



EXTRA ORDINARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members of Executive Committee are invited to attend this meeting at South Walks House, South Walks, Dorchester, Dorset to consider the items listed on the following page.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Prosser".

Matt Prosser
Chief Executive

Date: Monday, 16 January 2017
Time: 2.15 pm
Venue: Rooms A & B, South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester

Members of Committee:

A Alford (Chairman), P Barrowcliff, I Gardner, M Penfold MBE, J Russell, A Thacker (Vice-Chairman) and T Yarker

USEFUL INFORMATION

For more information about this agenda please telephone Susan Carne 01305 252216 email scarne@dorset.gov.uk

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A G E N D A

Page No.

1 APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence

2 CODE OF CONDUCT

Members are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct regarding disclosable pecuniary and other interests.

Check if there is an item of business on this agenda in which the member or other relevant person has a disclosable pecuniary or other disclosable interest

Check that the interest has been notified to the Monitoring Officer (in writing) and entered in the Register (if not this must be done within 28 days)

Disclose the interest at the meeting (in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct) and in the absence of dispensation to speak and/or vote, withdraw from any consideration of the item where appropriate. If the interest is non-pecuniary you may be able to stay in the room, take part and vote.

For further advice please contact Stuart Caundle, Monitoring Officer, in advance of the meeting.

3 EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN POOLE, BOURNEMOUTH AND DORSET

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That Members consider the draft report to Council and provide their comments.

Extra Ordinary Executive Committee 16th January 2017 Exploring Options for the Future of Local Government in Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset

For Recommendation

Portfolio Holder

Tony Alford: Leader of the Council

Senior Leadership Team Contact:

M Prosser, Chief Executive

Report Author: Matt Prosser

Statutory Authority

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and Section 15 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016

Purpose of Report

- 1 To invite Members to agree to make a submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government requesting the restructuring of local government in Dorset along the lines set out in the recommendations below.

Officer Recommendations

- 2 To recommend the following to Council;

That this Council agrees:

- a) That there has been a powerful public response acknowledging a compelling case to change local government structures in Dorset.
- b) That a submission should be made to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government requesting that the existing nine county, district and unitary councils should be replaced by two new unitary councils.
- c) That based upon the weight of public opinion and the financial and other analytical evidence the two new unitary councils should be based upon the following local authority boundaries;

Unitary A: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area.

Unitary B: East Dorset , North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area.

- d) That the Chief Executive be authorised, after consultation with the Leader, to agree the wording of the submission to the Secretary of State demonstrating our ambition for public sector transformation and drawing on the evidence that has been presented to councils, to be made along with any other council that has agreed to support the same option for reorganisation.
- e) That the Chief Executive be authorised, after consultation with the Leader, to work with other councils that support the same option for reorganisation to develop and implement appropriate plans and allocate appropriate resources to progress local government change in Dorset and that a report on next steps be presented in due course.”

Reason for Decision

- 3. In order to respond to the future challenges facing local government.

Background and Reason Decision Needed

- 4. This report invites Members to consider the recommendations above which relate to the formation of two new unitary councils in Dorset to replace the existing nine councils. Members are referred to the standard report attached at appendix 1, which sets out the evidence concerning these proposals and the reasoning both in relation to the principle of reorganisation and the option being recommended. The standard report has been agreed by all the Chief Executives for the councils in Dorset.

Implications

5. Corporate Plan

This report engages all Corporate Plan priorities.

6. Financial

The financial implications are set out in the text of the standard report.

7. Equalities

An equalities impact needs assessment is attached to this report as appendix 2 and its implications for this decision and any subsequent decisions are referred to in the standard report.

8. Environmental

No implications specifically arising from this report, although if a decision is made to proceed with local government reorganisation, subsequent decisions will have environmental implications.

9. Economic Development

No implications specifically arising from this report, although if a decision is made to proceed with local government reorganisation, subsequent decisions will have economic development implications.

10. Human Resources

No implications specifically arising from this report, although if a decision is made to proceed with local government reorganisation, subsequent decisions will have staffing implications.

Consultation and Engagement

A significant public consultation exercise has been carried out across Dorset, which is referenced extensively in the standard report. A summary of the consultation responses from residents in the Council's area is attached as appendix 3.

Appendices

Appendix 1: The standard report entitled Options for the Future of Local Government in Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset

Appendix 2: The Equalities Impact Needs Assessment, referenced in the standard report.

Appendix 3: Dorset's Councils – Reshaping your Councils Consultation 2016: West Dorset – Key Results

Background Papers

The three full reports from Local Partnerships, Opinion Research Services and PWC, which are referenced by a link within the standard report.

Footnote

Issues relating to financial, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

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Full Council

January 2017

Exploring Options for the Future of Local Government in Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present to Full Council the findings of the commissioned work into the exploration of options for local government in Dorset and to recommend a proposed course of action. This report has, where relevant, been considered by the Executive and Scrutiny Committees of the nine Dorset councils.

2. Recommendation

That this Council agrees:

1. That there has been a powerful public response acknowledging a compelling case to change local government structures in Dorset
2. That a submission should be made to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government requesting that the existing nine county, district and unitary councils should be replaced by two new unitary councils.
3. That based upon the weight of public opinion and the financial and other analytical evidence the two new unitary councils should be based upon the following local authority boundaries;

Unitary A: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area.

Unitary B: East Dorset , North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland , plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area.

4. That the Chief Executive be authorised, after consultation with the Leader, to agree the wording of the submission to the Secretary of State demonstrating our ambition for local government transformation and drawing on the evidence that has been presented to councils, to be made along with any other council that has agreed to support the same option for reorganisation.
5. That the Chief Executive be authorised, after consultation with the Leader, to work with other councils that support the same option for reorganisation to develop and implement appropriate plan and allocate

appropriate resources to progress local government change in Dorset and that a report on next steps be presented in due course.

3. Executive Summary

3.1 The Evidence Base

This Council together with the other principal councils in Dorset commissioned the following three key pieces of work to consider whether there is a case for changing the current structure of local government in Dorset;

- a Case for Change undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- a financial analysis undertaken by Local Partnerships (joint owned by HM Treasury and the Local Government Association),
- a comprehensive public consultation undertaken by Opinion Research Services

Members from all councils received the final reports on 5 December 2016 and two presentations were made by the authors on 8 December 2016. All reports can be accessed on the Reshaping your Councils website

www.reshapingyourcouncils.uk

An extract from the executive summary from each of the reports is shown below. Members who requested hardcopy reports were given these on the 5th December 2016 and were requested to retain them.

3.1.1 PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP – The Case for Change

“Each of options 2a, 2b and 2c offer the potential to realise many of the benefits of reorganisation set out above. They also provide a much greater opportunity for transformation than option 1, as choosing any of them would allow for the creation of two entirely new unitary authorities designed to operate differently and more effectively from the outset.

While any of the options would offer some positives (though, in the case of option 2a, the positives for the conurbation authority would seem to be outweighed by the negatives for rural Dorset), some of these positive impacts could be considered to be more significant than others. The table below summarises the advantages and disadvantages of options 2a, 2b and 2c. For each disadvantage, we have included an indication as to whether we consider the impact to be ‘long term’ (and consequently relatively difficult to resolve), ‘medium term’ (more straightforward to resolve) or a ‘one-off’ issue associated with the transition (which could be resolved relatively straightforwardly).

The relative advantages and disadvantages of the options

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Impact
2a	<p>The administrative boundaries of the new councils would reflect Dorset's geography and the way in which it functions economically, <u>to some extent.</u></p> <p>Under this option, none of the boundaries of any of the existing councils would be retained, reinforcing the view that entirely new organisations were being created.</p>	<p>This option would result in the establishment of a rural Dorset authority too small to be viable.</p>	Long term
		<p>Based on the Local Partnerships analysis, this option would deliver the least equitable split of savings between the future authorities.</p>	Long term
		<p>Disaggregation of the county council services currently provided to residents of Christchurch and East Dorset would be required, complicating the transition process.</p>	Transition
2b	<p>The administrative boundaries of the new councils would <u>most closely</u> reflect Dorset's geography and the way in which it functions economically (accepting that entirely new boundaries are not being considered).</p> <p>Based on the Local Partnerships analysis, this option would deliver the greatest financial benefit overall.</p> <p>Under this option, none of the boundaries of any of the existing councils would be retained, reinforcing the view that entirely new organisations were being created.</p> <p>This option would deliver the most balanced division of population and electoral divisions between the two unitary authorities (based on current boundaries).</p>	<p>Disaggregation of the county council services currently provided to residents of Christchurch would be required, complicating the transition process.</p>	Transition
		<p>According to Local Partnerships, the forecast surplus achieved would not be distributed equally between the two new authorities.</p>	Long term
2c	<p>The administrative boundaries of the new councils would reflect Dorset's geography and the way in which it functions economically <u>to some extent.</u></p>	<p>Based on the Local Partnerships analysis, this option would achieve the least financial benefit overall.</p>	Long term
		<p>Under this option, because the boundaries of some of the existing</p>	Transition

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Impact
	<p>Based on the Local Partnerships analysis, this option would deliver the most equitable split of savings between the future authorities.</p> <p>The transition process would be more straightforward as a result of not having to disaggregate the county council services currently provided to residents of Christchurch and East Dorset.</p>	councils would be retained, reorganisation could be perceived as a takeover by two of the current councils.	

While the relative merits of each option should all be considered during the decision making process, it is important to note, as we have indicated, that some of them might be considered more significant than others.

The evidence would suggest that the new administrative boundaries of the councils under option 2b would most closely match Dorset's geography and the way in which it functions economically.

Options 2b and 2c appear to offer a more viable case for change than option 2a, from a financial perspective (the Local Partnerships analysis indicated that option 2a would see a Small Dorset authority established which would not be viable). The Local Partnerships analysis indicates option 2b would deliver greater savings than 2c, while option 2c would deliver a more even distribution of savings than 2b. Option 2c would result in more council tax income being lost over a 20 year period than either option 2a or 2b.

Under option 2c, the fact that the boundaries of some of the existing councils would remain intact could result in reorganisation being perceived of as a takeover by some stakeholders (including some residents). Though this would be likely to complicate the transition process, and potentially require additional investment in change management, this issue could be addressed relatively straightforwardly.

Option 2b would offer a more even distribution of both the current and future populations of Dorset than either option 2a or 2c. Options 2b and 2c would see two new authorities created which would both serve populations within the DCLG suggested range. This could also be significant in terms of its implications for electoral equality. Option 2b would return the most even distribution in terms of the ratio of representatives to the electorate across the new councils. However, even if option 2a or 2c were chosen, a boundary review could be conducted to correct any imbalances in electoral equality.

Finally, while the complexity associated with disaggregating current service arrangements during transition would be a reality under either option 2a or 2b,

many organisations in other areas have resolved these sorts of issues successfully in the past.”¹

3.1.2 Opinion Research Services – The Consultation²

“The outcomes of this exercise are more consistent than is usually the case in complex statutory consultations; and the findings suggest that the restructuring of local government in Dorset is not generally a deeply controversial matter – though there are certainly some strong feelings in some areas.

Overall, across both the quantitative and deliberative means of consultation, there was clear and even emphatic support for moving to two councils.

The singular exception to that generalisation is Christchurch where the open questionnaire showed that the majority of respondents opposed reducing to two councils (54%) as well as opposed options 2a (67%), 2b (57%) and 2c (60%). However, in the more representative household survey in Christchurch support for two councils was much higher (63%) and residents also supported option 2b strongly (64%). Moreover, in Christchurch the shift from less positive to more positive views was particularly pronounced in the residents’ workshop, where nearly two-thirds of the participants ended by approving a reduction to two councils. The findings of all means of consultation are important, of course; but in this case the open questionnaire is a less than perfect guide to the balance of general public opinion across Christchurch.

In general, across all the areas of Dorset, there was an emphatic preference for option 2b as the fairest and most balanced of the three. In contrast, 2a was considered too unbalanced, unfair and unsustainable, whereas 2c was described by many as potentially creating a council that was ‘too small’.

The alternative options proposed during the consultation are interesting, but the councils will have to decide how practical some of them are; and their very diversity indicates the need to focus on clear and relevant options that will provide the desired efficiencies.

Despite the general consistency of the positive findings summarised above, the consultation does not mean that the local government in Dorset must be reformed, for the councils may have sound reasons for not proceeding. But equally, there is nothing in the consultation that should prevent them going ahead if (on the basis of all the available evidence) they are minded to do so.

¹ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, (2016). *Case for Change in Dorset. Local Government in Dorset Executive Summary*, pg 15

² Minor amendments to consultation report:

Paragraph 3.4: For clarification purposes in the open consultation questionnaire chapter the following text has been added “Throughout this chapter, where results are presented at the overall level, this includes all responses for geographical areas, including respondents outside of the overall Dorset area and those for whom the area is unknown”

Table 2: For clarification purposes the number of individuals who live outside of Dorset and from an unknown area has been added.

Figure 53: The net score for Dorset County Council for option 2c was incorrect. The figure was previously reported as -17, but is -23

The evidence of the consultation is that there is widespread public support for the restructuring of local government.”³

3.1.3 Local Partnerships – Dorset Councils Potential Options for Reconfiguration of local Councils 24th August 2016

“The current configuration of councils under a No Change scenario are projected to have aggregate budget gaps in each of the years from 2019/20 to 2024/25 which would require total savings of approximately £30m to be found.

There is the potential to save annually circa £36 million by the creation of one Unitary Council and circa £28 million by the creation of two unitary councils. This is achieved by avoiding duplication on the costs of management, accommodation, systems and governance. We have, however, reduced these estimates by 35% to reflect the savings Councils will need to achieve by 2019/20 and which are likely to be in areas identified in our modelling. The transitional costs of the unitary options are similar for either single or two unitary configurations, estimated at circa £25 million. The savings from the exercise will therefore pay back these costs in a short period, albeit that the costs would need to be financed ahead of savings accruing.

It should also be noted that bringing services together under unitary authorities can be expected to present opportunities to remodel services to produce transformational savings that might not otherwise be achievable.

Overall, the Single Unitary option appears to be the most favourable in financial terms over the appraisal period but has a much greater exposure to lost Council Tax income. This is much less of an issue for the next most favourable option which is the Two Unitary Medium Conurbation/Medium Dorset (2b) configuration such that this would actually become the most favourable within a two or three year extension of the current appraisal period.”⁴

3.2 The Next Steps should the recommendation be resolved

Government Approval Process and timeline:

Process	Time
Proposals to Secretary of State	February 2017
Review and cross-Whitehall engagement	February / March 2017
Preliminary decision by Secretary of State and write around to Cabinet colleagues	April 2017
Pre-legislative scrutiny of draft Orders by Joint Committee for Statutory Instrument (JCSI) Lawyers	May 2017

³ Opinion Research Services, (2016). *Dorset's Councils – Reshaping Your Councils Consultation 2016. Executive Summary*, pg 19

⁴ Local Partnerships, (2016). *Dorset Councils. Potential Options for the Reconfiguration of Local Authorities*. pg3

Seek consent of Councils to making Orders	May/June 2017
Lay Orders in Parliament	June/July 2017
Parliamentary process / Debated and Orders made	By mid-July and before summer recess

3.3 Delivering the Change

A formal programme was created in March 2016 to incorporate the work of Devolution, Combined Authority (CA) and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) into a single co-ordinated structure, with a programme discipline applied to planning, delivery, interdependencies, risks and reporting. The role of programme Steering Group was undertaken by the Chief Executives Group and the role of Programme Board was undertaken by the Leaders & Chief Executives Group. This approach delivered all work streams on time and is considered to have been a successful first phase. Phase two scoping has been considered by Chief Executives and is shown at Appendix 1.

4. Background

4.1 In December 2015, 8 of the 9 principal Dorset councils resolved the following;

Members authorise the commissioning of Local Partnerships, supported by the Local Government Association ("the LGA"), in conjunction with all principal councils in Dorset, to examine the financial implications of the options outlined in this report for the future of local government in the sub-region.

Members authorise the development of a case for change in conjunction with all principal councils in Dorset, recognising the need to be pro-active in developing new solutions with the opportunity of devolution and the prospect of continuing austerity.

4.2 East Dorset District Council resolved the following in April 2016

The Council supports work to examine options for a unitary Council(s) to deliver services, which are financially viable, recognise the economic geography and meet the aspirations of the communities we serve.

4.3 The rationale for considering change was set out in the December 2015 report and is repeated below;

- Improving and maintaining frontline services through greater capacity
- Providing integrated and consistent leadership across a wider area
- Enabling consistent and efficient service delivery via a joined up approach
- Increasing the economic advantage of the area and creating a more direct and integrated focus on growth and prosperity
- Developing a more business focused Council based on the economic geography of the business community
- Creating a greater strategic presence and influence in the region
- Exploiting commercial opportunities

- Reducing management and overhead costs
- Reducing the costs of public sector provision via economies of scale and transformational change, and facilitating its long-term sustainability
- Avoiding unnecessary competition for key staff and role duplication
- Reducing the complexity of relationships across the wider public sector
- Enabling comprehensive place shaping in the area and therefore providing a catalyst for wider scale public sector reform
- Creating the opportunity for a more significant devolution deal with Government

4.4 The three pieces of commissioned work, the financial analysis, the public consultation and the development of the Case for Change, considered the following options;

- Retaining all councils
- Reducing the current 9 councils to 2 with the following options of which areas the new unitary councils could cover;

Option	Unitary council A	Unitary council B
2a	LARGE CONURBATION: Bournemouth, Christchurch, East Dorset and Poole, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area	SMALL DORSET: North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area
2b	MEDIUM CONURBATION: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area	MEDIUM DORSET: East Dorset, North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area
2c	SMALL CONURBATION: Bournemouth and Poole	LARGE DORSET: Christchurch, East Dorset, North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland, plus the services currently provided by Dorset County Council in this area

5. Legal

5.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 sets out the procedure for the creation of a unitary authority. Section 15 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 however allows the

Secretary of State to make regulations to modify the procedure where there is consensus between authorities. Where there is not consensus, the Act gives the Secretary of State the power to impose solutions, provided that at least one relevant local authority consents.

5.2 When considering the recommendations and in reaching a decision members should take into account the outcome of the consultation process and the issues raised, as contained in the detailed consultation report December 2016 which was made available to members on the 5th December and can be accessed via the following link www.reshapingyourcouncils.uk.

5.3 Assuming that there is broad consensus, the next step will be to draft the necessary regulations and statutory orders. These will include the regulations modifying the procedural requirements of the 2007 Act and the structural change order dissolving the existing principal councils and establishing the new structure. The drafting will be done by Department of Communities and Local Government (“DCLG”) lawyers in consultation with Dorset Monitoring Officers.

5.4 Once the structural change order has been drafted the final draft order will be considered by each of the principal councils prior to giving their consent to the order being made. It is anticipated that this would take place in early June 2017. Given the powers of the Secretary of State to impose changes the requirement for consent at this stage is largely a legal technicality and not a further opportunity to reconsider the principle of re-organisation. The structural change order and regulations modifying the 2007 Act will then be debated in Parliament and made if Parliament agrees, the order will be made probably before the summer recess.

5.5 Further orders may or may not be required in respect of the transfer of staff, property and other assets, rights and liabilities from the principal authorities to the new unitary authorities. The function of preparing for and facilitating timely transfer would be that an implementation body set up under the structural change order for each unitary authority. The implementation bodies would be made up of representatives from each of the relevant principal councils and continue in place until the first elections to the new unitary authorities in May 2019. It is likely that decisions on the setting up of the implementation bodies would be made at the same meetings at which principal councils consent to the making of the order.

6. Financial

6.1 Despite all councils becoming more efficient and making savings of over £142m since 2010/11 it has been identified that a further £82m would still need to be saved between 2017/18 and 2024/25. Approximately £52m would need to be found before April 2019 with the remaining £30m having to be

found in the period between April 2019 and March 2025. The need for change is therefore critical if current service delivery is to be maintained.

6.2 With this challenge in mind and in order to consider the potential opportunities that might be achieved from reorganising the current local government configuration in Dorset, all Councils commissioned Local Partnerships to undertake a review of the potential costs and savings that might be achieved from a number of unitary options. This work was undertaken in conjunction with all Chief Finance Officers in Dorset who have endorsed their report.

6.3 The executive summary and detailed report of the Local Partnerships work has been issued to members and can be found on the following link www.reshapingyourcouncils.uk and it is not the intention of this section to replicate that information. What the Local Partnerships report does show is that there are likely to be sufficient savings to justify the reduction of 9 councils to 2.

6.4 The Local Partnerships report sets out the assumptions applied to assessing the future funding gaps as well as those applied to identifying the potential savings, costs and harmonising council tax associated with reorganising the current local government structure. Whilst accepting the assumptions used and the methodology for disaggregating costs, the Chief Finance Officers recognise, and would advise members that these assumptions may not necessarily prove to be the case. That said, they consider they are realistic enough and can be used in comparing the relative financial position of one option against another. The Local Partnerships report sets out for each option the total potential surplus that could be achieved for each option in 2024/25, how this is split across each unitary option and also the potential council tax foregone over the harmonisation period.

6.5 The Case for Change which has been compiled by PwC contains the information produced by Local Partnerships regarding the potential savings and costs from reorganisation. In addition, the PwC report also provides an indication, based on their experience elsewhere, of the transformation savings and costs that could also accrue from transforming services during and after the reorganisation. They have shown a base transformation position as well as a stretch target. The potential range of transformation savings and costs identified by PwC, whilst acknowledged by the Chief Finance Officers, have not been endorsed in the same way as the Local Partnerships work has been. However, the base transformation position and the stretch target are considered to offer members a potential scale of savings and costs that might accrue in transforming service delivery through two new unitary councils.

6.6 It is important for members to acknowledge the significance of the potential change for 9 councils to 2 and the financial risk that this will entail. This financial information contained in both the Local Partnerships report and the PwC report are based on assumptions which it is very likely will be subject to change brought about by a number of unforeseen future factors. However,

Chief Finance Officers would advise that the status quo will not help to address the current and future financial challenges, particularly being faced by the upper-tier authorities.

6.7 A resolution to support a submission to the Secretary of State to reduce the number of councils from 9 to 2 will result in significant costs being incurred. Based on the Local Partnerships work the potential cost of reorganisation, not transformation, would be in the region of £25m. It is hoped that some, if not all, of these costs will be met by specific Government grant but the Government has, so far, refused to indicate that grants might be available. Consequently, Dorset Councils need to identify a way of financing these costs.

6.8 Local Partnerships have indicated that the costs of the transitional resources to manage the change will amount to £2.5m. It is proposed to meet these programme and project management costs from the resources of the nine current councils over the next two financial years. The remaining costs of implementing the transition, totalling £22.5m, will start to be incurred in 2018/19 and will be potentially financed from capital resources, as detailed below.

6.9 It is proposed to manage the creation of the two unitaries as one programme, with a number of projects feeding into it. The £2.5m to manage the programme and the projects will include the costs associated with disaggregating the costs, resources, assets and liabilities of the County Council, if option 2a or 2b is preferred and disaggregating the costs of the Christchurch and East Dorset partnership if 2b is preferred. All of these programme and project management costs will be met by the current councils, pro-rata to their populations, with the County Council and the Districts and Boroughs in the two-tier area sharing their costs equally.

Option 2b	Population	Percentage	2017/18 Share £000	2018/19 Share £000	Total Share £000
Bournemouth	194,500	25.40	254.0	381.0	635.0
Poole	150,600	19.67	196.7	295.1	491.8
Dorset County	420,600	27.47	274.7	412.1	686.8
Christchurch	49,100	3.20	32.0	48.0	80.0
East Dorset	88,700	5.79	57.9	86.8	144.7
North Dorset	70,700	4.61	46.1	69.1	115.2
Purbeck	46,200	3.02	30.2	45.3	75.5
West Dorset	100,700	6.58	65.8	98.7	164.5
Weymouth & Portland	65,200	4.26	42.6	63.9	106.5
Total		100.00	1,000	1,500	2,500

6.10 Although the above expenditure would constitute revenue expenditure, councils have the power to meet it from reserves or capital receipts, if they make a prior Council decision to do so.

6.11 The costs of implementing the transition cannot be managed as a single pot. The costs of implementing each unitary council need to be met by the specific unitary to which they relate. However, some costs will be shared, where it is equitable to do so such as redundancy costs in specific cases.

6.12 Local Partnerships have indicated that the costs of implementing the two new unitary councils will be in the order of £22.5m, excluding the costs of managing the programme and projects. Their analysis suggests these costs will be split as £12.6m to form the rural unitary and £9.9m to form the urban unitary. These costs are considered to be the minimum required to implement the reorganisation. The “case for change” prepared by Pricewaterhouse Coopers indicates that the costs of the transformation could rise to £53.7m if the new unitary councils decide to transform the way in which services are delivered at the same time as making the transition; generating savings of up to £66.3 per annum, between the two new unitary councils. The extent of the transformation will be dictated by each new unitary council and, to some extent, by the Implementation Executives which would be formed towards the end of 2017 and is dependent, in part, on their respective risk appetites.

6.13 Chief Finance Officers are aware the costs of implementing the new unitary councils can be financed from capital receipts, using existing legislative provisions. However, they consider the Government should be asked to finance some or all of these costs from grant. The Government should also be asked to issue Capitalisation Directions in respect of the costs of the transition, to the extent that these costs are not financed from grant. A separate application would have to be made on behalf of each of the two new unitary councils. The Capitalisation Directions would allow the costs of the transition to be from borrowing on behalf of each of the new unitary councils. Potentially, some or all of the borrowing could be repaid from the sale of assets because Local Partnerships believe capital receipts of up to £25m could be generated by the ultimate disposal of fixed assets no longer used by the new unitary councils.

7. Equalities

7.1 PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwCs) Case for Change report and Opinion Research Services (ORS) consultation report do not present any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

7.2 The equalities group have undertaken a very high level assessment of potential equality impacts that might result from adoption of Options 2a, 2b or 2c and again have not identified any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

7.3 As nothing has been identified as potentially unlawful the equalities duty has been met.

7.4 The full Equality Impact Needs Assessment is attached to this report at Appendix 2.

8. Risks

8.1 Risks associated with this work are being managed by the pan-Dorset programme and councils are working collectively to mitigate risk to an acceptable level. At this stage the most significant risks include:

- Councils are unable to reach agreement on the shape of any new authorities during the cycle of full council meetings in January 2017 and therefore a joint submission cannot be made to Government.

The consequences of this risk should it arise would be that Councils are potentially not able to keep to the proposed timetable and do not meet the deadlines for parliamentary time, having a knock on effect on the time available for implementation should change be supported.

The mitigating measures include that all Dorset councillors have been in receipt of the evidence on which to base their decisions, there has been the opportunity to attend a briefing session delivered by the authors of the reports and a chance to raise technical questions. Also prior to full council consideration there has been a period of time to allow discussions to take place locally and for each council to put in place the necessary democratic arrangements. There has been detailed planning of meeting schedules and a co-ordinated approach to dispatching papers in order to maintain momentum with the timetable proposed by DCLG.

8.2 The pan-Dorset risk register will be refreshed to reflect the most significant risks for the next phase should change be supported. Key risks will include:

- There is not adequate capacity available to deliver the programme as well as maintain business as usual up until go-live

The mitigating measures include the development of a comprehensive resource plan, including people, finance and assets, by the programme team to support work going forward should councils decide to pursue one of the options to change.

8.3 A more detailed review of the high level risks identified with transition are detailed on page 100, figure 45 of PwCs Case for Change report.

Appendix 1

A formal programme was created in March 2016 to incorporate the work of Devolution, Combined Authority (CA) and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) into a single co-ordinated structure, with a programme discipline applied to planning, delivery, interdependencies, risks and reporting. The role of programme Steering Group was undertaken by the Chief Executives Group and the role of Programme Board was undertaken by the Leaders & Chief Executives Group.

LGR Phase 1 Concept and Approval.

This covered the following principles:

- * Dorset councils agreeing to investigate options for LGR including creating two new unitary councils
- * Financial analysis of the proposed options
- * Public consultation on the proposed options
- * Case for Change analysis of the proposed options based on the government's '5 tests'
- * Dorset councils agreeing a recommendation to submit to Government in February 2017

Phase 2 Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of phase 2 is to manage the LGR proposal from submission to Government through to establishment of the new authorities, including the set up and operation of the Interim Executive Authorities.

The objectives of this phase are to:

- * Ensure the appropriate parliamentary powers are in place and the authorities are set up correctly, with effective governance arrangements
- * To design a comprehensive operating model for the new authorities (one or two, with common elements), with review by Implementation Executive once in place
- * Prepare service and staff transition plans
- * Prepare for a smooth transition and go-live in April 2019
- * Ensure buy-in and engagement from staff, members and other key stakeholders
- * Ensure the governance arrangements incorporate the Combined Authority and devolution proposals

Scope

In Scope

- * Legal set up and governance and democratic arrangements
- * Implementation executive arrangements put in place (both members and senior officers)
- * Staff, member and other stakeholder engagement
- * Service, organisational and staff structures of the new organisations
- * Prepare for disaggregation of county council services (if necessary) and aggregation of district services
- * Prepare transition arrangements including assets, contracts, service delivery
- * Prepare branding, logos, awareness
- * Prepare service user impacts, customer contact
- * Prepare staff transfer arrangements
- * Combined Authority interim structure and other links and dependencies with Combined Authority and Devolution bid
- * Dissolve existing authorities
- * Implementation Executive to be responsible for setting up any new town councils

Out of Scope

- * Responsibilities, decisions and operations of the new authorities
- * Combined Authority operations

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Equality Impact Needs Assessment



Title	Exploring the options for the reorganisation of local authorities in Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset
Service(s) under analysis	All functions and services provided by all nine Dorset councils: Borough of Poole, Bournemouth Borough Council, Christchurch Borough Council, Dorset County Council, East Dorset District Council, North Dorset District Council, , Purbeck District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth and Portland Borough Council.
Lead Responsible Officers	Chief Executives of all nine councils Borough of Poole (BoP) - Andrew Flockhart Bournemouth Borough Council (BBC) - Tony Williams Christchurch and East Dorset Partnership (CEDP) - David McIntosh Dorset County Council (DCC) - Debbie Ward North Dorset District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council (DCP) - Matt Prosser Purbeck District Council (PDC) - Steve Mackenzie
Members of the Assessment Team:	Beverly Elliott – Organisational Development Co-ordinator(CEDP) Daniel Biggs – Strategic Communities and Equalities Officer (BoP) Rebecca Murphy – Research and Policy Officer (DCC) Sam Johnson – Equality and Diversity Manager (BBC) Sue Joyce – General Manager Resources (PDC) Susan Ward-Rice – Community Development Team Leader (DCP)

Date assessment started:	27 th October 2016
Date assessment completed:	15 th December 2016

About the Policy/Service/Project:

Type of policy

The potential to re-organise the structure of local government in Dorset will affect all nine existing councils.

This Equality Impact Needs Assessment (EINA) considers the high-level equality implications of the 4 potential local government re-organisation options in Dorset that have been subject to consultation. It is for each of the Dorset councils to take strategic policy decisions based on their understanding of the quality and sustainability of each option. This EINA forms part of the evidence pack from which councils will review the considerations that emerge from the public consultation report, financial analysis and wider case for change. If the decision to move to 2 unitary authorities is taken, a change of such magnitude will undoubtedly impact on service delivery and by association impact residents, communities and members of staff. The merits of the various options must pay 'due regard' to the equality impacts of any decision formed as the basis for future public policy.

Option 1 has been referred to as the no change option, as the number of councils and the areas covered by them will not change, however, it is clear that this option would also require significant transformational change in order to deliver the level of budget cuts required over the coming years. This EINA has not focused on this option as the existing organisations already have in place their own equality processes and will address each potential policy change as appropriate. At this stage the EINA has focused on Options 2a, 2b and 2c, which have the potential to change the number of councils from 9, down to 2 unitary councils, with resulting changes to the geographical areas covered by the new organisations. The EINA has focused on very high level potential impacts resulting from: the changes to the areas covered by each of the councils, which will change the demographic make up to the communities each unitary will be serving; the potential impact of moving from two tiers of local councils to one; and some potential transformational changes.

Conclusion of this review

PWC's case for change report and Opinion Research Services' (ORS) consultation report do not present any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

The equalities group have undertaken a very high level assessment of potential equality impacts that might result from adoption of Options 2a, 2b or 2c and again have not identified any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

As nothing has been identified as potentially unlawful the equalities duty has been met.

What are the aims/objectives of the policy

The proposed options for change to council structures is intended to provide a sustainable model that is most effective to deliver services in line with the reducing funding levels year on year.

The current configuration of councils under a No Change scenario are projected to have aggregate budget gaps in each of the years from 2019/20 to 2024/25 which would require total savings of approximately £30m to be found.

There is the potential to save annually circa £28 million by the creation of two unitary councils.

It should also be noted that bringing services together under unitary authorities can be expected to present opportunities to remodel services to produce transformational savings that might not otherwise be achievable.¹

Four options were considered: Option 1 no change; and Options 2a, 2b, and 2c based on the creation of two unitary councils.

The consultation information produced by ORS sets out the following key features of each option

Option 1 – No change

This option does not require an EINA as it will not result in any changes to existing policies as an immediate outcome to the decision about the future shape of local government in Dorset.

Option 2A – Large Conurbation (LC)²

KEY FEATURES:

- This option would provide a total contribution of £39.6 million towards meeting the 6 year cumulative funding gap by 2024/25, providing £62.9 million for the Large Conurbation's 6 year cumulative budget gap but creating a £23.3 million deficit in the Small Dorset's 6 year cumulative budget.
- A large urban unitary council would be financially viable, with a high national profile, however there may be significant challenges to the Small Dorset unitary council.
- The population in the Small Dorset unitary (286,400) is lower than the government guidelines (400,000 to 600,000) for an efficiently-functioning unitary council.
- There is a one-off complexity and cost involved in separating and transferring services currently provided by Dorset County Council in Christchurch and East Dorset to the Large Conurbation.

Option 2B – Medium Conurbation (MC)

KEY FEATURES:

¹ 2016: Potential options for the reconfiguration of local authorities - Financial analysis

² Reshaping your councils survey <https://www.ors.org.uk/web/upload/surveys/333423/files/Reshaping%20your%20councils%20PRINT%20no%20crop.pdf>

- This option would provide a total contribution of £46.7 million towards meeting the 6 year cumulative funding gap by 2024/25, providing £45.3 million for the Medium Conurbation's 6 year cumulative budget gap and £1.4 million for the Medium Dorset's 6 year cumulative budget.
- Of the various two-unitary options this is the option that is most financially beneficial.
- Most of Dorset's urban and suburban areas are served by one council, with the largely rural area served by another council.
- This option potentially provides the most effective and efficient way to deliver services for the future.
- This option has the most balanced population split of the three options.
- A medium-sized urban unitary council would have a profile nationally.
- There is a one off complexity and cost involved in separating and transferring services currently provided by Dorset County Council in Christchurch to the Medium Conurbation and for East Dorset District Council and Christchurch Borough Council in separating and transferring services currently provided jointly between the Medium Dorset and the Medium Conurbation.

Option 2C – Small Conurbation (SC)

KEY FEATURES:

- This option would provide a total contribution of £32.8 million towards meeting the 6 year cumulative funding gap by 2024/25, providing £18.7 million for the Small Conurbation's 6 year cumulative budget gap and £14.1 million for the Large Dorset's 6 year cumulative budget.
- It makes the least savings overall, of the three two-unitary council options.
- The savings made are most evenly split across the two unitary councils.
- The services currently provided by Dorset County Council remain with the Large Dorset unitary council — there is no separation work required, but services provided by the district, borough and county councils would need to be integrated into the new unitary council.

Associated services, policies and procedures

If a decision is taken to restructure from 9 councils to 2 unitary councils in Dorset, existing policies of all the nine councils in Dorset will potentially be replaced by the policies of the new authorities created from re-organisation.

The reshaping of councils in Dorset has the potential to impact all residents, service users, staff, councillors and visitors

All businesses, statutory, voluntary and community organisations could also be impacted by the reorganisation of Dorset's councils

Consultation:

Public consultation on the proposals for change started on 30 August and closed on 25 October 2016. This consultation was available to the public, staff and organisations. ORS was appointed by Dorset's councils to provide an independent report of the formal programme of work that forms part of the Reshaping your Councils consultation on the possible reconfiguration of council services in Dorset. The document [dorset-councils-ors-on-interpreting-the-consultation-findings](#) summarises ORS's approach in that role.³

In the Reshaping your Councils consultation ORS looked to capture a range of different responses from individuals and organisations as a result of the following activities:

- The Open Consultation Questionnaire available on-line, with paper copies in council reception areas, local libraries and on road shows;
- The Household Postal Survey;
- A town and parish council survey;
- Resident forums recruited and facilitated by ORS in each of the local authority areas in Dorset;
- 16 facilitated workshops with residents, business and voluntary sector representatives and parish/town councillors;
- 42 roadshows held across Dorset at different times of the day and different days of the week, including Saturdays, staffed by councillors, communications staff, finance staff and other senior staff; and
- Written responses and petitions.

The household survey was sent to a representative sample of the Dorset population. 20,000 addresses were selected at random from all addresses in each of Dorset's local authority areas. **4,258** residents responded (5% online and 95% postal). The household survey responses have been statistically weighted to take account of the size of the population in each local authority area and different response rates for different types of households. This ensures that the household survey results are statistically reliable and representative of the whole population in each area.

The open consultation questionnaire gave all Dorset residents and other stakeholders the chance to have their say; and a total of **12,536** responses were received (85% online and 15% postal).

From the household survey and the open consultation questionnaire a total of **16,794** responses were received.

ORS have prepared an independent analysis taking into account all of the responses and the report was available from 5th December 2016. ORS set out to highlight findings, for example where they may be:

- Relevant;
- Well evidenced;
- Representative of the general population or specific localities;

³ <https://news.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/reshapingyourcouncils/>

- Deliberative – based on thoughtful discussion in public meetings and other informed dialogue;
- Focused on views from under-represented people or equality groups; and
- ‘Novel’ – in the sense of raising ‘different’ issues to those being repeated by a number of respondents or arising from a different perspective.

ORS also aimed to identify where strength of feeling may be particularly intense while recognising that interpreting consultation is not simply a matter of ‘counting heads’, representation of response would be considered when drawing conclusions.

A review of the ORS report indicates that the consultation appears to have been thorough. Whilst it did not collect data on all protected characteristics it did not appear to actively exclude any. Data on equalities is clearly presented and responses appear to be presented neutrally.

Monitoring and Research:

External View

Independent consultants were commissioned by the nine Dorset councils to carry out a set of assessments of the four options being considered to help inform Dorset councillors in their decision-making

- Dorset Councils Local Partnerships - Independent Financial Analysis: published 24th August 2016
- Opinion Research Services - Consultation Report: published on 5th December 2016
- PricewaterhouseCoopers – Case for Change (Appraisal of options): published on 5th December 2016

To further inform the Dorset councillors, the EINA team have put together Appendix 3 – Census data factsheet on the options for reshaping your councils to provide base data on the demographic profiles of the four options. This data is summarised in Appendix 1 Demographic Profiles by Option.

Both documents will form the foundation of future EINAs.

The Census Factsheet shows the demographic distribution of the following indicators across the four options:

- Age profile
- Household type
- Ethnicity
- Religion

- Health/ Disability
- Economic Activity
- Education levels
- Profession levels

If a decision is made to create two new unitary councils in Dorset EINAs will be undertaken where necessary to identify the impact of the changes on: service users; residents; and those with protected characteristics. This will enable consideration to be given to ways of removing or mitigating the negative impacts.

None of the information presented by the external consultants or from the work undertaken by the equalities group present any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

Internal View

Human Resources teams in all councils will hold data about their staff. This data will need to be pooled should the new organisations be created and will be needed to identify the potential impact on any particular staff groups. Completion of full EINAs will help management document and highlight the impacts of any proposed changes and help in formulating final proposals which seek outcomes that avoid, minimise or mitigate the impacts identified.

Assessing the Impact

The main driver for consideration of unitary councils across Dorset is the continuing significant reductions in available funding to deliver frontline services. It is anticipated that the introduction of unitary councils will reduce costs and improve efficiencies, particularly in respect of back office services, to help protect the continued delivery of frontline services. It is also anticipated that the creation of unitary councils will provide opportunities to innovate in the future delivery of services.

Until any new councils are defined it is impossible to assess the impact of change as it is not known which services will be affected and when and how they will change. However, it is possible to identify some potential, high level, general impacts on groups with protected characteristics and a table of these, analysed by protective characteristic, is attached as Appendix 2. This has not identified any potential issues that could be unlawful from an equalities perspective.

PWC's Case for Change report and Opinion Research Services' (ORS) consultation report do not present any issues which would be considered unlawful from an equalities perspective.

Next steps

If new councils are formed, as new policies and changes in service delivery are considered, further detailed EINAs are required to be undertaken to identify the potential impacts on those with protected characteristics and seek to mitigate any issues, if possible. In due course when more detail about proposed changes is known it will also be possible to assess the cumulative impact where people fall into more than one protected characteristic – age, disability, etc.

Appendix 1 – Demographic Profiles by Option

Protective characteristic	2a		2b		2c	
	Large Conurbation	Small Dorset	Medium Conurbation	Medium Dorset	Small Conurbation	Large Rural
Age (ONS ⁴ Mid-Year Estimate 2015)	Distribution of the 185,580 residents aged 65+ (24% in total)					
	65+ 110,646 (23%) 85+ 18,175 (4%)	65+ 74,927 (26%) 85+ 10,569 (3%)	65+ 83,411 (21%) 85+ 13,916 (4%)	65+ 102,162 (27%) 85+ 14,828 (4%)	65+ 68,003 (20%) 85+ 11,342 (3%)	65+ 117,570 (28%) 85+ 17,402 (4%)
Disability Dept. of Work and Pensions Nov. 2015 DLA ⁵ and AA ⁶	Distribution of the 52,220 people with disabilities and % of population (7% in total)					
	31,380 (6%)	20,840 (7%)	25,640 (7%)	26,580 (7%)	21,600 (6%)	30,620 (7%)
Gender (ONS Mid-Year Estimate 2015)	No major differences across the options					
	Slightly higher proportion of females for Large Conurbation than any of the other options for the conurbation.	All Dorset gender proportions are very similar.	Similar proportion of females for medium and small conurbations	All Dorset gender proportions are very similar.	Similar proportion of females for medium and small conurbations	All Dorset gender proportions are very similar.
Gender reassignment	No data					
Pregnancy and Maternity	No data					

⁴ Office for National Statistics

⁵ Disability Living Allowance

⁶ Attendance Allowance

Protective characteristic	2a		2b		2c	
	Large Conurbation	Small Dorset	Medium Conurbation	Medium Dorset	Small Conurbation	Large Rural
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No data					
Race (BME⁷) <i>ONS Census 2011</i>	Distribution of the 60,241 BME population (8% in total)					
	47,314 (10.2%)	12,927 (4.7%)	44,024 (11.6%)	16,217 (4.4%)	41,686 (12.6%)	18,555 (4.5%)
Religion or Belief <i>ONS Census 2011</i>	Distribution of the 495,395 residents who express a religious faith (65%)					
	297,998 (63.9%)	183,565 (66.1%)	238,617 (63%)	242,946 (66.6%)	205,841 (62.2%)	275,722 (67.8%)
Sexual Orientation	Main data missing, limited information, see fact sheet.					
Deprivation <i>Dept of Work and Pensions Mar 2013, CTB⁸</i>	Distribution of the 124,495 people on benefit (17% in total)					
	80,857 (17%)	43,638 (16%)	70,957 (18%)	53,538 (15%)	63,177 (19%)	61,318 (15%)
Rurality <i>ONS Census 2011</i>	Distribution of the 575,089 urban population and the 168,952 rural population (23% in total))					
	Urban Pop 443,843 (95%)	Urban Pop 131,246 (47%)	Urban Pop 377,844 (100%)	Urban Pop 197,245 (54%)	Urban Population 330,761 (100%)	Urban Population 244,328 (59%)
	Rural Pop 22,211 (5%)	Rural Pop 146,741 (53%)	Rural Pop 1,044 (0%)	Rural Pop 167,908 (46%)	Rural Population 375 (0%)	Rural Population 168,577 (41%)

Appendix 2 A high level assessment of the potential impact

⁷ Black and minority ethnic

⁸ Council Tax Benefit

Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
All protected characteristics	Creating new unitary organisations changes the geographical boundaries for the delivery of future services in Dorset.	Changes the profile of service users which may facilitate a greater focus and support for those with protected characteristics if their numbers are greater.	Changes the profile of service users, which may have implications for the sustainability of the services to those with protected characteristics, particularly if their numbers are significantly reduced, risking marginalisation.
	Larger local authority organisations.	Reducing the cost of back office and support services to protect frontline services.	
		Easier for community and focus groups to engage with the new, fewer, larger councils.	
		Staff drawn from a wider community may lead to a workforce more representative of the community it serves and customers with protected characteristics may benefit from this diversity.	Possible changes in funding for voluntary and community organisations that support people with protected characteristics
			May lead to a greater sense of remoteness for customers, in particular, those with protected characteristics.
		Potential for increased, dedicated, equality resources to help support the organisations comply with equalities legislation as they grow and evolve. This should help improve the quality and equality of the services provided to benefit all those with protected characteristics	

Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
		within the community and employed by the organisations.	
	All “Dorset” options bring together upper and lower tier services.	This should lead to more joined up service provision across the range of local authority services provided to customers with protected characteristics, which may improve the service to these customers.	
		People with protected characteristics may be able to access services easier as there will be one point of contact, not two councils providing different services.	
	Conurbation options 2a and 2b bring together upper and lower tier services in the former lower tier areas.	This should lead to more joined up service provision across the range of local authority services provided to customers with protected characteristics in the former lower tier areas.	
Age	Options 2a, 2b and 2c change the distribution of the elderly (29% of population) between the potential new unitary councils.		The conurbation varies between 79,000 and 129,000, whilst “Dorset” is between 85,000 and 135,000. Increased numbers could impact on the ability of new organisations to deliver effective services to older people. Services would include: social care, benefits, transport etc.
	Further investment in digitisation of services.	Being able to access services from home may make access to services easier for people aged 65+ who have difficulty getting to council offices.	People aged 65+ may struggle to engage with digital services making it harder to access services, especially if there are less council offices/hubs.

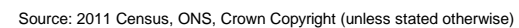
Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings and reduced access to services through council offices/hubs.		People aged 65+ may struggle to access services if council offices/hubs are reduced in number e.g. increased travel time and lack of public transport in rural areas.
	Rationalisation of staffing.		Reductions in senior staff may impact older staff disproportionately.
Disability	Options 2a, 2b and 2c change the distribution of the 7% disabled population between the potential new unitary councils.		The conurbation varies between 22,000 and 31,000, and “Dorset” is between 21,000 and 31,000. This increase in the number could impact on the ability of the new organisations to deliver effective services to disabled people. These services would include: social care, benefits, transport etc.
	Further investment in digitisation of services.	Being able to access services from home may make access to services easier for people with disabilities who have difficulty getting to council offices.	People with disabilities may struggle to engage with digital services making it harder for them to access services, especially if council offices/hubs are reduced in number.
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings and reduced access to services through council offices/hubs.		People with disabilities may struggle to access services if there are less council offices/hubs.
Gender	For the community, at this stage of the proposals, it is not possible to identify any potential positive or negative impacts to this specific protected characteristic.		
	Rationalisation of staffing.		Reductions in staff could

Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
			disproportionately impact females.
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings.	A change in centre of duty may reduce travelling time for some staff, helping carers, who tend to be female.	A change in centre of duty may disproportionately affect female staff who tend to be carers and have family commitments.
		Increase flexible working may lead to more home working which may help female members of staff who tend to be carers.	
Gender reassignment	At this stage of the proposals, it is not possible to identify any potential positive or negative impacts to this specific protected characteristic within the community.		
Pregnancy and maternity	At this stage of the proposals, it is not possible to identify any potential positive or negative impacts to this specific protected characteristic within the community.		
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings.	Increase flexible working may lead to more home working which may help female members of staff stay in work after having children.	
Marriage and civil partnerships	At this stage of the proposals, it is not possible to identify any potential positive or negative impacts to this specific protected characteristic within the community.		

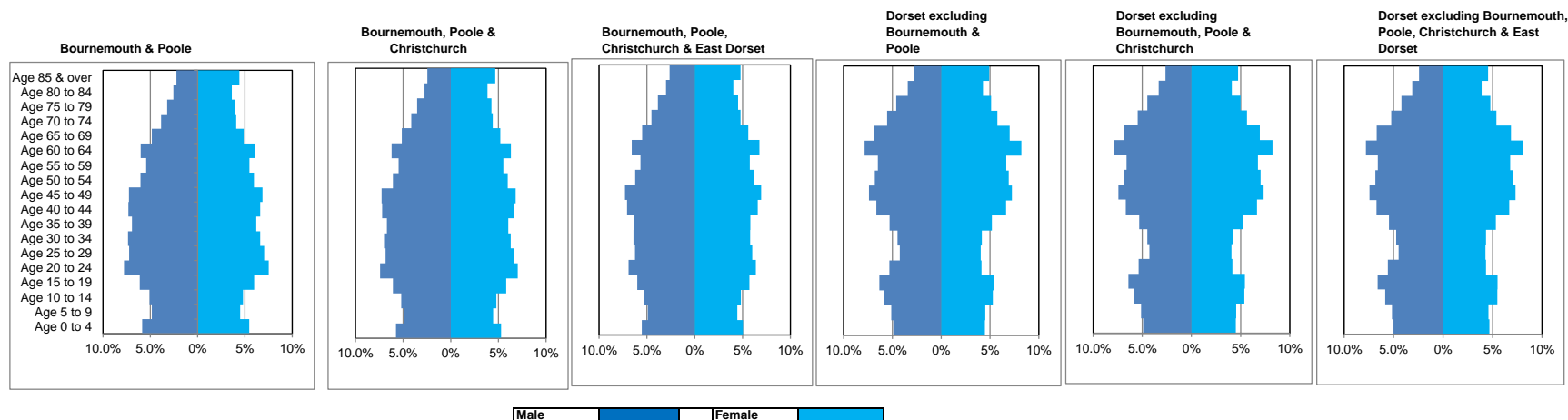
Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
Race	Majority of the 60,241 (69%) of BME people live in Bournemouth and Poole.	Bringing these areas together would allow for a greater focus on BME groups. Options 2a, 2b and 2c support this.	Bringing these areas together may leave BME population more marginalised. Affected by options 2a, 2b and 2c.
Religion or belief	496,000 people expressed a religious faith and represent 65% of the population of Dorset. Under options 2a, 2b and 2c this group is sufficiently large that its distribution is between 62% and 68% of the new unitary populations and so there is unlikely to be any significant impact on this group as a whole. Further analysis would be required for the sub groups.		
Sexual orientation	The majority of same sex marriages and civil partnerships are in Bournemouth and Poole.	Bringing these areas together would allow greater support for these people. Options 2a, 2b and 2c support this.	
Deprivation	Options 2a, 2b and 2c change the distribution of the 124,000 (17%) people on council tax benefit between the potential new unitary councils.		The conurbation varies between 63,000 and 81,000, whilst for "Dorset" is between 44,000 and 61,000. This could impact on the ability of the new organisations to deliver effective services to help poorer families and members of the community.
	Further investment in digitisation of services.	Being able to access services from home may make access to services easier for people on benefit who may have difficulty meeting the cost of getting to council offices.	People on benefit may struggle to engage with digital services making it harder to make claims and access services, especially if council offices/hubs are reduced in number.
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings and reduced access to services through council offices/hubs.		People on benefit may struggle to access services if there are less council offices/hubs, making them less accessible and more costly to get to.

Protected characteristic	Context	Actual or potential positive benefit	Actual or potential negative benefit
Rurality	Options 2a, 2b and 2c change the distribution of the 169,000 (23%) rural population between the potential new unitary councils.	For “Dorset” this varies between 147,000 (53%) of the population and 169,000 (41%) of the population. At around half of the total population in all options, means that there can be more focus on rural community issues.	For the conurbation this varies between 375 and 22,000. Option 2b only increases the rural population from 375 to 1,044, so will have a minimal effect, although rural interests are likely to be marginalised. Option 2a could result in greater isolation of a larger proportion of the rural communities in the lower tier areas included within the conurbation.
	Further investment in digitisation of services.	Being able to access services from home may make access to services easier for people in rural communities who have difficulty getting to council offices, particularly with the lack of public transport.	People in rural communities may struggle to engage with digital services making it harder for them to access services, especially if council offices/hubs are reduced in number.
	Rationalisation of assets leading to fewer buildings and reduced access to services through council offices/hubs.		People in rural communities may find it even harder, or more expensive, to access services if council offices/hubs are reduced in number.

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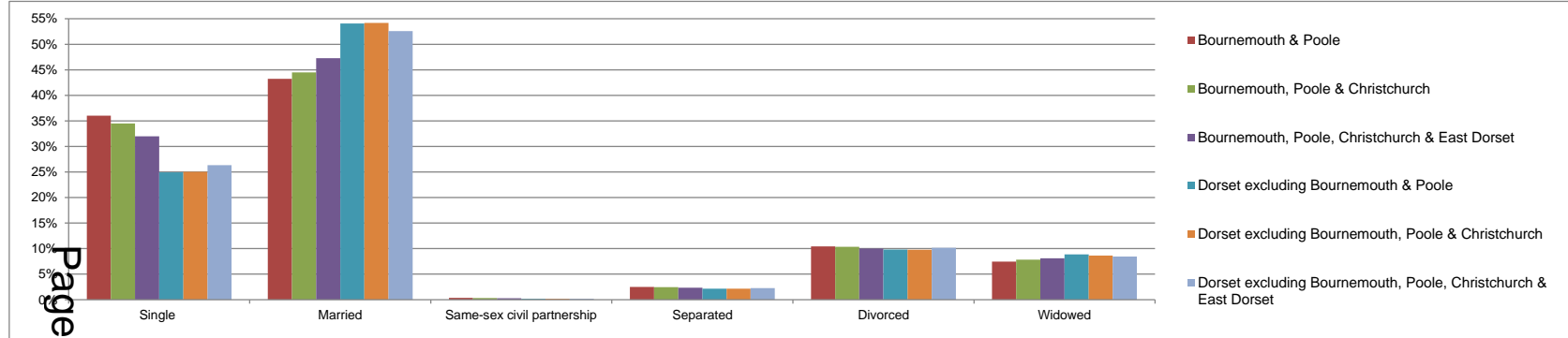
Age	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
Total resident population	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
Usual resident population	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Age 0 to 4	163,507	167,629	186,381	192,507	228,371	237,683	201,271	211,634	178,397	186,756	136,407	141,580
Age 5 to 9	9,593	9,132	10,699	10,169	12,631	11,974	9,861	9,472	8,755	8,435	6,823	6,630
Age 10 to 14	7,911	7,533	9,076	8,582	11,172	10,578	10,294	9,549	9,129	8,500	7,033	6,504
Age 15 to 19	8,292	8,031	9,678	9,207	12,132	11,455	11,828	11,195	10,442	10,019	7,988	7,771
Age 20 to 24	10,005	10,005	11,301	11,221	13,733	13,590	12,746	11,376	11,450	10,160	9,018	7,791
Age 25 to 29	12,716	12,594	13,821	13,552	15,806	15,199	10,704	8,746	9,599	7,788	7,614	6,141
Age 30 to 34	11,846	11,801	12,756	12,773	14,248	14,294	8,530	8,561	7,620	7,589	6,128	6,068
Age 35 to 39	12,041	11,103	13,045	12,115	14,602	13,759	9,021	8,813	8,017	7,801	6,460	6,157
Age 40 to 44	11,336	10,387	12,502	11,613	14,528	13,836	10,648	11,001	9,482	9,775	7,456	7,552
Age 45 to 49	11,971	11,087	13,428	12,696	16,158	15,671	13,376	14,065	11,919	12,456	9,189	9,481
Age 50 to 54	11,869	11,493	13,519	13,127	16,647	16,480	14,919	15,343	13,269	13,709	10,141	10,356
Age 55 to 59	9,881	9,966	11,284	11,498	14,222	14,643	13,685	14,644	12,282	13,112	9,344	9,967
Age 60 to 64	8,883	9,173	10,187	10,644	12,966	13,661	13,075	14,104	11,771	12,633	8,992	9,616
Age 65 to 69	9,846	10,172	11,561	12,178	15,022	16,072	15,806	17,398	14,091	15,392	10,630	11,498
Age 70 to 74	7,898	8,161	9,547	10,026	12,556	13,317	13,804	14,863	12,155	12,998	9,146	9,707
Age 75 to 79	6,318	6,847	7,708	8,486	10,311	11,392	11,143	12,180	9,753	10,541	7,150	7,635
Age 80 to 84	5,263	6,694	6,551	8,208	8,801	10,769	9,284	10,830	7,996	9,316	5,746	6,755
Age 85 and over	4,172	6,051	5,132	7,439	6,832	9,605	6,906	9,072	5,946	7,684	4,246	5,518
	3,666	7,399	4,586	8,973	6,004	11,388	5,641	10,422	4,721	8,848	3,303	6,433
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Age 0 to 4	5.9%	5.4%	5.7%	5.3%	5.5%	5.0%	4.9%	4.5%	4.9%	4.5%	5.0%	4.7%
Age 5 to 9	4.8%	4.5%	4.9%	4.5%	4.9%	4.5%	5.1%	4.5%	5.1%	4.6%	5.2%	4.6%
Age 10 to 14	5.1%	4.8%	5.2%	4.8%	5.3%	4.8%	5.9%	5.3%	5.9%	5.4%	5.9%	5.5%
Age 15 to 19	6.1%	6.0%	6.1%	5.8%	6.0%	5.7%	6.3%	5.4%	6.4%	5.4%	6.6%	5.5%
Age 20 to 24	7.8%	7.5%	7.4%	7.0%	6.9%	6.4%	5.3%	4.1%	5.4%	4.2%	5.6%	4.3%
Age 25 to 29	7.2%	7.0%	6.8%	6.6%	6.2%	6.0%	4.2%	4.0%	4.3%	4.1%	4.5%	4.3%
Age 30 to 34	7.4%	6.6%	7.0%	6.3%	6.4%	5.8%	4.5%	4.2%	4.5%	4.2%	4.7%	4.3%
Age 35 to 39	6.9%	6.2%	6.7%	6.0%	6.4%	5.8%	5.3%	5.2%	5.3%	5.2%	5.5%	5.3%
Age 40 to 44	7.3%	6.6%	7.2%	6.6%	7.1%	6.6%	6.6%	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%
Age 45 to 49	7.3%	6.9%	7.3%	6.8%	7.3%	6.9%	7.4%	7.2%	7.4%	7.3%	7.4%	7.3%
Age 50 to 54	6.0%	5.9%	6.1%	6.0%	6.2%	6.2%	6.8%	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%	6.9%	7.0%
Age 55 to 59	5.4%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.7%	5.7%	6.5%	6.7%	6.6%	6.8%	6.6%	6.8%
Age 60 to 64	6.0%	6.1%	6.2%	6.3%	6.6%	6.8%	7.9%	8.2%	7.9%	8.2%	7.8%	8.1%
Age 65 to 69	4.8%	4.9%	5.1%	5.2%	5.5%	5.6%	6.9%	7.0%	6.8%	7.0%	6.7%	6.9%
Age 70 to 74	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	4.4%	4.5%	4.8%	5.5%	5.8%	5.5%	5.6%	5.2%	5.4%
Age 75 to 79	3.2%	4.0%	3.5%	4.3%	3.9%	4.5%	4.6%	5.1%	4.5%	5.0%	4.2%	4.8%
Age 80 to 84	2.6%	3.6%	2.8%	3.9%	3.0%	4.0%	3.4%	4.3%	3.3%	4.1%	3.1%	3.9%
Age 85 & over	2.2%	4.4%	2.5%	4.7%	2.6%	4.8%	2.8%	4.9%	2.6%	4.7%	2.4%	4.5%



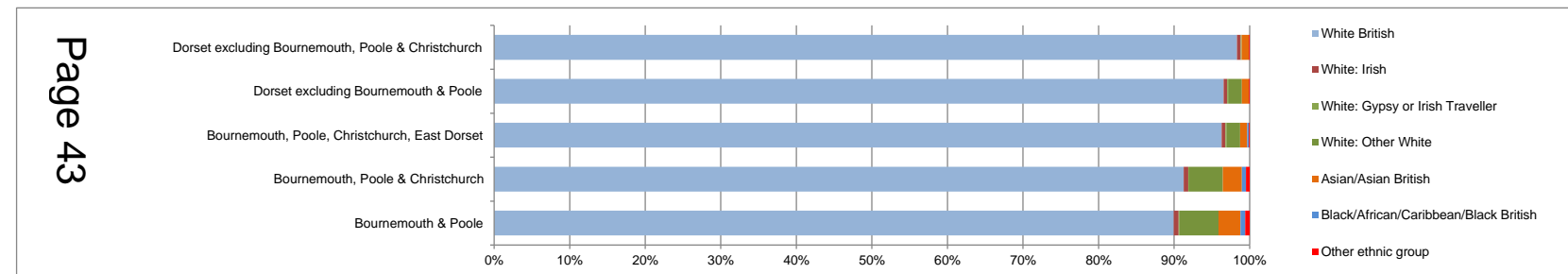
	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lives in a household	160,599	163,642	183,311	188,228	224,986	232,746	195,916	207,450	173,204	182,864	131,529	138,346
Percentage living in a household	98.2%	97.6%	98.4%	97.8%	98.5%	97.9%	97.3%	98.0%	97.1%	97.9%	96.4%	97.7%
Age 0 to 4	9,582	9,116	10,685	10,152	12,614	11,953	9,842	9,460	8,739	8,424	6,810	6,623
Age 5 to 9	7,906	7,528	9,071	8,577	11,163	10,570	10,264	9,507	9,099	8,458	7,007	6,465
Age 10 to 14	8,215	7,962	9,590	9,137	12,032	11,376	11,323	10,774	9,948	9,599	7,506	7,360
Age 15 to 19	9,292	9,280	10,574	10,487	12,966	12,829	11,295	10,668	10,013	9,461	7,621	7,119
Age 20 to 24	12,254	12,155	13,352	13,109	15,320	14,744	9,850	8,600	8,752	7,646	6,784	6,011
Age 25 to 29	11,644	11,689	12,550	12,660	14,030	14,170	8,102	8,490	7,196	7,519	5,716	6,009
Age 30 to 34	11,920	11,029	12,923	12,039	14,466	13,669	8,703	8,749	7,700	7,739	6,157	6,109
Age 35 to 39	11,230	10,339	12,393	11,564	14,405	13,773	10,390	10,936	9,227	9,711	7,215	7,502
Age 40 to 44	11,859	11,028	13,312	12,635	16,031	15,603	13,176	14,018	11,723	12,411	9,004	9,443
Age 45 to 49	11,784	11,430	13,430	13,063	16,547	16,409	14,745	15,288	13,099	13,655	9,982	10,309
Age 50 to 54	9,774	9,916	11,174	11,439	14,109	14,573	13,554	14,583	12,154	13,060	9,219	9,926
Age 55 to 59	8,807	9,125	10,110	10,594	12,887	13,601	12,987	14,032	11,684	12,563	8,907	9,556
Age 60 to 64	9,784	10,107	11,493	12,110	14,949	15,999	15,715	17,350	14,006	15,347	10,550	11,458
Age 65 to 69	7,828	8,090	9,473	9,951	12,474	13,230	13,749	14,804	12,104	12,943	9,103	9,664
Age 70 to 74	6,252	6,762	7,634	8,394	10,227	11,285	11,067	12,116	9,685	10,484	7,092	7,593
Age 75 to 79	5,162	6,509	6,441	8,001	8,672	10,534	9,171	10,670	7,892	9,178	5,661	6,645
Age 80 to 84	4,014	5,676	4,954	7,027	6,616	9,099	6,751	8,707	5,811	7,356	4,149	5,284
Age 85 and over	3,292	5,901	4,152	7,289	5,478	9,329	5,232	8,698	4,372	7,310	3,046	5,270

	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lives in a communal establishment	2,908	3,987	3,070	4,279	3,385	4,937	5,355	4,184	5,193	3,892	4,878	3,234
Age 0 to 4	11	16	14	17	17	21	19	12	16	11	13	7
Age 5 to 9	5	5	5	5	9	8	30	42	30	42	26	39
Age 10 to 14	77	69	88	70	100	79	505	421	494	420	482	411
Age 15 to 19	713	725	727	734	767	761	1,451	708	1,437	699	1,397	672
Age 20 to 24	462	439	469	443	486	455	854	146	847	142	830	130
Age 25 to 29	202	112	206	113	218	124	428	71	424	70	412	59
Age 30 to 34	121	74	122	76	136	90	318	64	317	62	303	48
Age 35 to 39	106	48	109	49	123	63	258	65	255	64	241	50
Age 40 to 44	112	59	116	61	127	68	200	47	196	45	185	38
Age 45 to 49	85	63	89	64	100	71	174	55	170	54	159	47
Age 50 to 54	107	50	110	59	113	70	131	61	128	52	125	41
Age 55 to 59	76	48	77	50	79	60	88	72	87	70	85	60
Age 60 to 64	62	65	68	68	73	73	91	48	85	45	80	40
Age 65 to 69	70	71	74	75	82	87	55	59	51	55	43	43
Age 70 to 74	66	85	74	92	84	107	76	64	68	57	58	42
Age 75 to 79	101	185	110	207	129	235	113	160	104	138	85	110
Age 80 to 84	158	375	178	412	216	506	155	365	135	328	97	234
Age 85 and over	374	1,498	434	1,684	526	2,059	409	1,724	349	1,538	257	1,163

Marital Status (persons aged 16+)	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All people aged 16+ living in households	277,210		317,499		391,056		345,596		305,307		231,750	
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	99,908	36.0%	109,583	34.5%	125,035	32.0%	86,153	24.9%	76,478	25.0%	61,026	26.3%
Married	119,874	43.2%	141,306	44.5%	184,847	47.3%	186,830	54.1%	165,398	54.2%	121,857	52.6%
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	963	0.3%	1,049	0.3%	1,171	0.3%	640	0.2%	554	0.2%	432	0.2%
Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	6,902	2.5%	7,780	2.5%	9,132	2.3%	7,508	2.2%	6,630	2.2%	5,278	2.3%
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	28,898	10.4%	32,884	10.4%	39,215	10.0%	33,882	9.8%	29,896	9.8%	23,565	10.2%
Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	20,665	7.5%	24,897	7.8%	31,656	8.1%	30,583	8.8%	26,351	8.6%	19,592	8.5%

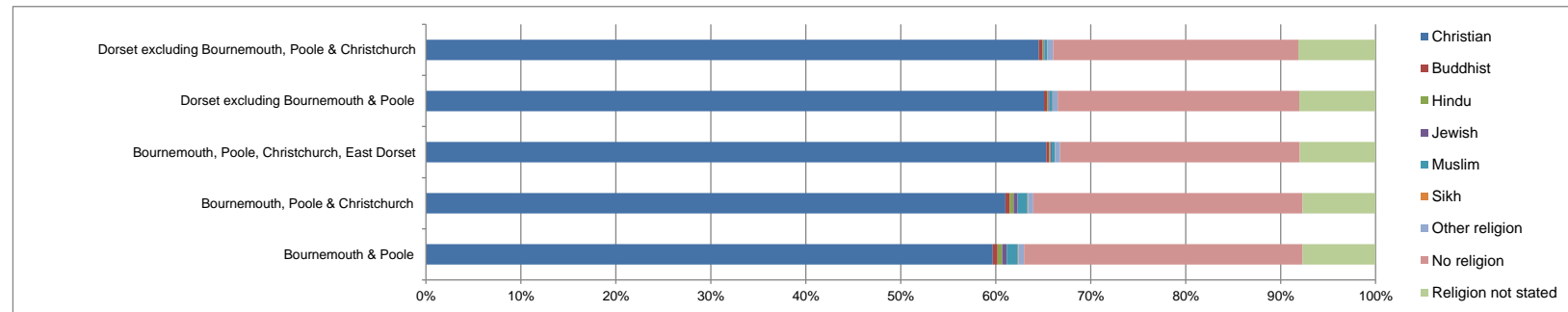


Ethnicity	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All usual residents	163,507	167,629	186,381	192,507	228,371	237,683	201,271	211,634	178,397	186,756	136,407	141,580
White	152,687	157,633	175,025	181,886	216,267	226,289	196,859	207,458	174,521	183,205	133,279	138,802
White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	143,071	146,379	164,908	169,956	205,422	213,318	192,435	201,915	170,598	178,338	130,084	134,976
White: Irish	979	1,132	1,112	1,298	1,258	1,523	896	1,079	763	913	617	688
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	228	204	248	232	337	314	299	256	279	228	190	146
White: Other White	8,409	9,918	8,757	10,400	9,250	11,134	3,229	4,208	2,881	3,726	2,388	2,992
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	3,114	2,993	3,370	3,242	3,669	3,537	1,764	1,636	1,508	1,387	1,209	1,092
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	758	776	822	822	916	891	546	406	482	360	388	291
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	441	406	473	443	502	481	210	221	178	184	149	146
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	1,118	958	1,218	1,053	1,321	1,179	612	600	512	505	409	379
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed	797	853	857	924	930	986	396	409	336	338	263	276
Asian/Asian British	5,159	5,183	5,357	5,480	5,709	5,865	1,819	2,014	1,621	1,717	1,269	1,332
Asian/Asian British: Indian	1,667	1,371	1,714	1,421	1,797	1,495	388	349	341	299	258	225
Asian/Asian British: Pakistani	186	123	189	125	213	144	88	63	85	61	61	42
Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi	434	356	452	382	578	454	311	214	293	188	167	116
Asian/Asian British: Chinese	1,150	1,388	1,227	1,490	1,290	1,594	407	536	330	434	267	330
Asian/Asian British: Other Asian	1,722	1,945	1,775	2,062	1,831	2,178	625	852	572	735	516	619
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	1,283	1,001	1,325	1,042	1,373	1,100	589	335	547	294	499	236
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: African	835	702	855	732	880	768	310	208	290	178	265	142
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	305	194	324	202	342	213	214	81	195	73	177	62
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other Black	143	105	146	108	151	119	65	46	62	43	57	32
Other ethnic group	1,264	819	1,304	857	1,353	892	240	191	200	153	151	118
Other ethnic group: Arab	557	263	571	264	590	271	81	35	67	34	48	27
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	707	556	733	593	763	621	159	156	133	119	103	91

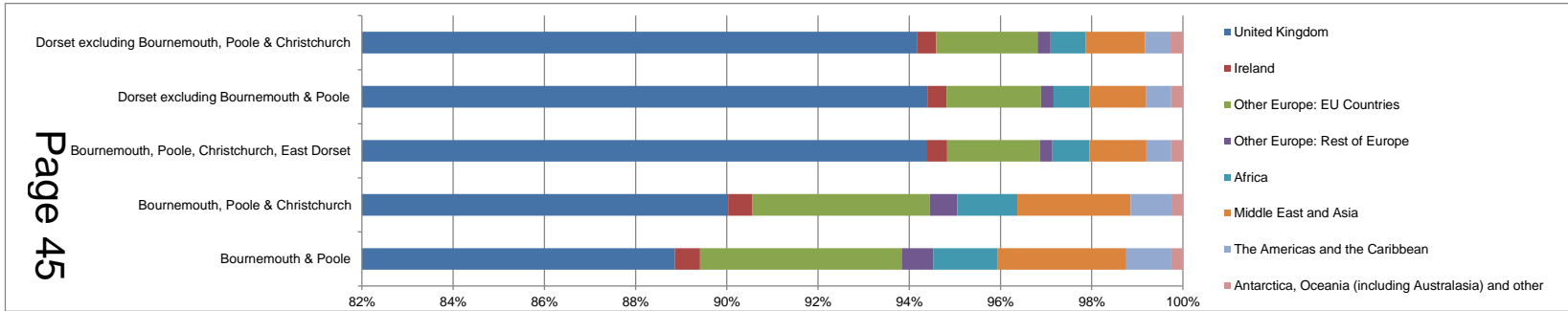


	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All usual residents	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
White	310,320	93.7%	356,911	94.2%	442,556	95.0%	404,317	97.9%	357,726	98.0%	272,081	97.9%
White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	289,450	87.4%	334,864	88.4%	418,740	89.8%	394,350	95.5%	348,936	95.6%	265,060	95.3%
White: Irish	2,111	0.6%	2,410	0.6%	2,781	0.6%	1,975	0.5%	1,676	0.5%	1,305	0.5%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	432	0.1%	480	0.1%	651	0.1%	555	0.1%	507	0.1%	336	0.1%
White: Other White	18,327	5.5%	19,157	5.1%	20,384	4.4%	7,437	1.8%	6,607	1.8%	5,380	1.9%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	6,107	1.8%	6,612	1.7%	7,206	1.5%	3,400	0.8%	2,895	0.8%	2,301	0.8%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	1,534	0.5%	1,644	0.4%	1,807	0.4%	952	0.2%	842	0.2%	679	0.2%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	847	0.3%	916	0.2%	983	0.2%	431	0.1%	362	0.1%	295	0.1%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian	2,076	0.6%	2,271	0.6%	2,500	0.5%	1,212	0.3%	1,017	0.3%	788	0.3%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups: Other Mixed	1,650	0.5%	1,781	0.5%	1,916	0.4%	805	0.2%	674	0.2%	539	0.2%
Asian/Asian British	10,342	3.1%	10,837	2.9%	11,574	2.5%	3,833	0.9%	3,338	0.9%	2,601	0.9%
Asian/Asian British: Indian	3,038	0.9%	3,135	0.8%	3,292	0.7%	737	0.2%	640	0.2%	483	0.2%
Asian/Asian British: Pakistani	309	0.1%	314	0.1%	357	0.1%	151	0.0%	146	0.0%	103	0.0%
Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi	790	0.2%	834	0.2%	1,032	0.2%	525	0.1%	481	0.1%	283	0.1%
Asian/Asian British: Chinese	2,538	0.8%	2,717	0.7%	2,884	0.6%	943	0.2%	764	0.2%	597	0.2%
Asian/Asian British: Other Asian	3,667	1.1%	3,837	1.0%	4,009	0.9%	1,477	0.4%	1,307	0.4%	1,135	0.4%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	2,284	0.7%	2,367	0.6%	2,473	0.5%	924	0.2%	841	0.2%	735	0.3%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: African	1,537	0.5%	1,587	0.4%	1,648	0.4%	518	0.1%	468	0.1%	407	0.1%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	499	0.2%	526	0.1%	555	0.1%	295	0.1%	268	0.1%	239	0.1%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other Black	248	0.1%	254	0.1%	270	0.1%	111	0.0%	105	0.0%	89	0.0%
Other ethnic group	2,083	0.6%	2,161	0.6%	2,245	0.5%	431	0.1%	353	0.1%	269	0.1%
Other ethnic group: Arab	820	0.2%	835	0.2%	861	0.2%	116	0.0%	101	0.0%	75	0.0%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	1,263	0.4%	1,326	0.3%	1,384	0.3%	315	0.1%	252	0.1%	194	0.1%

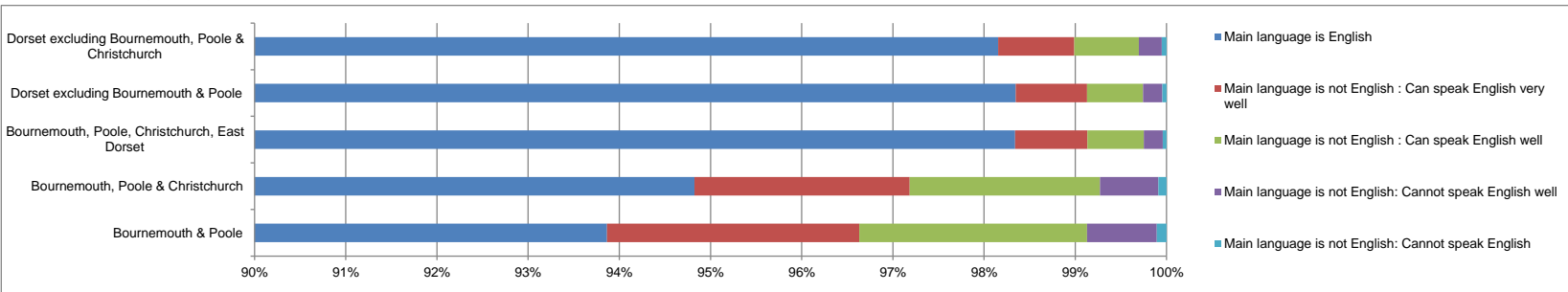
Religion	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All usual residents	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
Christian	194,071	58.6%	226,128	59.7%	284,379	61.0%	269,737	65.3%	237,680	65.1%	179,429	64.5%
Buddhist	1,753	0.5%	1,910	0.5%	2,066	0.4%	1,280	0.3%	1,123	0.3%	967	0.3%
Hindu	1,803	0.5%	1,854	0.5%	1,957	0.4%	550	0.1%	499	0.1%	396	0.1%
Jewish	1,747	0.5%	1,843	0.5%	1,991	0.4%	519	0.1%	423	0.1%	275	0.1%
Muslim	4,299	1.3%	4,445	1.2%	4,797	1.0%	1,318	0.3%	1,172	0.3%	820	0.3%
Sikh	235	0.1%	240	0.1%	252	0.1%	88	0.0%	83	0.0%	71	0.0%
Other religion	1,933	0.6%	2,197	0.6%	2,556	0.5%	2,230	0.5%	1,966	0.5%	1,607	0.6%
No religion	99,833	30.1%	111,124	29.3%	132,227	28.4%	104,221	25.2%	92,930	25.4%	71,827	25.8%
Religion not stated	25,462	7.7%	29,147	7.7%	35,829	7.7%	32,962	8.0%	29,277	8.0%	22,595	8.1%



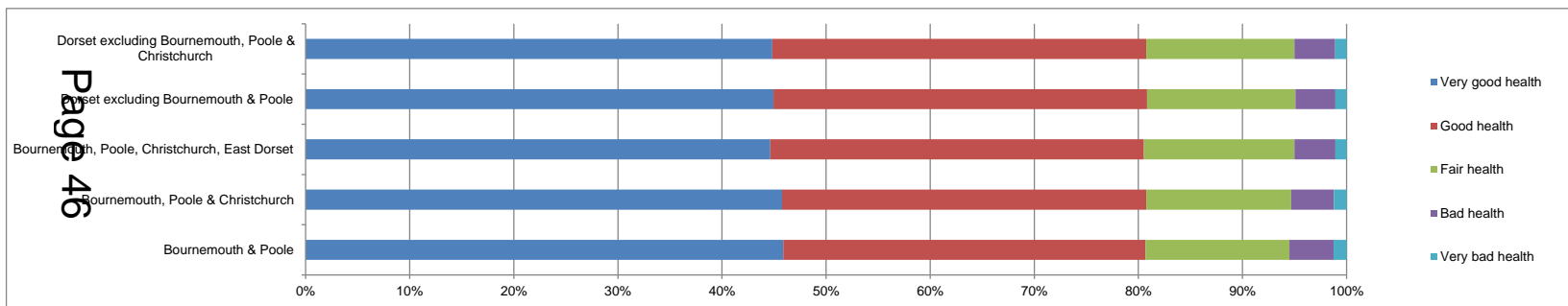
Country of Birth	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All usual residents	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
United Kingdom	291,642	88.1%	336,690	88.9%	419,587	90.0%	389,748	94.4%	344,700	94.4%	261,803	94.2%
England	280,371	84.7%	323,923	85.5%	403,942	86.7%	375,817	91.0%	332,265	91.0%	252,246	90.7%
Northern Ireland	1,270	0.4%	1,437	0.4%	1,731	0.4%	1,604	0.4%	1,437	0.4%	1,143	0.4%
Scotland	5,161	1.6%	5,803	1.5%	7,110	1.5%	6,249	1.5%	5,607	1.5%	4,300	1.5%
Wales	4,811	1.5%	5,496	1.5%	6,770	1.5%	6,044	1.5%	5,359	1.5%	4,085	1.5%
Great Britain not otherwise specified	10	0.0%	10	0.0%	12	0.0%	18	0.0%	18	0.0%	16	0.0%
United Kingdom not otherwise specified	19	0.0%	21	0.0%	22	0.0%	16	0.0%	14	0.0%	13	0.0%
Ireland	1,799	0.5%	2,084	0.6%	2,476	0.5%	1,821	0.4%	1,536	0.4%	1,144	0.4%
Other Europe: Total	18,401	5.6%	19,362	5.1%	20,944	4.5%	9,518	2.3%	8,557	2.3%	6,975	2.5%
Other Europe: EU countries: Total	15,933	4.8%	16,753	4.4%	18,130	3.9%	8,380	2.0%	7,560	2.1%	6,183	2.2%
Other Europe: EU countries: Member countries in March 2001	7,097	2.1%	7,645	2.0%	8,650	1.9%	5,415	1.3%	4,867	1.3%	3,862	1.4%
Other Europe: EU countries: Accession countries April 2001 to March 2011	8,836	2.7%	9,108	2.4%	9,480	2.0%	2,965	0.7%	2,693	0.7%	2,321	0.8%
Other Europe: Rest of Europe	2,468	0.7%	2,609	0.7%	2,814	0.6%	1,138	0.3%	997	0.3%	792	0.3%
Africa	4,887	1.5%	5,373	1.4%	6,124	1.3%	3,358	0.8%	2,872	0.8%	2,121	0.8%
Middle East and Asia	10,054	3.0%	10,669	2.8%	11,581	2.5%	5,157	1.2%	4,542	1.2%	3,630	1.3%
The Americas and the Caribbean	3,513	1.1%	3,749	1.0%	4,186	0.9%	2,233	0.5%	1,997	0.5%	1,560	0.6%
Antarctica, Oceania (including Australasia) and other	840	0.3%	961	0.3%	1,156	0.2%	1,070	0.3%	949	0.3%	754	0.3%



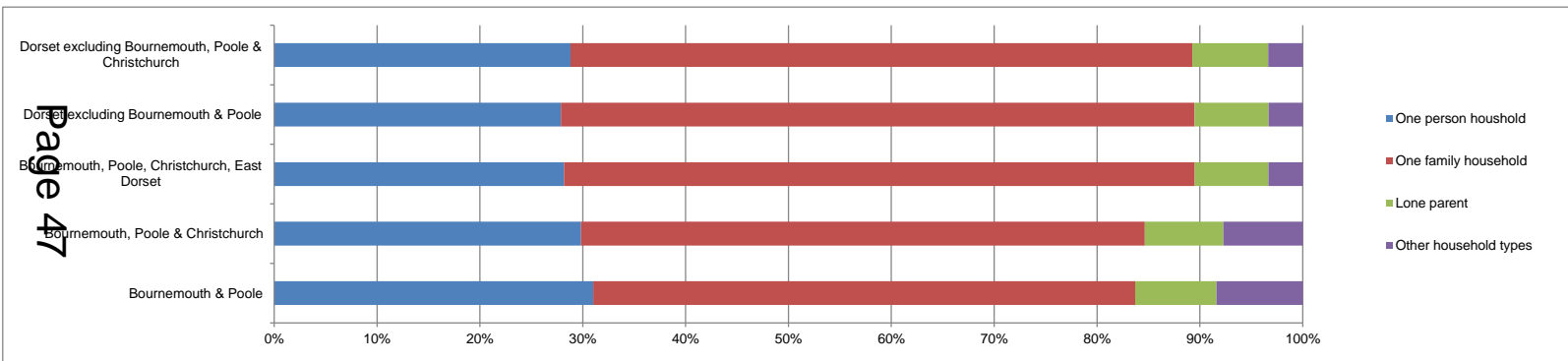
Proficiency in English	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Resident Population (aged 3 and over)	319,673		366,176		451,190		401,567		355,064		270,050	
Main language is English	297,998	93.2%	343,708	93.9%	427,833	94.8%	394,903	98.3%	349,193	98.3%	265,068	98.2%
Main language is not English: Total	21,675	6.8%	22,468	6.1%	23,357	5.2%	6,664	1.7%	5,871	1.7%	4,982	1.8%
Main language is not English : Can speak English very well	9,721	3.0%	10,128	2.8%	10,654	2.4%	3,182	0.8%	2,775	0.8%	2,249	0.8%
Main language is not English : Can speak English well	8,847	2.8%	9,147	2.5%	9,414	2.1%	2,482	0.6%	2,182	0.6%	1,915	0.7%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English well	2,728	0.9%	2,806	0.8%	2,887	0.6%	835	0.2%	757	0.2%	676	0.3%
Main language is not English: Cannot speak English	379	0.1%	387	0.1%	402	0.1%	165	0.0%	157	0.0%	142	0.1%



Health	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All categories: Long-term health problem or disability	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	27,898	8.4%	32,527	8.6%	39,679	8.5%	35,339	8.6%	30,710	8.4%	23,558	8.5%
Day-to-day activities limited a little	33,457	10.1%	39,528	10.4%	49,551	10.6%	47,528	11.5%	41,457	11.4%	31,434	11.3%
Day-to-day activities not limited	269,781	81.5%	306,833	81.0%	376,824	80.9%	330,038	79.9%	292,986	80.2%	222,995	80.2%
Population aged 16-64	214,741		240,843		290,081		241,451		215,349		166,111	
Day-to-day activities limited a lot: Age 16 to 64	11,372	5.3%	12,759	5.3%	14,776	5.1%	12,124	5.0%	10,737	5.0%	8,720	5.2%
Day-to-day activities limited a little: Age 16 to 64	15,398	7.2%	17,512	7.3%	20,928	7.2%	18,428	7.6%	16,314	7.6%	12,898	7.8%
Day-to-day activities not limited: Age 16 to 64	187,971	87.5%	210,572	87.4%	254,377	87.7%	210,899	87.3%	188,298	87.4%	144,493	87.0%
Very good health	153,644	46.4%	173,847	45.9%	213,352	45.8%	184,353	44.6%	164,150	45.0%	124,645	44.8%
Good health	114,746	34.7%	131,862	34.8%	163,045	35.0%	148,166	35.9%	131,050	35.9%	99,867	35.9%
Fair health	44,715	13.5%	52,396	13.8%	64,832	13.9%	59,671	14.5%	51,990	14.2%	39,554	14.2%
Bad health	13,850	4.2%	16,058	4.2%	19,220	4.1%	16,248	3.9%	14,040	3.8%	10,878	3.9%
Very bad health	4,181	1.3%	4,725	1.2%	5,605	1.2%	4,467	1.1%	3,923	1.1%	3,043	1.1%
Provides no unpaid care	297,599	89.9%	339,363	89.6%	415,634	89.2%	363,583	88.1%	321,819	88.1%	245,548	88.3%
Provides 1 to 19 hours unpaid care a week	22,041	6.7%	25,974	6.9%	33,421	7.2%	33,362	8.1%	29,429	8.1%	21,982	7.9%
Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	4,106	1.2%	4,792	1.3%	5,940	1.3%	5,456	1.3%	4,770	1.3%	3,622	1.3%
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	7,390	2.2%	8,759	2.3%	11,059	2.4%	10,504	2.5%	9,135	2.5%	6,835	2.5%

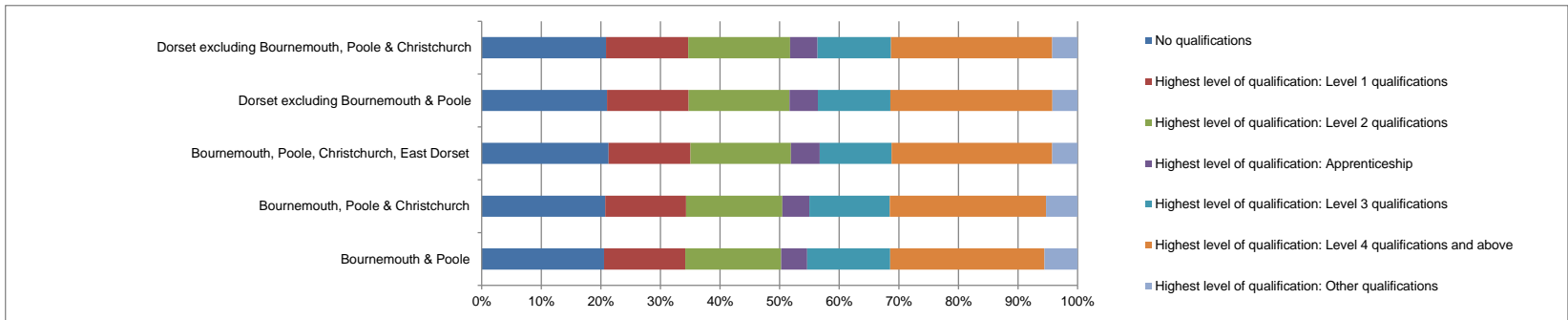


Household Composition by HRP	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Household	%	Household	%	Household	%	Household	%	Household	%	Household	%
All categories: Household composition	145,904		167,379		204,943		180,213		158,738		121,174	
One person household	49,524	33.9%	56,380	33.7%	66,200	32.3%	53,769	29.8%	46,913	29.6%	37,093	30.6%
Aged 65 and over	20,559	14.1%	24,923	14.9%	31,176	15.2%	30,049	16.7%	25,685	16.2%	19,432	16.0%
Other	28,965	19.9%	31,457	18.8%	35,024	17.1%	23,720	13.2%	21,228	13.4%	17,661	14.6%
One family household	82,357	56.4%	95,742	57.2%	121,619	59.3%	117,056	65.0%	103,671	65.3%	77,794	64.2%
All aged 65 and over	12,733	8.7%	16,176	9.7%	22,532	11.0%	25,066	13.9%	21,623	13.6%	15,267	12.6%
Married or same-sex civil partnership couple	42,314	29.0%	49,015	29.3%	63,303	30.9%	63,181	35.1%	56,480	35.6%	42,192	34.8%
Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: No children	17,065	11.7%	19,851	11.9%	26,021	12.7%	28,076	15.6%	25,290	15.9%	19,120	15.8%
Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children	18,837	12.9%	21,610	12.9%	27,353	13.3%	25,088	13.9%	22,315	14.1%	16,572	13.7%
Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	6,412	4.4%	7,554	4.5%	9,929	4.8%	10,017	5.6%	8,875	5.6%	6,500	5.4%
Cohabiting couple	14,535	10.0%	16,201	9.7%	18,823	9.2%	15,124	8.4%	13,458	8.5%	10,836	8.9%
Cohabiting couple: No children	8,674	5.9%	9,554	5.7%	10,942	5.3%	8,053	4.5%	7,173	4.5%	5,785	4.8%
Cohabiting couple: Dependent children	5,224	3.6%	5,922	3.5%	6,992	3.4%	6,287	3.5%	5,589	3.5%	4,519	3.7%
Cohabiting couple: All children non-dependent	637	0.4%	725	0.4%	889	0.4%	784	0.4%	696	0.4%	532	0.4%
Lone parent	12,775	8.8%	14,350	8.6%	16,961	8.3%	13,685	7.6%	12,110	7.6%	9,499	7.8%
Dependent children	8,280	5.7%	9,192	5.5%	10,721	5.2%	8,526	4.7%	7,614	4.8%	6,085	5.0%
All children non-dependent	4,495	3.1%	5,158	3.1%	6,240	3.0%	5,159	2.9%	4,496	2.8%	3,414	2.8%
Other household types	14,023	9.6%	15,257	9.1%	17,124	8.4%	9,388	5.2%	8,154	5.1%	6,287	5.2%
With dependent children	3,248	2.2%	3,690	2.2%	4,300	2.1%	3,016	1.7%	2,574	1.6%	1,964	1.6%
Other (including all full-time students and all aged 65 and over)	10,775	7.4%	11,567	6.9%	12,824	6.3%	6,372	3.5%	5,580	3.5%	4,323	3.6%

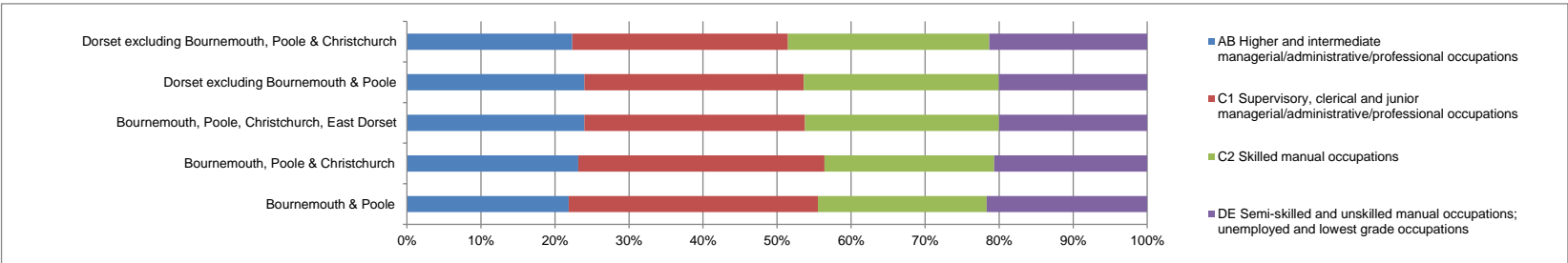


Economic Activity	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All usual residents aged 16 to 74	243,965		276,610		337,657		293,441		260,796		199,749	
Economically active	171,737	70.4%	193,157	69.8%	234,733	69.5%	199,943	68.1%	178,523	68.5%	136,947	68.6%
In employment	152,547	62.5%	172,178	62.2%	210,781	62.4%	184,949	63.0%	165,318	63.4%	126,715	63.4%
Employee: Part-time	34,504	14.1%	39,606	14.3%	49,267	14.6%	46,265	15.8%	41,163	15.8%	31,502	15.8%
Employee: Full-time	93,189	38.2%	103,975	37.6%	125,272	37.1%	101,952	34.7%	91,166	35.0%	69,869	35.0%
Self-employed	24,854	10.2%	28,597	10.3%	36,242	10.7%	36,732	12.5%	32,989	12.6%	25,344	12.7%
Unemployed	8,675	3.6%	9,682	3.5%	10,991	3.3%	7,986	2.7%	6,979	2.7%	5,670	2.8%
Full-time student	10,515	4.3%	11,297	4.1%	12,961	3.8%	7,008	2.4%	6,226	2.4%	4,562	2.3%
Economically Inactive	72,228	29.6%	83,453	30.2%	102,924	30.5%	93,498	31.9%	82,273	31.5%	62,802	31.4%
Retired	34,015	13.9%	41,505	15.0%	55,000	16.3%	59,463	20.3%	51,973	19.9%	38,478	19.3%
Student (including full-time students)	15,106	6.2%	16,173	5.8%	17,790	5.3%	9,336	3.2%	8,269	3.2%	6,652	3.3%
Looking after home or family	9,225	3.8%	10,384	3.8%	12,623	3.7%	10,556	3.6%	9,397	3.6%	7,158	3.6%
Long-term sick or disabled	9,662	4.0%	10,716	3.9%	12,070	3.6%	9,080	3.1%	8,026	3.1%	6,672	3.3%
Other	4,220	1.7%	4,675	1.7%	5,441	1.6%	5,063	1.7%	4,608	1.8%	3,842	1.9%

Qualifications	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All people aged 16 and over	277,210		317,499		391,056		345,596		305,307		231,750	
No qualifications	55,828	20.1%	65,249	20.6%	81,079	20.7%	73,629	21.3%	64,208	21.0%	48,378	20.9%
Highest level of qualification: Level 1 qualifications	37,678	13.6%	43,187	13.6%	53,084	13.6%	47,384	13.7%	41,875	13.7%	31,978	13.8%
Highest level of qualification: Level 2 qualifications	44,384	16.0%	51,102	16.1%	63,149	16.1%	58,321	16.9%	51,603	16.9%	39,556	17.1%
Highest level of qualification: Apprenticeship	11,769	4.2%	13,879	4.4%	17,763	4.5%	16,675	4.8%	14,565	4.8%	10,681	4.6%
Highest level of qualification: Level 3 qualifications	39,641	14.3%	44,197	13.9%	52,702	13.5%	41,655	12.1%	37,099	12.2%	28,594	12.3%
Highest level of qualification: Level 4 qualifications and above	72,094	26.0%	82,226	25.9%	102,590	26.2%	93,218	27.0%	83,086	27.2%	62,722	27.1%
Highest level of qualification: Other qualifications	15,816	5.7%	17,659	5.6%	20,689	5.3%	14,714	4.3%	12,871	4.2%	9,841	4.2%



Approximate Social Grade	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Resident population aged 16-64 based on household representative person	211,093		237,118		286,118		236,493		210,468		161,468	
AB Higher and intermediate managerial/administrative/professional occupations	45,583	21.6%	51,829	21.9%	66,195	23.1%	56,687	24.0%	50,441	24.0%	36,075	22.3%
C1 Supervisory, clerical and junior managerial/administrative/professional occupations	71,758	34.0%	79,838	33.7%	95,179	33.3%	70,463	29.8%	62,383	29.6%	47,042	29.1%
C2 Skilled manual occupations	47,519	22.5%	54,029	22.8%	65,597	22.9%	61,977	26.2%	55,467	26.4%	43,899	27.2%
DE Semi-skilled and unskilled manual occupations; unemployed and lowest grade occupations	46,233	21.9%	51,422	21.7%	59,147	20.7%	47,366	20.0%	42,177	20.0%	34,452	21.3%



	Bournemouth & Poole		Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset		Dorset excluding Bournemouth & Poole		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole & Christchurch		Dorset excluding Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
All usual residents aged 16+	277,210		317,499		391,056		345,596		305,307		231,750	
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	963	0.3%	1,049	0.3%	1,171	0.3%	640	0.2%	554	0.2%	432	0.2%

Benefit claimants - Employment and Support Allowance

	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Total population age 16-64 (Mid-Year Estimate 2015)	219,400		245,300		293,300		235,800		209,800		161,900	
Total	12,990	5.9%	14,320	5.8%	15,960	5.4%	11,590	4.9%	10,260	4.9%	8,620	5.3%
White	9,560	73.6%	10,520	73.5%	11,610	72.7%	8,330	71.9%	7,370	71.8%	6,270	72.7%
White : British	9,180	70.7%	10,120	70.7%	11,190	70.1%	8,150	70.3%	7,210	70.3%	6,140	71.2%
White : Irish	70	0.5%	80	0.6%	80	0.5%	50	0.4%	40	0.4%	40	0.5%
White : Other white	310	2.4%	320	2.2%	340	2.1%	130	1.1%	120	1.2%	90	1.0%
Ethnic minority	400	3.1%	410	2.9%	420	2.6%	100	0.9%	90	0.9%	70	0.8%
Prefer not to say or unknown	3,030	23.3%	3,400	23.7%	3,920	24.6%	3,170	27.4%	2,800	27.3%	2,280	26.5%

Source: DWP, February 2016

Disability related benefits, November 2015**

	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Population (MYE 2015)	345,100		394,160		482,850		420,590		371,530		282,840	
Attendance Allowance	8,500		10,540		13,680		14,320		12,280		9,140	
Disability Allowance	13,100		15,100		17,700		16,300		14,300		11,700	
Disability based benefit	21,600	6%	25,640	7%	31,380	6%	30,620	7%	26,580	7%	20,840	7%

Rurality (2011 Census)

	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Population	331,136		378,888		466,054		412,905		365,153		277,987	
Urban Population	330,761	100%	377,844	100%	443,843	95%	244,328	59%	197,245	54%	131,246	47%
Rural Population	375	0%	1,044	0%	22,211	5%	168,577	41%	167,908	46%	146,741	53%

Benefit Population - Claimants of Council Tax Benefit, their partners and dependents as of March 2013

	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Total Population (MYE 2013)	337,742		386,110		474,009		416,721		368,353		280,454	
Benefit Population (Source: DWP March 2013)	63,177	19%	70,957	18%	80,857	17%	61,318	15%	53,538	15%	43,638	16%

Explanatory Notes

Population totals may differ due to different population base (check age groups included).

Communal Establishment residents excludes staff and their families.

A dependent child is any person aged 0 to 15 in a household (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16 to 18 in full-time education and living in a family with his or her parent(s) or grandparent(s). It does not include any people aged 16 to 18 who have a spouse, partner or child living in the household.

Social Grade is the socio-economic classification used by the Market Research and Marketing Industries, most often in the analysis of spending habits and consumer attitudes. Although it is not possible to allocate Social Grade precisely from information collected by the 2011 Census, the Market Research Society has developed a method for using Census information to provide a good approximation of Social Grade. Each individual aged 16 or over is assigned the approximated social grade of their Household Reference Person, according to standard market research practice.

The age range for this table has been restricted to 16 to 64. The approximated social grade algorithm used in the census produces results for this age range that are consistent with those from other data sources. The information collected in the census produces less accurate results for those outside of this age range and therefore will not be made available.

- No Qualifications: No academic or professional qualifications
- Level 1 qualifications: 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills
- Level 2 qualifications: 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Intermediate Diploma, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma
- Apprenticeship
- Level 3 qualifications: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma
- Level 4+ qualifications: Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree (NI), Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy)
- Other qualifications: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Foreign Qualifications (Not stated/ level unknown).

HRP Household Representative Person

** Department of Work & Pensions February 2016 (Based on 5% Sample)

The final three sections are supplied by DCC. These look at:

Disability - The data set measures the number of people that were claiming attendance allowance and disability living allowance as of February 2016. This data set is a 5% sample set but gives a good indication of those who are considered to be suffering from a disability under the age of 65 (Disability Living Allowance) and those aged 65+ who have disability (Attendance Allowance).

Rurality - This is based on data from the ONS Census 2011 and considers the population that live in areas deemed to be either **urban or rural** based on the density of population and spatial distribution.

Deprivation - The data set from the Department of Work and Pensions considers **deprivation** and this data set looks at those in receipt of council tax benefit in March 2013 as a proxy for low income. The data set considers the claimants, their partners and dependents and together

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West Dorset – Key Results

Consultation Questionnaire and Household Survey Results ^[1]

This area summary report is provided for convenience and should be read in conjunction with the full report and executive summary.

To what extent do you agree or disagree ...

	... that Dorset's councils should focus on cutting out duplication and reducing administration costs wherever possible?			... with the proposal to replace the NINE existing councils (option 1) with TWO new councils (options 2a– 2c) in order to protect services as far as possible? ^[2]		
Open questionnaire	96%	2%	2%	84%	3%	11%
Representative Household Survey	94%	3%	3%	77%	7%	11%
	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Agree	Neither	Disagree

Please rate how important you think each of these criteria are where “10” means that the criteria is critically important and “0” means the criteria is of no importance.

Criterion	Open Questionnaire		Household Survey	
	Rank	Overall average score (out of 10)	Rank	Overall average score (out of 10)
Accountability	3	8.9	3	8.8
Quality	1=	9.1	2	9.1
Local Identity	5	7.4	5	7.3
Access	4	8.1	4	8.4
Value For Money	1=	9.1	1	9.2

If two new councils were created, to what extent do you support or oppose each of the possible options that are being considered? ^[2]

	Option 2A				Option 2B				Option 2C			
Open Questionnaire	30%	10%	51%	-21	65%	11%	20%	+45	32%	12%	45%	-13
Representative Household Survey	38%	20%	33%	+6	64%	14%	16%	+48	21%	22%	44%	-22
	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net	Support	Neither	Oppose	Net

¹ The results above include all individuals who indicated that they lived in West Dorset and made responses to the relevant questions. This includes 1,419 respondents from the open questionnaire and 508 residents in the household survey.

² The proportion whose views are unknown for a specific option but who gave a valid response to at least one of the proposed options (option 1, option 2a, 2b or 2c) are included in the base but are not shown in tables. As a result, these percentages will not sum to 100%.

Further Comments³

All percentages shown are of those who gave further comments. Each individual may have made comments about multiple topics, so results will not sum to 100%.

Coded comment	Open Questionnaire	Representative Household Survey
	% of respondents who made comment	% of residents who made comment
Alternatives: one large unitary authority preferred/worked for Wiltshire/most cost-effective	19%	4%
Other comments: general criticism of consultation	11%	7%
Concern about and opposition to general proposal: loss of access/concern about loss of local services/urban areas will be prioritised over rural ones	11%	9%
Concern and opposition about general proposal: loss of accountability/less direct involvement for people/more bureaucracy	9%	8%
Alternatives: infrequently suggested alternative proposals/other suggestions	9%	6%
Other comments: comments relating to town and parish councils (including comments about Weymouth getting a Town Council)	9%	1%
Concern about and opposition to general proposal: loss of local identity/links with local communities must be maintained/every area has different needs	8%	7%
Other comments: need more information to make decision (e.g. need to see a business plan)	7%	17%
Other comments: comments about specific Council services being affected by the proposals	7%	6%
Criticism of/issues with current situation: too much wastage/duplication	7%	1%

Deliberative Workshops

This workshop took place on 19th September and had 21 attendees.

CRITERIA	AVERAGE RANK
Accountability	2
Quality of Services	1
Local Identity	4
Access	5
Value For Money	2

AREA	INITIAL OPINIONS Proportion (%) favouring reducing number of councils	FINAL OPINIONS Proportion (%) favouring reducing number of councils
West Dorset	48% (10/21)	66% (14/21)

AREA	Option 2a % support	Option 2b % support	Option 2c % support	Don't know/ Abstain
West Dorset	52% (11/21)	10% (2/21)	38% (8/21)	

³ The further comments presented here are the top 10 most frequently occurring sub-themes identified from responses to the open consultation questionnaire.