

Report of City Solicitor

Report to Council

Date: 11th September 2013

Subject: Council Meeting Dates 2013/14

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

- 1 At the Annual Council meeting in May a schedule of meetings was agreed for the 2013/14 municipal year. However at that time it was not possible to set a date for the annual meeting of Council for 2014. This was due to uncertainty over the date of the local elections caused by elections to the European Parliament and the likelihood that the local elections would need to be moved to correspond with the European elections on the 22nd May 2014.
- 2 Parliament has now confirmed that the local elections will take place on the same day as the European elections. Now that this has been confirmed it is timely for Council to approve a date for the Annual Council Meeting in 2014.
- 3 In addition, in approving the schedule of Council meetings for 2013/14, Council agreed that a 'State of the City' themed Council meeting take place on 27th November 2013.
- 4 Following a review of the suitability of the Council meeting format for State of the City styled debates, it is proposed that this meeting be removed from the schedule of formal Council meetings. Instead it is proposed that a transport themed seminar be arranged for the same date.

Recommendations

That Council approve;

- the date of the Annual Meeting 2014 as Monday 9th June 2014
- the removal of the State of the City Meeting, diarised for Wednesday 27th November 2013, from the schedule of formal council meetings.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to agree;
- the date of the Annual Council Meeting 2014 as the 9th June 2014;
 - the removal of the State of the City Meeting from the schedule of formal council meetings.

2 Background Information

- 2.1 At the Annual Council meeting in May a schedule of meetings was agreed for the 2013/14 municipal year. However at that time it was not possible to set a date for the annual meeting of Council for 2014. This was due to uncertainty over the date of the local elections caused by elections to the European Parliament and the likelihood that the local elections would need to be moved to correspond with the European elections on the 22nd May 2014.
- 2.2 In addition, in approving the schedule of Council meetings for 2013/14, Council agreed that a 'State of the City' themed Council meeting take place on 27th November 2013.
- 2.3 Council Procedure Rules state that the Council may amend the programme of ordinary meetings agreed at the Annual Council Meeting.

3 Main Issues

- 3.1 Parliament has now confirmed that the local elections will take place on the same day as the European elections. Now that this has been confirmed it is timely for Council to approve a date for the Annual Council Meeting in 2014. The date of the Annual Meeting is required to be set within a certain parameters after the date of the local elections.
- 3.2 Having applied the same timeframes between recent local elections and the date that Annual Council meetings have taken place, and for consistency, it is proposed that the Annual Council meeting takes place on the 9th June 2014.
- 3.3 Following a review of the suitability of the Council meeting format for State of the City styled debates, it is proposed that the previously agreed format be replaced by a seminar format dedicated to considering significant issues facing the city. The consequence of this is that the previously agreed 'State of the City' Council meeting, scheduled for the 27th November 2013 will need to be removed from the schedule of formal Council meetings.
- 3.4 It is proposed that this year the themed seminar focusses on transport and that the seminar takes place on the 27th November 2013.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The Leader of Council and Lord Mayor have been consulted in respect of the proposed date of the Annual Meeting and the proposed seminar format (to replace the formal State of the City styled Council meeting).

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no specific implications regarding equality, diversity, cohesion and integration arising from this report.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 There are no specific implications.

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 There are no specific implications regarding resources and value for money arising from this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report is not subject to Call In, as it is a Council Function.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 No specific implications

5 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that Council approve;

- the date of the Annual Meeting 2014 as Monday 9th June 2014
- the removal of the State of the City Meeting, diarised for Wednesday 27th November 2013, from the schedule of formal council meetings.

6 Background documents¹

6.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.