

The points below are collated from the comments received during the public consultation, the debate that took place at Strategy and Resources on 7 April 2022 and the information shared with the public as part of the consultation.

If the Committee resolve to recommend the matter be considered by Full Council, this page will be updated with any additional arguments and with any revised wording that are agreed by the Committee.

Members at Full Council may want to consider the relative weighting of each argument.

Arguments in Favour of Elections by Thirds

The following are arguments in favour of elections by thirds.

1	Gives more opportunities for residents to vote and influence the running of the Council
2	Ensure continuity of membership of the Council, avoiding destabilisation by reducing the likelihood for a large turnover of members in a short period of time
3	Ensure experience of membership of the Council is not lost by reducing the likelihood for a large turnover of members in a short period of time
4	Ensures Members remain focused and attentive to the wishes of electors
5	Gives political volunteers and activists an opportunity to be involved in the democratic process regularly
6	Regular voting avoids the results being dependent on national politics
7	Smaller local parties are more likely to present a complete set of candidates for all seats up for election.

Arguments in Favour of Whole Council Elections

The following are arguments in favour of whole Council elections.

1	Council policies and plans can have a more stable, strategic, and long-term approach
2	An elected administration would be able to outline its four-year policy programme and be able to plan over a four year term
3	The election process would cost less
4	The election process would be less disruptive to schools and community centres which are used as polling stations
5	It would avoid the need for mandatory three member wards during the boundary review
6	It avoids the risk of small wards being subsumed into larger wards during the boundary review
7	The process is more easily understood, and people are more likely to vote
8	It would give equal opportunity to all voters to participate in elections to the Council
9	There would not be a pre-election period each year