



Subject:	Council Meeting Dates January to May, 2019
Date:	23rd November, 2018
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider changes to the normal dates for the monthly Council meetings in January and May, 2018.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is recommended to agree that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the date of the January meeting of the Council move from Wednesday, 2nd January to Monday 7th January; andthe date of the May meeting of the Council move from Wednesday 1st May to Monday 29th April.

3.0	Main report
	<p data-bbox="272 226 421 255"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 327 1485 510">3.1 The Council’s Standing Order 1 states that: <i>“Monthly meetings of the Council will be held on the first working day of each month except in August. Monthly Meetings shall not, however, take place on a Bank or Public Holiday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday, but shall be held on the next following weekday instead.”</i></p> <p data-bbox="165 577 1485 757">3.2 In previous years, Members have often commented that the dates scheduled for the monthly meetings of the Council around the New Year holiday period mean that some cannot attend due to holiday commitments. The same can be said for officers, some of whom are also on holiday around those times.</p> <p data-bbox="165 824 1485 1003">3.3 In 2019 the January meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 2nd January, the first working day following the New Year public holidays. There would not be any difficulty in moving this meeting to Monday, 7th January at 6.00p.m. as no other meetings are scheduled for this date.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1070 1485 1361">3.4 Subsequent to this, the May meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 1st May, which is the day before the Local Government Election 2019 Polling Day. Members will be aware that this is a very busy period for both Members undertaking canvassing duties and for Council officers responsible for election duties, in particular, the organisation of the verification process, which will take place immediately after the close of polls, and the Counting of Votes which will commence the day after Polling Day.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1429 1485 1518">3.5 It is therefore proposed that the May meeting of the Council be brought forward by 1 week and held on Monday, 29th April at 6.00p.m.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1585 1485 1921">3.6 This will mean that the Schedule of Council meetings for January to May, will be as follows: Monday, 7th January at 6.00p.m Monday, 4th February at 6.00p.m Monday, 4th March at 6.00p.m Monday, 1st April at 6.00p.m. Monday, 29th April at 6.00p.m.</p>

3.7	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None associated with this report.
3.8	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None