

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors J Bentley (As substitute for S Golton), D Blackburn, R Charlwood, D Coupar (As substitute for A Lowe), G Latty, J Pryor, M Rafique, B Selby (As substitute for J Blake) and L Yeadon

Apologies Councillors J Blake, S Golton, A Lowe and J Procter

1 Election of Chair

In the absence of Cllr Blake, Councillor J Lewis was proposed as Chair for the meeting.

RESOLVED – Councillor J Lewis be elected as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

3 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

4 Late items

There were no late items submitted for consideration.

5 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

No declarations were made.

6 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Golton, Blake, Lowe and J Procter.

Councillors J Bentley, Selby and Coupar were in attendance as substitutes.

7 Minutes - 12th May 2015

RESOLVED – The Committee resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2015 as a correct record.

8 Amendments to Council Procedure Rules

The City Solicitor submitted a report which proposed changes to the operation of Ordinary Council meetings, and that the changes be adopted for a trial period at the July and September meetings.

Members discussed the process for providing full Council with Community Committee updates, particularly with increased functions being delegated to them.

In discussion it was confirmed to Members that there would be opportunity to consider the outcome of the trial period at the October meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED – The Committee resolved to:

- (a) Agree that the proposed amendments to Council Procedure Rules as set out at Appendix A of the submitted report be adopted, on a trial basis, for the July and September Council meetings;
- (b) Note the indicative timings for Council as set out at Appendix B of the submitted report; and
- (c) Receive a further report in October 2015 on the outcome of the trial period.

9 Amendments to the Constitution following the introduction of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

HR and Legal Services submitted a report which proposed amendments to the Constitution in light of the Local Authorities (Standing orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. The regulations require changes to the Employment Committee Terms of reference and the Officer Employment Procedure Rules; and the establishment of a panel of independent persons. In addition, following a review of recruitment policy and practice, other amendments were proposed to the Employment Committee Terms of Reference and Officer Employment Procedure Rules to provide clarity on the recruitment and dismissal process for senior officers.

Members discussed the report in detail. In particular consideration was given to the process by which Executive Board Members are informed of proposed appointments by the Employment Committee, and given the opportunity to raise objections with the Employment Committee.

Following discussion Members agreed that, in advance of interviews taking place, Executive Board Members be informed of those candidates that have been shortlisted by the Employment Committee for interviews.

RESOLVED – the Committee resolved to recommend to full Council for approval:

- (a) amendments be made to the Employment Committee Terms of reference as set out at Appendix A of the submitted report;
- (b) amendments be made to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules as set out at Appendix B of the submitted report with the caveat that, in advance of interviews taking place, Executive Board Members be informed of those candidates that the Employment Committee has shortlisted for interview; and
- (c) That a panel be established to comprise of a minimum of two independent Persons with the Terms of Reference as set out at Appendix C of the submitted report.