

COMMITTEE: COUNCIL

DATE: 16TH APRIL 2013

**SUBJECT: REFERENCE FROM CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE –
(a) REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL & (b)
AMENDMENT TO PART 7 OF THE COUNCIL’S CONSTITUTION
– SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS (NON EXECUTIVE
FUNCTIONS)**

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF POLICY & PERFORMANCE)

CONTACT OFFICER: DEBBIE JANES/ANGELA CLARIDGE

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL

COMMUNITY SAFETY

EQUALITIES

ENVIRONMENT

FINANCIAL

CONSULTATIONS

STAFFING

OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: NONE

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to refer to Council the recommendations of Constitution Committee held on 25th March 2013.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Council is recommended to:
 - 2.1 **disband the Community Involvement Board with effect from 21st May 2013;**
 - 2.2 **amalgamate the functions of Administration and Regulation Committees with effect from 21st May 2013 and re-name that Committee the Administration & Regulation Committee;**

- 2.3 re-calculate the number of committee places for each political group as they apply to the remaining Committees of the Council with effect from 21st May 2013, in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;**
- 2.4 amend Part 7 of the Council's Constitution (Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Non-Executive Functions) as shown at Appendix A to this report**
- 2.5 request the Monitoring Officer to make any necessary changes to the Council's Constitution to give effect to the above.**

BACKGROUND

- 3. At its meeting held on 25th March 2013, Constitution Committee considered two reports, one seeking to review the Committees of the Council and one seeking to amend Part 7 of the Council's Constitution.

REPORT

Review of Committees of the Council:

- 4. As part of the Council's £48 million budget reductions over the next three years and the savings that need to be made across all council budgets, the Democracy Team have examined the Council's Committee structure, with a view to identifying any changes that could be made for the Municipal Year 2013/14.
 - 5. The current Committee structure has been examined and two areas for review identified, namely (a) the integration of Administration and Regulation Committees and (b) the discontinuation of the Community Involvement Board, which would reduce the number of meetings in the Calendar without compromising the business to be considered.
 - 5. The Community Involvement Board was introduced as part of the changes to the Area Committee process in 2012. However it is felt that the Area Board structure would not be compromised by the removal of the Community Involvement Board. Instead the functions of the Board could, with the agreement of the Executive Leader, become part of an Executive portfolio responsibility.
 - 6. The amalgamation of Administration and Regulation Committees would not restrict the business considered by those meetings, but would reduce the number of dates in the Calendar of meetings for those Committees by half.
- Amendment to Part 7 of the Council's Constitution – Scheme of delegation to Officers (Non-Executive Functions)

7. Part 7 of the Council's Constitution was last amended in July 2011 following the changes in the Management Structure and was split into Parts A and B pending the implementation of the new Management Structure.
8. Following the amendment to the Management Structure by the Full Council on 15 January 2013 it is now appropriate to seek to bring the Scheme of Delegation (Non-Executive Functions) into line with this. Thus Part A of the current Part 7 is now inoperative and the opportunity is being taken to simplify Part 7 into a single document.
9. Although this new revised Part 7 shown at Appendix A includes various powers which have been delegated to Officers by the Council since the last revision of Part 7 there are no substantive changes being sought to the powers already delegated to Officers.
10. The revised Part 7 will now show to whom the delegated powers should properly be exercised and to whom they should properly be delegated.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

11. That the Council approve the recommendations set out at paragraph 2 above.

APPENDIX

12. The following appendix is attached to this report:

Appendix A – Part 7 of the Council Constitution – Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Non-Executive Functions)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

None.