

Report to the Full Council

25 May 2017

Agenda Item: 11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REVISED COMMITTEE SYSTEM AND OTHER AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval to changes to the Council's Committee System and proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution.

Information and Advice

- 2. Changes are proposed to the Council's Committee System in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The main amendments proposed are listed below
 - a. Policy Committee will expand its terms of reference to include matters currently dealt with by Economic Development Committee. This is to ensure that the economic growth agenda is at the heart of policy making. Policy Committee will also be responsible for all property related decisions to ensure that property holdings and associated strategy suitably reflect the requirements of the policies of the Authority.
 - b. There will be one sub-committee of Policy Committee. The Improvement and Change Sub-Committee will have a specific remit to monitor and drive the revised change programme for the Council.
 - c. In addition to its current responsibilities Adult Social Care and Health Committee will take on the work of Public Health Committee and will be re-named Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee.
 - d. Children and Young People's Committee will take on the work currently undertaken by the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee. In light of the forthcoming Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) it is considered more appropriate that Corporate Parenting is part of the agenda for the main committee rather than dealt with under a separate subcommittee.
 - e. Communities and Place Committee will be established to take on the responsibilities of Culture, Community Safety, Environment and Sustainability and Transport and Highways Committees and Grant Aid Sub-Committee.

- f. In addition to its current responsibilities Planning & Licensing Committee will be responsible for Common Land and Town and Village Greens.
- g. Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee will be established to deal with all finance related issues and in addition the strategic overview and management of all Council contracts in excess of £10m or otherwise of major significance. This committee will also take the lead in developing a Commercial Strategy for the Council and in monitoring its implementation.
- h. Governance and Ethics Committee will be established to take on the responsibilities of Audit and Conduct Committees, and other governance related matters which are currently the responsibility of Policy Committee.
- i. There will be one Health Scrutiny Committee to cover health scrutiny across the whole Council area which will ensure that the same considerations are given to all issues across Nottinghamshire. Most importantly it will ensure that members of this Committee are able to develop a cross Council understanding of health provision within the County.
- Nottinghamshire Pension Fund Committee will take on the work currently undertaken by the Pensions Investment Sub-Committee and the Pensions Sub-Committee.
- k. Appeals will now be dealt with by officers and no committee or sub-committee is therefore required.
- 3. The proposed revised Committee Structure is illustrated at **Appendix 1** to this report and the proposed revised Terms of Reference for Committees are set out in **Appendix 2**. Further necessary consequential changes to the Constitution can be made under the Monitoring Officer's delegated authority.
- 4. As a result of the additional workloads attaching to all committees either arising from the restructuring of committees set out in this report or as a result of external changes, it is proposed that Health Scrutiny, Governance and Ethics, Planning and Licensing and Pensions Committees are re-designated as Band A Committees.
- 5. Some additional amendments to the Constitution are proposed:
 - a. that the annual budget meeting finishes no later than 8pm and that no petitions are presented at that meeting.
 - b. that the procedure rules regarding clarification of minutes at Full Council are deleted. Instead there will be regular reports to Council about the work being undertaken by the service committees.
- 6. Finally, it is proposed that Full Council reviews the operation of the revised Committee System at its January 2018 meeting.

Other Options Considered

7. To make no changes, however it is considered that changes are needed to improve operational and cost effectiveness.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. To enable the committee system to operate more effectively.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the revised Committee System is approved and the structure established for the 2017-2018 Municipal Year.
- 2) That the Constitution is amended as described in paragraphs 2 and 5 of the report and detailed in **Appendix 2**.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Council's Monitoring Officer to make any necessary consequential amendments to the Constitution.
- 4) That the Committees listed in paragraph 4 of the report are re-designated as Band A Committees.

Anthony May Chief Executive

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (HD 15/05/2017)

10. Full Council is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report; it is responsible for adopting and changing the Council's Constitution.

Financial Comments (SES 16/05/17)

11. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- The Council's Constitution is published on its website
- Tracked changes version of the proposed Terms of Reference for Committees

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All