

New executive arrangements: Have your say

Under the local government act 2007, SKDC has to consult on changes to its governance arrangements.

At the moment, we have a council leader - an elected councillor - who is appointed annually by the full council, with a cabinet consisting of the leader plus five cabinet councillors. See www.southkesteven.gov.uk/cabinet

Government legislation means that SKDC must now choose between two options to operate after the next district elections in May 2011:

Option 1: a 'new style' leader and cabinet of councillors; this would be similar to the current arrangement but with some key differences.

Option 2: a directly elected mayor and a cabinet of councillors – think Boris Johnson, currently the elected Mayor of London.

Option 1

Under option 1, the council would still be led by a leader appointed from the district councillors, who would then select up to nine other councillors to work with him or her. This is similar to our current leader and cabinet system except that the leader would be appointed for a four year term and has the right to appoint their own cabinet up to a maximum of nine; at present the council decides the size of the cabinet. The leader would appoint a deputy leader from within the cabinet councillors, and could be removed by a majority decision of the council.

Option 2

Under this system, SKDC would be led by a directly elected mayor, who would be elected for a four year term. However, unlike the other councillors, he or she would not represent an area or ward in SK and could not be removed from office by the council. The mayor would appoint their own cabinet of councillors.

Option 2 is not new; it has been available since 2001. When SKDC consulted at the time, the majority of residents preferred a leader and cabinet option rather than an elected mayor.

What do you think?

We want to know what you think about the two options for the new executive arrangements.

- Please complete our online survey on the homepage of our website www.southkesteven.gov.uk
- Or write to us at Freepost GM48, St Peter's Hill, Grantham, NG31 6PZ.
- Or email us at committee.support@southkesteven.gov.uk

The closing date for feedback is 12noon on Friday, 9 July 2010.