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## OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION – FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

#### **KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

The Leader has agreed a changes to the Council's Scheme of Delegation. In accordance with Articles 5.02 and 6.04(d)(ii) of the Council's Constitution, the changes made by the Leader are being reported to Council.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

1. The Leader is responsible for maintaining a list in Part 3 of the Constitution setting out who will exercise executive functions. Any changes to this list are required to be reported to the next appropriate meeting of the County Council.

#### **Delegation to officers**

2. It is sometimes necessary for the Fire and Rescue Service to react swiftly to changes in local circumstances, including changes in the coverage provided by neighbouring fire authorities, in order to maintain effective emergency service provision. The Fire and Rescue Service is required in certain circumstances to carry out consultation on proposals for changes to fire and rescue services in an area. Given the time which is usually required for a public consultation, the Leader has agreed that the Chief Fire Officer and Assistant Chief Fire Officer be authorised to agree, in consultation with the Cabinet Member and Local Members, the arrangements for public consultations on proposals for any significant changes to fire and rescue services.
3. This delegation relates solely to the ability of officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member and Local Members, to carry out initial consultation on proposals in preparation for a future Cabinet decision and does not authorise any changes to service levels. Decisions relating to this level of service change will continue to be the responsibility of the Cabinet acting as Fire Authority.

4. Printed copies of the updated Scheme of Delegation pages will be circulated to replace the existing copies in Members' Constitutions.

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u></b>
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It is recommended that the amendment to the Scheme of Delegation in relation to the Fire and Rescue Service agreed by the Leader be noted.

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**Sources/background papers:**

The Council's Constitution

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