

REPORT OF THE
Cabinet / Leader
PART II

**135. FURTHER ELECTORAL REVIEW OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL –
COUNCIL SIZE SUBMISSION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY
COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND**

1. The Cabinet at its meeting on 30 March 2015 considered and approved for recommendation to the County Council, the Council Size submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), indicating the argument and evidence for retaining 78 Members.

2. At the extraordinary meeting of County Council on 13 April 2015, the Council endorsed the Cabinet's recommendation, approved the draft submission, and delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to amend the draft submission to take account of work undertaken between the meetings of Cabinet and County Council. The County Council's Submission on Council Size was sent to the LGBCE on 30 April 2015 to meet the deadline set. The LGBCE 'minded to' recommendation is expected by 26 May 2015.

3. The County Council also approved the establishment of a Members' Working Group to make recommendations to the Group Leaders Working Group in respect of a pattern of electoral divisions for the County Council. Two informative workshops have subsequently been held for Members of the Working Group and the work is now progressing as planned.

136. TRANSFORMATION TO 2017

4. Cabinet at its meeting on 30 March 2015 approved the Transformation Strategy to 2017 which will provide the means by which the County Council reduces its spending by some 14.5%, consistent with likely future levels of Central Government grant support and decreasing public service spending limits.

5. The Cabinet agreed to continue its policy of beginning this work early, hence providing the maximum impact and leverage on how best to reduce future expenditure levels involving major reviews of services, further reductions in the Council's external spend, redefining service offers, and exploring opportunities for further demand management across all the Council's services.

6. The Cabinet noted that further asset rationalisation, increasing use of digital capability, and issues around locality working would all make a contribution to future spending levels. It was further noted that a new financial monitoring process would be implemented to track both the savings projections and to ensure departments remain within cash limits. Suitable public consultation arrangements will also be made.

7. A revised timetable of Cabinet and Council meetings was also agreed, so that work could begin immediately and Executive Members and the Cabinet could make the relevant decisions as early as possible. It was noted further in the report that a new Government's approach to Local Government spending generally and Council Tax policy would be important future issues.

Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm
by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Further Electoral Review of Hampshire County Council – Council Size
Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (search
item reference 6610)
- Transformation to 2017 (search reference 6591)

COUNCILLOR ROY PERRY
Leader of the Council