

THE SHADOW CABINET

Composition

The Leader of the Major Minority Group may choose to form a Shadow Cabinet by his/her nomination from amongst the members of the Council. The Leader of the Major Minority Group shall notify the Council and the Chief Executive of the names of the members nominated to form a Shadow Cabinet and of any changes in the membership of the Shadow Cabinet which may occur from time to time.

Role

The Shadow Cabinet will have collective responsibility for providing an effective challenge to the controlling Executive (Cabinet) and for contributing constructively to the achievement of the County Council's corporate and service objectives and priorities. These responsibilities should be undertaken in a positive manner, maintaining respect at all times.

Number of members

The Shadow Cabinet shall comprise of the Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Deputy Leader and no more than three of the Shadow Cabinet Members.

Functions

(a) Effectively to call to account or challenge the Majority Group on the County Council at meetings of the County Council, Committees, Panels and on other occasions as appropriate.

(b) To meet regularly, and ensure good communications with, other members to inform the effective performance of the Shadow Cabinet's role.

(c) To maintain effective relationships with the Cabinet and their Support Members, the Corporate Directors and other relevant senior officers, and to meet them, as required, to ensure that members of the Shadow Cabinet are sufficiently and effectively briefed on service and relevant corporate areas and any other relevant issues pertaining to the County Council.

(d) To assist in ensuring effective arrangements for overview and scrutiny.

(e) To ensure effective contact with community representatives and other local stakeholders, as appropriate, and to represent their views in the performance of the Shadow Cabinet's role.