

Governance Committee

7 September 2020

Report of Member Attendance April 2019 to March 2020

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Electoral divisions: N/A

Recommendation

That members' attendance at Council, Committee and other meetings for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 be noted.

1. As part of its terms of reference the Governance Committee is required to monitor attendance of members at County Council, committee and other meetings annually. Schedules showing members' attendance for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 for committee and other meetings and for County Local Committees are attached at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.
2. The role of the modern councillor is not primarily to attend meetings. It should be noted that many members have other commitments on their time which are difficult to record and which are not reflected in these figures, such as membership of outside bodies, school governorships and constituency work. In addition, attendance at meetings does not take into account members' other responsibilities which are carried out outside formal meetings.
3. Potential attendance figures can also be affected by other factors such as long-term ill health or a clash of commitments.
4. Group Leaders are currently advised of member attendance figures annually so that they can take any action they consider necessary to address poor attendance. In addition to the annual consideration by the Governance Committee, the member attendance figures are published quarterly on the County Council's website.

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Background Papers

None