

Report of Chief Officer, Democratic and Central Services

Report to Member Management Committee

Date: 25th October 2011

Subject: Suspension of Council Procedure Rules; State of the City Meeting

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. On the 7th December 2011 Full Council will consider and receive the State of the City Report.
2. To facilitate this, and enable opportunities for Members and partners to come together to discuss the State of the City Report, it is proposed that Council Procedure Rules be suspended for that meeting.
3. The report seeks comments on a draft report to Full Council (to approve the suspension of procedure rules) and a draft order paper to help facilitate proceedings on the 7th December.

Recommendations

4. Members are asked to consider and comment on the draft report to Full Council concerning the arrangements for the State of the City Meeting

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report seeks comments on a draft report to Full Council (to approve the suspension of procedure rules) and a draft order paper to help facilitate proceedings on the 7th December:

2 Background information

- 2.1 At the Annual Meeting on the 26th May 2011 it was agreed that an additional Council meeting be held with the specific purpose of that meeting to receive and consider the State of the City Report.
- 2.2 The meeting was originally scheduled for the 30th November 2011 but, at the Lord Mayor's request, has been re-scheduled for the 7th December 2011, commencing at 2.30pm.
- 2.3 Whips have previously considered potential arrangements for the meeting in September; this report brings back revised proposals, informed by subsequent discussions between Group Leaders and Whips.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 From the outset it has been acknowledged that the State of the City meeting should provide an opportunity for members and partners to come together to explore the challenges facing the City, whilst also recognising the distinct role of members in terms of democratic accountability.
- 3.2 It is therefore intended that the conduct of the State of the City meeting will be different to that of an ordinary Council meeting, with the format as follows
 - Lord Mayor's Announcements
 - To note the suspension of Procedure Rules
 - Declarations of Interest
 - Questions to the Leader, Executive Members and Partners¹ - in relation to issues contained in the State of the City Report

 - An adjournment – to allow a number of themed debates with partners

 - Lead of Council to move that the State of the City report be received
 - Comments from each Group Leader
 - Leader of Council to sum up
 - Lord Mayor calls for a vote to receive the State of the City Report
- 3.3 In addition to receiving the State of the City Report Sir Bob Kerslake will address Council, in context of enactment of the Localism Bill, on matters relating to the Commission on the future of Local Government; revitalising local democracy and public service, and enabling greater 'civic' responsibility from businesses, public agencies and the third sector.

¹ Those identified as providing a lead role in the break-out sessions

3.4 Addendum 1 to this report sets out a draft report to Full Council on the 16th November relating to these arrangements.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The Lord Mayor, Leaders and Group whips have been consulted on the proposals contained in this report.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no equality and diversity or cohesion and integration implications as a result of this report.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The revised structure of the Council meeting will enable Members to consider matters relating to City Priority Areas.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 Full Council has authority to vary procedures at Council meetings:

4.5.2 This report relates to a Council function and therefore, is not available for call-in.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

5 Recommendations

5. Members are asked to consider and comment on the draft report to Full Council concerning the arrangements for the State of the City Meeting.

6 Background documents

6.1 None