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## Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance)

### Full Council

Date: 18 April 2007

Subject: Amendments to the Constitution

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#### Electoral Wards Affected:

N/A



Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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### Executive Summary

1. Further to the report to the Executive Board of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007, on the Council Change Programme, this report notifies Council of amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) approved by the Leader, with effect from 31 March 2007.
2. The Leader also approved with effect from the same date, amendments to the Executive Members' Portfolios. These were amended only in so far as to reflect the amended delegations to officers.
3. In addition, under authority delegated to her under Article 15, the Monitoring Officer also approved consequential amendments to the constitution, which are also outlined in this report, for Members' information.

## **1.0 Purpose Of This Report**

- 1.1 This report notifies Council of amendments to the constitution, further to the Council's Change programme, and in accordance with Rule 1.4 of the Executive Procedure Rules.

## **2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 The report of the Chief Executive to the Executive Board dated 9 February 2007, outlined proposals in respect of phase one of the implementation of the Council's Change programme.

- 2.2 In order to implement the proposals endorsed by Executive Board, the officer delegation schemes in respect of council and executive functions needed to be amended to allow for:

- Director of Adult Social Services;
- Director of City Development;
- Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods;
- Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance);
- Director of Resources.

The scheme also needed to reflect the fact that the posts of Director of Learning and Leisure and the Chief Social Services Officer were not going to exist from 31 March 2007.

## **3.0 Main Issues**

### Amendments approved by the Leader

- 3.1 By notice dated 30 March 2007, the Leader confirmed that he approved amendments to the officer delegation scheme (executive functions), with effect from 31 March 2007.
- 3.2 A table summarising the amendments approved by the Leader to the delegation scheme (executive functions) is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Attached as annexes to the table are the revised delegations for the above posts, and concurrent executive delegations to the Chief Officer (Children's Social Services) and Chief Officer (Early Years).
- 3.3 The Leader also approved minor amendments to the general delegation scheme, to reflect the new officer structure.
- 3.4 Also approved by the Leader were amendments to the Executive Members' Portfolios. These amendments reflect the revised delegations to Directors and the new concurrent delegations only. A copy of the revised Portfolios is attached to this report, as Appendix 2.
- 3.5 These amendments were of effect from 31 March 2007.

### Amendments by the Monitoring Officer

- 3.6 In order to implement the changes endorsed by the Executive Board outlined in paragraph 2.2, the Monitoring Officer approved amendments to the delegation scheme (council functions). A table summarising these amendments is attached as

Appendix 3 to this report. Also attached as annexes to the table, are the revised delegations for the above posts.

3.7 The Monitoring Officer also approved minor consequential amendments to the general delegations in the delegation scheme (Council functions), to reflect the revised officer structure, and to Article 12 of the Constitution, for the same reason. Article 12 is attached as Appendix 4 to this report, for information.

3.8 A revised Part 7, management structure, is also attached as Appendix 5 to this report. This reflects the new officer structure.

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

4.1 Under its code of Corporate Governance, the Council is committed to ensuring that the necessary roles and responsibilities for the governance of the Council are identified and allocated so that it is clear who is accountable for decisions that are made. An essential part of this must be to ensure that officer delegation schemes accurately reflect officers' responsibilities, and that the Constitution is kept up to date to reflect any changes in the structure of the officer corps.

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

5.1 Under Rule 1.4 of the Executive Procedure Rules, the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) must present a report to the next ordinary meeting of Council setting out any changes made by the Leader to the scheme of delegation relating to executive functions. This report fulfils that requirement as well as informing Members' of amendments made by the Monitoring Officer, under her authority set out in Article 15 of the constitution to make changes which are required as a result of decisions of the Council or the executive, to enable her to maintain it up to date.

#### **6.0 Conclusions**

6.1 Amendments have been made to the constitution, to implement phase one of the Council's Change Programme.

#### **7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 The Council is asked to note the amendments to the constitution as set out in this report, and the attached appendices.