

ANNEX 3

Political and Management Structures

Norwich City Council is currently a district council, albeit one which faces the pressures of a large urban area. We are committed to improving services in the city and working with other organisations to make Norwich a better place in which to live, work and invest.

Like all local authorities, it is a democratic organisation, with 39 councillors representing electors in 13 wards across the city. One third of the seats are up for election each year for three years out of four. Councillors represent the interests of the public and set the policies and priorities of the council. The overriding duty of all councillors is to serve the whole community, but they have a special duty to their ward constituents.

As of 1 May 2008, the current political make-up of the city council is as follows:

- 15 Labour Group councillors
- 13 Green Group councillors
- 6 Liberal Democrat councillors
- 5 Conservative Group councillors

This means that the Labour Group is acting as the council's executive, with a minority administration. The Executive group consists of 8 members of the Labour group, and meets fortnightly at City Hall.

It makes recommendations to the council on the budget and policy framework and carries out all of the executive functions of the authority which are not reserved to the full council (such as setting council tax), exercised by another committee or delegated to an officer.

Executive members 2007/08

Steve Morpew – Council Leader

Brian Morrey – Sustainable City development (and deputy Leader)

Linda Blakeway – Neighbourhood development

Bert Bremner – Community Safety and Cohesion

Susan Sands – Young people's services and involvement

Brenda Arthur – Housing adults and older people

Alan Waters – Resources and Governance

Julie Brociek-Coulton – Customer Care and Residents services

Councillors who do not sit on the executive also play an important role in the council's business. They may be members of one of the regulatory committees or the scrutiny committee, which acts as a watchdog, holding the executive to account and helping to shape policy.

Details of all elected members 2007/08 need to be added as per page 35 on original