

## Amendment to LGBCE 'Council Size' submission

Delete the last 4 paragraphs on pages 28 & 29

That the following be added to Oadby & Wigston Council submission to the LGBCE.

In the absence of any benchmarking concerning electoral numbers and the correlation to councillor numbers, it has become apparent through analysis that OWBC is out-of-step with other Leicestershire authorities and councils further afield, as is illustrated below;

Authority	Electorate	Cllrs	Ratio
O&W	44,278	26	1,703
Blaby	77,622	36	2,156
Harborough	72,829	34	2,142
Charnwood	131,826	52	2,535
NWL	81,167	38	2,136
H&B	87,897	34	2,585
Gedling	89,505	41	2,183
Broxbourne	71,684	30	2,389
Adur	48,225	29	1,662
Ashfield	92,816	35	2,652
Dartford	83,159	42	1,980
Fareham	89,031	32	2,543
Rugby	82,098	42	1,954

The districts other than Leicestershire were randomly chosen and a full list of all districts and regions is available.

Adur is the only comparable authority to O&W, but they have a cabinet system with a separate scrutiny function, which justifies the ratio of electorate to Cllr.

Because O&W has no stand-alone scrutiny function, it does not need, nor can it justify the high numbers of Cllrs.

The proposal is to reduce the number of Cllrs to 22, this will give a ratio of 1,964 electors to each Cllr. This will solve the issue of South Wigston, which can remain a 3-member ward. The argument about social deprivation and health inequalities doesn't stand up, South Wigston has managed perfectly well with 3 Cllrs for 2 decades. The areas of Oadby & Wigston will have their boundaries altered in due course and Oadby will have 9 and Wigston 10 Cllrs respectively.

Whilst not a consideration for the LGBCE, the proposal will save at least £20,000 and probably more in these very difficult financial circumstances.

Cllr Michael Charlesworth