

# Cumberland

## Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** All Cumberland

The commission suggests that we need 55 Councillors in Cumberland instead of the current 44. A 25% increase.

My view is that the current councillors are mostly invisible to the public / communities they serve, and really don't offer value for money in what they actually contribute. So why add more? Their driver seems to be politics and getting one over other political parties, or self interest prevails, rather than serving the public. So adding yet another 25% (with the associated costs) feels a backwards step.

Better would be to look at the whole structure and have fewer but more 'professional' (or 'full time') councillors who are more accountable.

Whilst I submit this as an individual and a member of the public, I have 20+ years experience of working in local government, and I still struggle to see their value and feels often like they cause more issues than they solve due to personalities and a lack of professionalism.

So my view is retain the current model, or in fact have less, but have them be more professional and accountable.

## Attached Documents:

*None attached*