

Special Advisory Group

10 March 2016

Report title	Review of the Constitution	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paul Sweet Governance	
Key decision	No	
In forward plan	No	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Kevin O'Keefe	
Originating service	Corporate Administration	
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Report to be/has been considered by		

Recommendations for action:

The Advisory Group is asked to:

1. Consider the draft terms of reference for the review of the Constitution.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an outline of the process of the proposed revision of the Constitution.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The current Constitution is modelled on the guidance that was given to councils following the introduction of the Local Government Act 2000. It subsequently has been through several iterations and has been amended and updated to reflect the developing needs of the Council.
- 2.2 The Constitution now needs to be refreshed so that it is a logical and ordered document that supports the governance of the Council and incorporates best practice.
- 2.3 We have approached the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) which is the recognised professional body for the democratic services sector. They can provide tailored expertise and deliver a bespoke piece of work to support and shape the review of the Constitution.
- 2.4 Following a meeting with a consultant from ADSO they are now in the process of developing terms of reference so that a project timetable can be agreed. This will be implemented shortly and it is envisaged that the work will be completed in readiness for Council in July. The principal focus will to be ensure a holistic approach to the review of the constitution is adopted thus ensuring that each of the sections work together to make it more logical and linear.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 Any associated costs will be contained within the existing Governance budget.
[MK/02032016/X]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 The Council is required by the Local Government Act 2000 to have a Constitution and it is essential for the effective and consistent governance of the Council.
[02032016/Z]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

6.0 Environmental implications

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

7.0 Human resources implications

7.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

8.0 Corporate landlord implications

8.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

9.0 Schedule of background papers

9.1 There are no background papers.