

WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

NAME OF COMMITTEE	COUNCIL
DATE	17 December 2013
REPORT TITLE	TWO COMMITTEE PILOT REVIEW
Report of	Political Structures Working Group
WARDS AFFECTED	All

Summary of report:

To consider a report which seeks to extend the Two Committee Pilot until the time when any changes are required to the future governance structure of the T18 model, which will be introduced post May 2015.

Financial implications:

None directly arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Two Committee Pilot has been considered and should be extended until any governance changes are required which arise from the T18 Programme.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council agreed at its meeting on 12 February 2013 to extend the Two Committee Pilot beyond May 2013 to the Council meeting on 17 December 2013 (Minute No CM 71b refers).
- 1.2 Subsequent to this decision, Members will also recall that the Council agreed at its meeting on 30 July 2013 a proposal to redress an identified imbalance in Committee workloads. The solution agreed by the Council to overcome this imbalance was for all matters in relation to the Strategic Planning function to be transferred from the Community Services Committee to the Resources Committee (Minute No CM 33 refers). In so doing, the Council also gave

approval to the Political Structures Working Group taking on responsibility for reviewing the Two Committee Pilot and reporting back to this Council meeting.

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

2.1 The Political Structures Working Group met and considered an agenda item entitled: 'Transformation Programme – Potential Impact on Governance Structure' at its most recent meetings held on 16 September 2013 and 7 October 2013. As part of these discussions, the Group considered the Pilot.

2.2 In discussion, the Group felt that the adjustment to the Strategic Planning function had been successful to date and there was therefore no expedient reason for changes to be made to the existing governance structure at this present time.

2.3 Furthermore, the Group also acknowledged that the T18 Programme made reference to the need for further discussions to take place on the Member decision making structure during 2014, with any revised structure being introduced post May 2015.

2.4 As a result, the Group concluded that the Two Committee Pilot should be extended until there was a need to introduce a revised structure in line with the T18 Programme.

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND STATUTORY POWERS

3.1 In accordance with the Council Constitution, only the Council can agree and/or amend the terms of reference for committees or bodies of the Council.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The Risk Management implications are shown at the end of this report in the Strategic Risks Template.

5. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities engaged:	All
Considerations of equality and human rights:	None
Biodiversity considerations:	None
Sustainability considerations:	None
Crime and disorder implications:	None
Background papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview and Scrutiny agenda and minutes – 15 January 2013 • Council summons and minutes – 12 February 2013 • Council summons and minutes – 30 July 2013 • Council Constitution • Transformation 18 report and appendices: Special Council – 4 November 2013
Appendices attached:	None

STRATEGIC RISKS TEMPLATE

No	Risk Title	Risk/Opportunity Description	Inherent risk status				Mitigating & Management actions	Ownership
			Impact of negative outcome	Chance of negative outcome	Risk score and direction of travel			
1.	Lack of agreement on the extension of the Pilot.	The Council will not have a legal or workable system in place after the Council meeting.	4	2	8	↑	The Council endorses the recommendation.	Members

Direction of travel symbols ↓ ↑ ⇄