

*Combination of County and County Boroughs.*

3. The county of Chester and the county boroughs of Birkenhead, Chester, Stockport and Wallasey shall continue to be combined for the purpose of the better administration of the relief of casuals.

*Joint Committee.*

4.—(1) For the execution of the purposes aforesaid, the Joint Committee shall continue in existence as a body corporate having for the purposes of their constitution perpetual succession and a common seal and power to hold land for the purposes of their functions without licence in mortmain.

(2) The Joint Committee shall be renamed the Cheshire Joint Vagrancy Committee and shall consist of 17 members, each of whom shall be a member of the council by whom he is elected.

(3) Nine members of the Joint Committee shall be elected by the council of the county of Chester and two members shall be elected by each of the councils of the county boroughs of Birkenhead, Chester, Stockport and Wallasey.

*Election of Members.*

5.—(1) In each year at the first meeting of each council held after the last day of February at which ordinary business is transacted, the council shall elect from their own body the number of members of the Joint Committee assigned to them by this Order.

(2) Every member of the Joint Committee shall come into office in the year 1937 upon the first day of April and in each subsequent year upon his election.

(3) The clerk of each council shall forthwith after any election notify in writing to the clerk of the Joint Committee the name, address and description of each of the persons elected.

(4) A council may nominate from their own body a person to act on behalf of a member of the Joint Committee elected by the council at any meeting of the Joint Committee at which that member shall be unable to be present.

*Period of Office.*

6.—(1) Except as in this Article otherwise provided, a member of the Joint Committee shall hold office until the date on which his successor comes into office.

(2) A member of the Joint Committee who ceases to be a member of the council by whom he was elected shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Joint Committee:

Provided that a member of the Joint Committee shall not be deemed to have ceased to be a member of the council by whom he was elected if on or before the day on which he goes out of office he has been re-elected a member of the council.

(3) A member of the Joint Committee may resign his membership by sending to the clerk of the Joint Committee notice in writing of his desire to do so, whereupon a casual vacancy shall be deemed to have arisen, and the clerk of the Joint Committee shall forthwith notify the clerk of the council by whom the member was appointed of the vacancy.

(4) Any casual vacancy in the membership of the Joint Committee arising more than one month before the ordinary date for the election of a new committee shall be filled as soon as practicable by the election by the council in

whose representation the vacancy arises of a new member, and the person so elected shall hold office during the remainder of the term of office of the person in whose place he is elected.

*Meetings and Proceedings.*

7. The meetings and proceedings of the Joint Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the rules set forth in the Schedule to this Order.

*Appointment of Executive Sub-Committee.*

8.—(1) The Joint Committee may constitute an executive sub-committee and include among the members thereof persons who are not members of the Joint Committee:

Provided that:—

(i) of the persons who are not members of the Joint Committee at least one shall be a woman;

(ii) of the whole number of members of the executive sub-committee two-thirds at least shall be members of the Joint Committee.

(2) Any matter relating to the exercise by the Joint Committee of their functions under this Order, except the duty of making contribution orders on the councils or the power of borrowing money, may—

(a) be delegated to the executive sub-committee with or without any restrictions or conditions as the Joint Committee think fit, or

(b) be referred to the executive sub-committee, and if so referred, the Joint Committee before exercising any such functions shall, unless in their opinion the matter is urgent, receive and consider the report of the executive sub-committee with respect to the matter in question.

*Powers and Duties of Joint Committee.*

9.—(1) It shall be the duty of the Joint Committee from time to time to take into consideration and furnish the Minister with their recommendations in regard to the following matters:—

(a) the number and situation of the casual wards which should be provided by any council;

(b) the number of casuals for whom accommodation should be provided at any existing casual ward and at any casual ward proposed to be established in the combined areas;

(c) the closing of any casual ward in the combined areas.

(2) It shall also be the duty of the Joint Committee to take such steps, whether by public notice or otherwise, as shall be necessary with a view to the repression of begging and sleeping-out in the combined areas.

(3) The Joint Committee shall have power to repay to any council the whole or any part of any expenditure incurred by the council in—

(a) the provision of accommodation for casuals in accordance with any requirement of the Minister (including any necessary acquisition of sites);

(b) the maintenance of casual wards;

(c) the reception and relief of casuals;

(d) the transfer to an appropriate institution of any casual;

(e) the maintenance and care in such an institution of any casual so transferred;