Cabinet 9 May 2014

A.3 Amendments to the Council's Constitution (Phase 2)

There was submitted a report by the Planning and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder, which asked Cabinet to recommend to Council, proposed changes, which had been suggested by Members and Officers as Phase 2 of the Constitution Review.

The report gave details of the proposed revisions to the Council Procedure Rules, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (including call-in), Access to Information Rules and the delegated powers relating to property and it was hoped that the proposed changes would provide greater clarity for the benefit of both Members and Officers.

Cabinet wished to record its thanks to the Council's Monitoring Officer (Lisa Hastings) and Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney) for the hard work undertaken and in recognition of the work still required to complete the review.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Guglielmi, seconded by Councillor Page, and **RESOLVED** that the recommendations of the Constitution Working Party be endorsed and

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL as follows:

- (i) The proposed changes to the Council Procedure Rules, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (including call-in) and the Access to Information Rules, as detailed at Appendices A, B and C respectively to the report, be adopted;
- (ii) Article 6 of the Constitution be amended to include the terms of reference of Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- (iii) The delegated powers relating to the management of property be amended, as set out in Appendix D to the report;
- (iv) The Council's Constitution be amended accordingly to reflect the changes set out in this report;
- (v) The length of speeches by Members (other than the statement by the Leader of the Council on the State of the District and the Leader of the Council's presentation on the Budget) shall not exceed three minutes;
- (vi) A highly-visible electronic timing mechanism be acquired to manage and control the length of speeches delivered;
- (vii) The length of speeches by presenters of petitions shall not exceed five minutes; and
- (viii) That the wording proposed by the Monitoring Officer in relation to property valuations be noted and that this wording be referred for consideration by Council at its meeting to be held on 3 June 2014.