



STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 27TH NOVEMBER 2013

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

REPORT BY: INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the views of the Standards Committee on the All Wales Framework Constitution with particular reference to the sections of the Model Constitution that specifically relate to the role of the Standards Committee.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council is planning to adopt the All Wales Framework Model Constitution. The Committee is being requested to provide comments on the Framework Constitution. The comments will be provided to the Council's Constitution Working Group and will be contained in the Report to Council on the new Framework Constitution at the Annual General Meeting.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Council is under a duty to review its constitutional arrangements.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Members of the Committee will recollect the background to the review explained to Members at the meeting held on 3rd October 2013.
- 4.2 Members were provided with a copy of the new Framework document and asked to review and comment on the sections of the Model Constitution specifically relating to the role of the Standards Committee.
- 4.3 Section 8 of the Model Framework sets out the Terms of Reference for the Committee. Members comments are requested.
- 4.4 Paragraphs 23.11 and 23.12 of the Model Framework set out the role, purpose and activity of the Chair and Member of the Standards Committee. Members comments are requested.
- 4.5 Section 18 Appendix 3 of the Model Framework sets out a detailed procedure for dealing with allegations made against Councillors and referred to the Standards Committee.
- 4.5.1 Members are asked to note that the current version of the Council's Constitution does not include a similar procedure.
- 4.5.2 Officers consider that the adoption of the Procedure would bring consistency to the process across Wales and would greatly assist in the smooth running of any proceedings in the future.

4.5.3 Members comments and views are sought.

4.6 In relation to the process regarding the adoption of the Framework Constitution the comments of the Standards Committee will be reported to the Constitution Working Group. A report from the Working Group will be prepared and presented to Council at the next Annual General Meeting with a view to adopting the new Model Framework Constitution.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 None, this is a report requesting comments that will be consulted upon in the future.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are recommended to provide comments on the Framework Constitution with particular reference to the points highlighted in the Report.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To facilitate the adoption of the new Framework Constitution.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000.

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Background Papers:
Standards Committee 3rd October 2013

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Framework Constitution