

# Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	12 November 2024
Title of Report:	<b>Council's electoral cycle consultation</b>
Lead Strategic Director:	Tracey Lee (Chief Executive)
Author:	Liz Bryant (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer)
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Your Reference:	Electoral Cycle 2024
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

This report presents the results of the consultation process, as previously approved by the A&G Committee, before being presented to the City Council on 25 November 2024. The outcome of the decision taken by the City Council regarding our future electoral cycle will then be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission before they commence their warding patterns review later in the year.

## Recommendations

Audit and Governance Committee to:

1. Receive the electoral cycle consultation summary report at Appendix A and recommend that the City Council determines at its meeting on 25 November 2024 whether to make a change to its electoral cycle arrangements.
2. Note the amendments to the Council Size Submission at Appendix B arising from a change in forecasting date to 2031; and
3. Authorise the Monitoring and Chief Executive to make any further minor forecasting amendments necessary and to finalise the addendum required setting out the electoral cycle decision prior to submitting the response to the LG BCE.

## Alternative options considered and rejected

The decision to hold a consultation was agreed by the City Council on 21 November 2022. This report sets out summary of the consultation, therefore no alternatives have been considered.

## Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Corporate Plan commits the Council to engaging with and listening to our residents, businesses and communities. The Council's values include a commitment to Plymouth being a place where people can have their say about what is important to them, and where they are empowered to make change happen. The recommendations of this report seek to deliver these commitments in respect of a key element of the Council's democratic arrangements.

## Implications for the Medium-Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The financial implications of any change to the Council's electoral cycle are referenced within the accompanying briefing report, but do not arise as a result of the recommendation of this report, as the results of the consultation exercise are not binding on the Council, and any decision about changing the electoral cycle would be a matter for future consideration by the Council.

### Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None

### Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

None

### Appendices

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Electoral Cycle Consultation Report							
B	Updated Council Size Submission and version control table							

### Background papers:

\*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Audit and Governance report 23 July 2024 <a href="#">Cover Sheet</a> <a href="#">Briefing Report</a> <a href="#">Consultation Press Release</a> <a href="#">Consultation Communications Assets</a>							
City Council report 16 September 2024 <a href="#">Cover Sheet</a>							

[Briefing Report](#)

[Timetable](#)

[Retirement Schedule](#)

**Sign off:**

Fin	N/A	Leg	N/A	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Liz Bryant, Monitoring Officer