

Attendance

Members of the Governance Committee

Cllr Alan Bolshaw (Chair)
Cllr Ian Brookfield
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Stephen Simkins
Cllr Wendy Thompson
Cllr Simon Bennett

Employees

Isaac Vivian	Project Manager – Democratic Services/Climate Change
David Pattison	Director of Governance
Rafiquel Islam	Political Assistant
Kirsty Tuffin	Democratic Service Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Milkinder Jaspal, Councillor Celia Hibbert and Councillor Craig Collingswood.
- 2 **Declarations of interests**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 3 **Minutes of the previous meeting - 15 November 2019**
That the minutes from the previous meeting held on 15 November 2019 be approved as a correct record.
- 4 **Matters arising**
With reference to item 4 of the minutes, Councillor Wendy Thompson raised concerns that the Boundary Review for Full Council would only be pushed back a month.
- 5 **Electoral Review: Council Size Submission and Electoral Projections**
David Pattison, Director of Governance, presented the report on the Electoral Review: Council Size Submission and Electoral Projections. The report outlined that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) had selected the City of Wolverhampton Council for a review. The review consisted of three stages:
 - Stage one: A council size submission
 - Stage two: Electoral numbers forecast

- Stage three: Review of the ward boundaries

Isaac Vivian, Project Manager - Democratic Services/Climate Change, advised the group that the Council's recommendation for the Council's optimum size to the LGBCE would be maintain its size. The final submission would be presented to Full Council on 4 March 2020 and a report would be brought to the Governance Committee on 19 March 2020 on the next steps in the process. The group were advised that the LGBCE had the final say on the Council's size that would be confirmed by April 2020. Stage two, namely a consultation by the LGBCE on potential ward boundaries would commence in May 2020 where the Council would be required to submit its recommendations to the LGBCE by 20 July 2020.

Councillor Wendy Thompson advised that the Conservative Party would be proposing to accept 57 Councillors and one ward less.

It was agreed that changes be made to the report in regards to the Taxi Licensing aspects prior to Full Council.

Resolved:

1. That it be agreed that the council size submission and electoral forecasts go to Full Council on 4 March 2020.