

Part Two, Section F

Joint Arrangements

Committee Form and Structure

1. The **Full Council** may establish joint arrangements with other local authorities and/or their executives to exercise functions (which are **non-executive functions** in any of the participating authorities) or advise the Council. The **Leader** may establish joint arrangements for **executive functions**. Joint arrangements may include appointing **Joint Committees**.
2. Joint arrangements will normally take one of two forms: the appointment of a **Joint Committee** of two or more authorities, or the delegation of functions by one authority to another.
3. If the **Joint Committee** is to discharge **non-executive functions**, it must be appointed by **Full Council** and appointments must reflect the **political balance** on the Council as a whole. If it is to discharge **executive functions**, it must be appointed by the **Leader**. He or she can only appoint **Cabinet members** to the **Joint Committee** (except where the **Joint Committee** involves five or more authorities or has to be set up under specific legislation). If it is to discharge a mix of non-executive and executive functions, it must be appointed by Full Council with the agreement of the Leader. In that case, if only one member is appointed, he or she can be, but need not be, a Cabinet member, but if more than one member is appointed then those appointed must include at least one Cabinet member, and the political balance rules do not apply. There are special rules for joint area committees, where the membership may be determined by the location of wards instead of political balance.
4. The Council may delegate non-executive functions to another local authority or, in certain circumstances, the **Executive** of another local authority. The Leader may delegate executive functions to another local authority or the executive of another local authority in certain circumstances.
5. The decision whether or not to accept the delegation of non-executive functions from another local authority shall be reserved to a Full Council meeting.
6. The decision whether or not to accept the delegation of executive functions shall be taken by the Leader.
7. The Leader may contract-out **executive functions** to another body or organisation if this is allowed by an order under Section 70 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994. Alternatively, the Leader or the Executive may enter into arrangements where the contractor acts as the Council's agent under usual contracting principles, provided there is no delegation of the Council's decision-making.