



## Report of the

### Chief Democratic Services Officer

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Subject: Members Lounge

#### Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

## 1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 This report requests that the Member Management Committee establish a working group for the purposes of giving advice and guidance to officers on the development and management of the Members' lounge facility.

## 2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 As Members will be aware, the Members' lounge was previously a facility provided from within Civic Buildings with rather unclear arrangements regarding consultation with Members as to how it should be organised and managed.
- 2.2 Members will also be aware that the Members' lounge is currently being redeveloped and that management of this facility has clearly been established within Democratic Services where, on a day to day basis, it will be managed by the Resources and Projects Manager.

## 3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 It would be helpful to establish a mechanism by which the Resources and Projects Manager could seek the views of Members on operational aspects relating to the lounge, for example facilities to be provided and criteria for booking of the lounge for events by Members and/or officers. It is particularly important to understand the priorities of Members given that no budgetary provision exists for supporting the lounge and it will therefore likely be necessary to make difficult decisions with regard to its operation.

- 3.2 Decisions regarding the Members' lounge remain as a function of the executive, delegated to officers as appropriate. However the Member Management Committee has a remit for giving advice and guidance on the provision of facilities to Members and therefore it would seem highly appropriate that the Member Management Committee should be the vehicle by which officers seek guidance. However, inevitably this may require consideration of relatively minor matters and for this reason Member Management Committee may wish to consider the establishment of an informal working group to fulfill this function on its behalf.

#### **4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

- 4.1 There are no implications for Council Policy and Governance.

#### **5.0 Legal And Resource Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal and resource implications.

#### **6.0 Conclusion**

- 6.1 It would be helpful to establish a clear mechanism by which officers may consult with Members regarding the operation of the Members' lounge.

#### **7.0 Recommendations**

- 7.1 Member Management Committee is asked to consider the establishment of a working group for the purposes of giving advice and guidance for the operation and management of the Members' lounge.