

We want to hear your views

We want to know how you think decisions about public services in Cornwall should be made in the future.

John Pollard, Leader of Cornwall Council, is holding a series of public events to hear your views about: Is the current Cabinet and Leader system the best way for Cornwall to be governed? Do you want to keep things as they are or change to the older Committee style Council, or would you prefer a Mayor for Cornwall?

Who decides? Public events

The events all start at 7pm

- 11 July: Heartlands, Pool
- 12 July: Wadebridge, Royal Cornwall Show Pavilion
- 13 July: Liskeard, Eliot House Hotel
- 14 July: St Austell, Cornwall College, Keay Theatre
- 18 July: Truro College, Fal Theatre
- 19 July: Penzance, Acorn Theatre
- 20 July: Launceston, Town Hall

More information

More information is available on Cornwall Council's website:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/whodecides

Prepared by:

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Who decides?

- How your money is spent
- If we have a Mayor for Cornwall
- When your bins are emptied

Cornwall Council Governance Review
A bitesize guide

Who decides?

How your money is spent?

If we have a Mayor for Cornwall?

When your bins are emptied?

Cornwall Council makes decisions about a wide range of issues that affect Cornwall, our residents and business owners.

The processes for how decisions are made within the Council about the services we provide are an important part of our 'Governance'.

What is the decision making structure currently?

Cornwall Council currently has 123 councillors or Members.

Full Council, which meets about every six weeks, is when all the Councillors meet. Full Council sets the budget for the year as well as the business plan, which sets out the policies and plans the Council wants to achieve.

Cornwall Council currently has a Leader and Cabinet system.

Full Council elects a Leader who is re-elected annually. The Leader chooses up to nine Councillors to form a Cabinet. The Cabinet's responsibilities are divided up into Portfolios and each Cabinet Member is responsible for a Portfolio of work.

The Leader and Cabinet make decisions to deliver the business plan and these must be within the budget set by full Council.

Future decision making structure in Cornwall

Cornwall Council is looking at how the Council currently operates and makes decisions about the services we provide.

The Review will take public opinion into account to reflect and respond to the needs of local people.

The Councils review, known as the 'Governance Review' is being led by the Council's Constitution and Governance Committee who will make recommendations to the Council.

An independent external panel, known as 'GREG' will also gather evidence for the committee to consider.

Any changes to the current system will be introduced, to coincide with the local elections, in May 2021.

We want to hear your views

John Pollard, the Leader of Cornwall Council, is also holding a series of public events across Cornwall, titled Who decides?

At the public events John wants to hear the views of residents, businesses, partners and other stakeholders' about your preferences for how decisions about public services are made and governed, in Cornwall, in the future.

See the back page for details of the events.

Future structure models

The Review is looking at three possible models:

- Leader and Cabinet system
- Elected Mayor and Cabinet system
- Committee system

The Council could also develop a model that sits outside the Cabinet, Mayor or Committee system; this would require Government approval.

Leader and Cabinet system

A Leader, elected by the Council, appoints a Cabinet, with between two and nine other Councillors, to make decisions on key issues within a Portfolio of specific council function. They are also responsible for implementing the agreed policies of the Council.

Elected Mayor system

A Mayor system is similar to a Leader and Cabinet system but a Mayor is directly elected by local residents and is not a Councillor. The Mayor holds office for four years and cannot be removed by the Council. Each year the Elected Mayor presents a budget and major policies to the Council, which can be approved by a simple majority; however any changes proposed by the Council must have the support of at least two thirds of the Council.

Committee system

Under the Committee system decisions are taken by committees comprising Members from all political groups, according to the proportion of the elected Council.