



OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL

UPDATES TO THE CONSTITUTION

KEY ISSUE/DECISION:

Surrey County Council has a Constitution which is agreed by Members and sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures to be followed to ensure that they are efficient, transparent and accountable to the residents of Surrey.

It is the Council's responsibility to approve changes to the Scheme of Delegation regarding non-executive functions, while amendments to executive functions are delegated to the Leader and are brought to County Council to note.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION:

Amendments to the Officer Scheme of Delegation

1. Following recent restructures within the Community Protection, Transport and Environment Directorate and resultant changes to the responsibilities within this, the specific delegations to officers that relate to planning, flooding and drainage have been updated. There have also been some changes made to provide some additional clarity to specific items detailed. The changes are set out in bold in the annex to this item.
2. At his decision making meeting on 7 May 2019, the Leader approved a new governance structure for decision making on assets and investments. As a result a new delegation to the Officer Scheme of Delegation is required, setting out additional decision making powers for Finance. The new delegation is included in **Annex A** to this item.

Amendments to the Executive Functions

3. The County Council and Surrey CCG leads have jointly recommended the creation of a Surrey-wide decision making body to enhance collaborative decision-making in the Health and Social Care arena. The intention would be that this approach will contribute to enabling integration of commissioning and streamline decision making for Surrey-wide commissioned services, aligning work to the emerging 10-year Surrey Health & Wellbeing Strategy.
4. Seven participating organisations intend to use collaborative decision-making mechanisms to enable a comprehensive Surrey-wide approach and ensure compliance with the current legislative framework. Each of the participating

organisations will establish a committee of its Cabinet or Governing Body and delegate to it the decision-making for a prescribed list of commissioning functions. The resulting seven committees will meet 'in common' to consider and make collective decisions for their delegated functions.

5. The terms of reference of the Committee in Common, as well as other aspects of its operation, are required to be published in the scheme of delegation, and are set out in an annex to this item.
6. The new governance structure for decision making on assets and investments, referred to at paragraph 2 above, requires the appointment of a Strategic Investment Board. The terms of reference of the Board, as well as its membership and the arrangements for their meetings must be set out in the Scheme of Delegation and is included as **Annex B** to this item.

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES:

7. Should the Council approve the proposals for changes to its overview and scrutiny function earlier on this agenda, it will be necessary to make amendments to Article 7, 'Scrutiny Function – Select Committees'. The revised Article is set out as **Annex C** to this item and includes the detailed remits of the proposed new select committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the County Council approves the changes to the Scheme of Delegation and the Articles as set out in the Annexes, and authorises the Director of Law and Governance to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.

Lead/Contact Officers:

Vicky Hibbert, Senior Manager, Governance tel: 020 8541 9229 email: vicky.hibbert@surreycc.gov.uk

Annexes:

Annex A – Revisions to the Officer Scheme of Delegation
Annex B – Revisions to Executive Functions in the Scheme of Delegation
Annex C – Revised Article 7

Sources/background papers:

The Council's Constitution
