

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**9 MAY 2013**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor J. Holden (in the Chair).

Councillors K. Procter (Vice-Chairman), J. Lamb, S. Anstee, R. Bowker, T. Ross, Mr. D. Goodman and Mr. C.E.G. Griffiths.

#### In attendance

Monitoring Officer (Ms. J. Le Fevre),

Senior Democratic Services Officer (Mr. J.M.J. Maloney).

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. P. Dixon, I. Platt, K. Weston, M. Freeman and D. Higgins

### **6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made by Members.

### **7. REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION - CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES**

The Acting Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer submitted a report seeking the Committee's comments on a number of proposed changes to the Constitution, following a full review, prior to their submission to Council, in line with Article 15 of the Constitution, on 22nd May 2013. The Monitoring Officer drew Members' attention to those of the proposed changes which were significant, advising that they were being introduced in the interests of clarity and transparency, and ensuring that the provisions of the Constitution remained consistent with legislative and other changes which had been incorporated within the Council's practices. It was now intended that similar reviews of the Constitution would take place in future on an annual basis.

In discussion of the detailed provisions relating to the operation of the Standards Committee and the Council's ethical framework, attention was drawn to the desirability of consistency in relation to references to the non-voting Parish Co-Opted Members of this Committee; and the Monitoring Officer confirmed that appropriate amendments would be made prior to the report's referral to Council.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (1) That it be noted that Council will be recommended to approve the following:
  - a) That the amendments to Parts 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Constitution be approved.

**Standards Committee**  
**9 May 2013**

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- b) That Council notes that Executive functions not covered by the Officers' Scheme of Delegation are delegated by the Leader of the Council as follows:
    - (i) functions are delegated to all individual Executive Members in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation set out in Part 3 of the Constitution;
    - (ii) all other functions are delegated to the Executive.
  - c) That the Scheme of Delegation to Officers as set in Part 3 of the Constitution be confirmed.
  - d) That the Acting Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to amend the Constitution of the Council in accordance with and as a consequence of this report.
- (2) That the proposed changes be noted; and the opportunity for Members' comments, and the proposed regular review of the constitution, be welcomed.
- (3) That the Monitoring Officer ensure consistency in relation to references in the Constitution to the non-voting Parish Co-Opted Members of this Committee prior to the report's referral to Council.

The meeting commenced at 5.45 pm and finished at 6.12 pm.