

Can local democracy be made to work in a partnership setting?

Adur and Worthing Councils

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ADUR
DISTRICT COUNCIL



How we got here.....



2 local authorities

both:

- a. in financial difficulties
- b. facing further efficiency savings
- c. needing radical new ways of working
- d. both coastal economies



Democratic challenges

- Different political management structures
- Merger discussions, but found not to be appropriate

Waste and Recycling Joint Service

- Local Government Act – Joint committee not appropriate
- Developed ‘SEMs’ – simultaneous executive meetings
- Moved to a Joint Committee Agreement

TRUST



May 2008 – Adur DC moved to Leader with
Cabinet

This made decision making in partnership
dealings easier



challenges

- Joint Services but separate Council's
 - Council's have different priorities
 - Council's have different financial positions
 - Public perception of joint services
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- A future challenge – change of political balance in either Council



Question for discussion

How do you keep Individual identities with joint services?