



**OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION  
– THE EXERCISE OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS**

**KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

The Leader has agreed 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. The Cabinet considered the Public Value Review (PVR) of Community Partnership in November 2012. This reviewed the role of Surrey County Council's Local Committees and the Community Partnership Team with the aim of delivering improved outcomes and value for money for the residents of Surrey. The PVR recommendations build on the Localism agenda and aim to provide a greater role for local Members as Community Leaders. The Leader has expressed his belief that, over the next cycle, there is a strong case to increase accountability and scrutiny at Local Committees and that further responsibilities should be passed to Local Committees.
3. Following consideration of the governance changes that would be required to implement the PVR, the Cabinet at its meeting on 26 February 2013 has recommended that changes be made to the Council's Constitution. Details of these changes are set out in the Report of Cabinet under item 9 of this agenda.

4. In addition to these proposed amendments, the Leader has agreed changes to the Scheme of Delegation to update the wording in the Local Committees Terms of Reference in relation to Highways and Youth functions.
5. These updates are required:
  - As some of the terminology concerning Highways and Youth functions is no longer current.
  - To ensure the wording with regard to Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) is precise.
  - Separate minor modifications have been made to the Highways wording over time; which has resulted in existing wording lacking clarity and making it hard for both Chairmen and Officers to use effectively.
6. The Leader has also agreed changes to the Scheme of Delegation to enable officers to facilitate these local responsibilities. These delegations relate to:
  - The arrangements by which, in consultation with the Divisional Member and the Committee Chairman or Vice Chairman, an advertised Traffic Regulation Order may be made to the Local Committee.
  - The process by which development related legal orders may be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member, to facilitate development proposals.
  - The approval of Universal Prevention Grants of £5,000 and under, in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman and/or the Local Youth Task Group Chairman and where appropriate the divisional Member.
7. The updated wording will make a number of improvements:
  - The separation of Highways powers by function will ensure that this is more easily understood.
  - Clarity on the role of Local Committees and the specific roles of Officers.
  - The changes will support more efficient decision making.
  - The updated functions may speed up processes in relation to implementation of parking controls where there is clear agreement on what is required within an area following advertisement, but with recourse for this to be discussed by Local Committee where there is not.
8. These changes will come into effect from the start of the new municipal year. The changes to the Local Committees Terms of Reference will be accompanied by detailed Member Training at sessions scheduled in June and specific training on these matters will also be provided to Local Committee Chairmen.
9. Printed copies of the updated Scheme of Delegation pages will be circulated to replace the existing copies in Members' Constitutions.

<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>
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It is recommended that the amendments agreed by the Leader to the Highways and Youth functions for Local Committees and the related Officer delegations within the Scheme of Delegation be noted.

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**Sources/background papers:**

The Council's Constitution  
Cabinet reports - Public Value Review (PVR) of Community Partnership (November 2012), Implementation of the Public Value Review of Community Partnership – Constitutional Changes (February 2013).

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