p><b>That the Joint Committee:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Confirm its decisions made at previous meetings which relate to issues in the Structural Change Order before they are submitted on 31 January to the MHCLG for its consideration.</b></li> <li><b>2. To note the further advice received from the MHCLG.</b></li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. To note and consider the electoral cycle for the new council in the light of the decision made by the Dorset Area Joint Committee.</b></p> <p><b>4. To delegate authority to the Chief Executives and Managing Director in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Joint Committee to make any further urgent decisions required as to the content of the SCO should MHCLG require further input on the final draft.</b></p>
Reason for Recommendation	To enable the Committee to confirm its views to be considered by the MHCLG in developing the Structural Change Order before it is laid before Parliament.

### **Background detail**

1. At its meetings on 21 November 2017, 15 December 2017 and 15 January 2018, the Committee received reports on and made decisions in relation to the Structural Change Order (the Order) so that the views of the Committee could be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) by 31 January 2018. It is expected that the MHCLG will reflect the Committee's views in the Order to be presented to Parliament.

### **The Decisions made by the Joint Committee on the Order**

2. Over the course of the last three months the Joint Committee has made these decisions in relation to the Order:
  - i. The name of the new authority in the Order will be Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
  - ii. A Shadow Authority will be established as a means for preparing for the new council
  - iii. The membership of the Shadow Authority will be all members of the councils of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. This is a membership of 120 comprising 54 Members from Bournemouth, 42 from Poole and 24 from Christchurch.
  - iv. The Executive Committee of the Shadow Authority will comprise 8 members from Bournemouth, 6 members from Poole and 2 members from Christchurch.
  - v. The Shadow Authority and Executive Committee will operate with Bournemouth Council's constitution and standing orders.
  - vi. Scrutiny arrangements will be a matter for the Shadow Authority to determine when it is established.
  - vii. The legal status of the new authority will be a Borough Council with County functions.

- viii. The Shadow Executive members will be nominated by the existing councils reflecting the principles which shaped the Joint Committee which provide for a balance of representation from Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. .
- ix. The Shadow Executive will have a Chair, elected by the members of the Shadow Executive

3. The Committee also:

- i. Noted that there will be a need for the Shadow Executive Committee to engage representatives of Dorset County Council and that a means of doing so needs to be developed and confirmed.
- ii. Requested officers to make arrangements to find and book a venue that is suitable for the Shadow Authority to meet in in the early summer of 2018.

4. The Committee has also received information to the effect that:

- i. The Shadow Authority will not have any executive responsibilities in relation to the operation of the existing councils.
- ii. Some preparatory work will be carried out by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the constituent councils in advance of the creation of the Shadow Authority in relation to the overview and scrutiny arrangements that could be put in place therein.

#### **Update on MHCLG Advice**

5. A query has been raised by Members of the Joint Committee about the balance of political representation to be made in the Shadow Executive Committee. (A similar query was raised at a meeting of Poole Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10 January.) Further to these queries further advice has been sought from the MHCLG to clarify the position in light of the content of previous structural change orders. The MHCLG has now confirmed that as the Executive Committee of the Shadow Authority is an executive body there is no requirement for minority party representation on the Executive. As an executive body the committee would refer non-executive decisions to the full Shadow Authority including, for example, approval of the Budget and Council Tax, and appointment of statutory officers. An overview and scrutiny function would undertake scrutiny of the executive body.

Members of the Committee may wish to reconsider the decision they made on this matter in December (as in 2 viii above) in the light of this advice.

#### **Electoral Cycle for the Dorset Council**

6. At its meeting on 18 January the Dorset Area Joint Committee considered a range of issues relevant to the Order. This included decisions that the new Dorset

council should hold all out elections based upon the county electoral cycle and that the new council should serve for two 5 year terms (after May 2019) before harmonising with the county electoral cycle nationally.

7. This means that local government elections for the Dorset Council and the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council will, after May 2019, take place on a different schedule. Unless a different decision is made the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council will hold elections on the unitary council cycle, that being every four years from 2019 onwards.
8. The Committee may wish to consider altering the electoral cycle for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. If the Committee does wish to do this it will need to be included in the Order and a decision would need to be made urgently.

### **Background Papers**

Report on the Structural Change Order to the Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Joint Committee on 21 November 2017, 15 December 2017 and 15 January 2018.

<https://bcpjointcommittee.wordpress.com/meetings/>