

Report of Principal Corporate Governance Officer

Report to Leader of Council

Date: 4th August 2016

Subject: Amendments to Executive Arrangements

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 Meeting of Council on 19th May 2016, the Leader presented details of her Executive Arrangements to Council.
2. Amendments are now proposed to those arrangements to provide clarity around the Portfolio for Environment and Sustainability, and to rectify the erroneous removal of an authorisation for the City Solicitor in relation to indemnities.

Recommendations

3. The Leader is requested to approve the amendments proposed to the following documents, as shown in the relevant appendix, with immediate effect:-
 - 3.1. Executive Members: Oversight of Officer Executive Delegations (Appendix A)
 - 3.2. Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) – Director of Environment and Housing (Appendix B)
 - 3.3. Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) – City Solicitor (Appendix C)

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out proposed amendments to the Leader's executive arrangements to ensure that they remain up to date and fit for purpose.

2 Background information

- 2.1 At the Annual Meeting of Council on 19th May 2016 the Leader presented her executive arrangements for the 2016/17 municipal year.

- 2.2 Rule 1.3 of the Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules provides that

“The Leader may amend the scheme of delegation relating to executive functions at any time during the year... The amendments will take effect upon publication of the decision notice unless otherwise stated thereon. The Leader will present a report to the next ordinary meeting of the Council setting out the changes made by the Leader.”

- 2.3 It is therefore proposed that the amendments set out herein are reported to Full Council at its next meeting on 14th September 2016.

3 Main issues

Environment and Sustainability

- 3.1 The Leader created a new portfolio for Environment and Sustainability in the 2016/17 municipal year. In order to provide clarity to the remit of the portfolio amendments are proposed to the Executive Members Oversight of Officer Executive Delegations (Appendix A) and the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) Director of Environment and Housing (Appendix B).

Indemnities

- 3.3 A review of the Constitution in 2014 prompted the reduction of detailed general delegations to officers in relation to financial and procurement functions. It has become clear that the City Solicitor's authority to issue indemnities to Directors in relation to their provision of certificates under the Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 or their activities as a director of the LEP or LIFTco. In order to make good this erroneous deletion of the function it is proposed that it be included within the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) City Solicitor (Appendix C).

4 Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 The proposed amendment to the Oversight of Officer Executive Decisions has been discussed with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability who is content with the proposals.
- 4.1.2 The Director of Environment and Housing has been consulted and is satisfied with the proposed amendment to his delegation scheme.

4.1.3 The City Solicitor has been consulted and is content with the proposed amendment to her delegation scheme.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 There are no implications for this report.

4.3 Council policies and best council plan

4.3.1 Publication of the Executive Arrangements within the constitution is in line with the Council's values particularly in relation to being "open, honest and trusted".

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 There are no implications for this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, access to information and call In

4.5.1 As this report supports a decision of the Leader in relation to executive arrangements it will not be open to Call In.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 There are no implications for this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The recommended proposals will ensure clarity and accuracy within the executive arrangements.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Leader is requested to approve the amendments proposed to the following documents, as shown in the relevant appendix, with immediate effect:-

6.1.2 Executive Members: Oversight of Officer Executive Delegations (Appendix A)

6.1.3 Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) – Director of Environment and Housing (Appendix B)

6.1.4 Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) – City Solicitor (Appendix C)

7 Background documents¹

7.1 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.