

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Democratic Services Committee

Date: 21st May 2021

Title: Review of the Size of Committees

Purpose of report: For the Democratic Services Committee to consider establishing a Task and Finish Group to consider a review in the size of Committees, for implementation from May 2022.

Introduction

On 31st May 2019, the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales published its final recommendations for the future electoral arrangements for Ceredigion, which has been submitted to Welsh Government Ministers. It is now for Welsh Government and its Ministers to decide how to proceed. Ordinarily they will make an Order.

The Order is yet to be made, although it is likely to be made in September 2021.

The report recommends a reduction of Councillors from 42 to 38 (giving a county average of 1,384 electors per Member). The effect of a reduction in 4 Councillors from May 2022 means that the current size of Committees cannot be sustained at current levels.

It is therefore proposed that a Cross-Party Task and Finish Group be established as soon as possible to consider the implications of a reduction of 4 Councillors on the size of Committee with a view to presenting recommendations to Council in January 2022.

The Group will be established as soon as the Order has been made by the Minister.

Recommendations: To agree to establish a Cross-Party Task and Finish Group to consider a review in the size of Committees, for implementation from May 2022, with a view to presenting recommendations to Council in January 2022.

Appendices: None

Background documents: Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales – Ceredigion Electoral Review: Final Recommendations
<https://ldbc.gov.wales/reviews/05-19/ceredigion-final-recommendations>

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12th May 2021