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<b>Report to:</b>	Linacre & Derby AC	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	4 March 2013
	Formby AC		7 March 2013
	Crosby AC		13 March 2013
	St Oswald and Netherton & Orrell AC		14 March 2013
	Sefton East Parishes AC		14 March 2013
	Litherland & Ford AC		20 March 2013
	Southport AC		27 March 2013

**Subject:** Review of Area Committees

**Report of:** Director of  
Corporate Commissioning

**Wards Affected:** All

**Is this a Key Decision?** No

**Is it included in the Forward Plan?**  
No

**Exempt/Confidential**

No

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### **Purpose/Summary**

To seek Members' views on the number of Area Committees and the frequency of meetings.

### **Recommendation**

That the views of Members be included in the consultation responses.

### **How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?**

	<b><u>Corporate Objective</u></b>	<b><u>Positive Impact</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral Impact</u></b>	<b><u>Negative Impact</u></b>
1	Creating a Learning Community		x	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		x	
3	Environmental Sustainability		x	
4	Health and Well-Being		x	
5	Children and Young People		x	
6	Creating Safe Communities		x	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		x	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy		x	

**Reasons for the Recommendation:**

To consult Members on the number of Area Committees and the frequency of meetings.

**What will it cost and how will it be financed?**

**(A) Revenue Costs**

There are costs associated with all meetings, although this varies widely from meeting to meeting.

**(B) Capital Costs**

None

**Implications:**

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

<b>Legal</b> Local Government Act 2000, Part II, s18 (5) requires that where executive functions are delegated to Area Committees, each Area Committee covers no more than 2/5 of the Borough both in terms of area and population.	
<b>Human Resources</b> None	
<b>Equality</b>	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Impact on Service Delivery:**

None as a consequence of this report.

**What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?**

This report forms part of a consultation exercise.

**Are there any other options available for consideration?**

This report forms part of a consultation exercise.

**Implementation Date for the Decision**

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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**Background Papers:**

There are no background papers.

## 1.0 Introduction/Background

- 1.1 One of the budget options that the Cabinet have asked for consultation on is to reduce the number of Area Committees from the 7 currently in place to 3. A further option for consultation involves reducing the frequency of meetings of Area Committees from the current cycle of meetings to 4 meetings per year. The Council's Calendar of Meetings for the forthcoming Municipal Year is approved by the Council each year and includes the schedule for Area Committee meetings.
- 1.2 This report forms the basis of consultation with Area Committee members on the frequency of their Committee meetings and the geographical area covered by each Committee.

## 2.0 Current arrangements of Area Committees

- 2.1 In the Calendar of Meetings for the current Municipal Year, each Area Committee is scheduled to meet 5 times a year with the exception of Crosby and Southport Area Committees which meet 6 times a year.
- 2.2 The 7 Area Committees are established to cover the following wards:

Area Committee	Wards
Crosby	Blundellsands, Church, Manor and Victoria
Formby	Harington and Ravenmeols
Linacre and Derby	Derby and Linacre
Litherland and Ford	Ford and Litherland
Sefton East Parishes	Molyneux, Park and Sudell
Southport	Ainsdale, Birkdale, Cambridge, Dukes, Kew, Meols and Norwood
St Oswald and Netherton and Orrell	Netherton, Orrell and St Oswald

- 2.3 As shown above the number of wards covered by each Area Committee varies from 7 in Southport to 2. The budget option to be consulted on proposes a reduction to 3 Area Committees.
- 2.4 It is acknowledged that Area Committees have delegated powers relating to Traffic Regulation Orders and part of the consultation process will be to seek views from the relevant officers around whether the reduction in meetings would cause particular issues in terms of delay.
- 2.5 Members are asked for their views on the configuration and frequency of Area Committee meetings in 2013/14. Comments can also be submitted in writing to Andrea Watts ([andrea.watts@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.watts@sefton.gov.uk)) up until 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013.