

REFERRALS TO COUNCIL – 11 FEBRUARY 2013

A. CABINET – 20 DECEMBER 2012

156 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL MONITORING REPORTS

The Interim Strategic Director: Regeneration and Environment submitted a report which sought Cabinet's approval for the publication of the Council's statutory Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), which reported on the impact of land use planning policies and the preparation of local plans and other planning documents. There was no longer a requirement for the AMR to be submitted to the Secretary of State but copies of the AMR had to be made available for public inspection on the Council's website.

The report also recommended a change in the approach to the future publication of monitoring information to meet the requirements of new national regulations that required the Council to make any up-to-date information collected for monitoring purposes available as soon as possible after the information had been collected.

The report recommended that the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning Strategy was given authority to approve the publication of future monitoring information on the Council's website and that future monitoring data was wherever appropriate made available in an open machine readable format subject to a licence that allowed open re-use to maximise the value to the public.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Annual Monitoring Report for 2011/12, attached to the report, and its accompanying data tables, are approved and placed on the Council's website for public inspection.**
- (2) That the full Council be requested to approve that Schedule 5 of part 3 of the Constitution be amended to give the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning Strategy delegated authority to approve the publication of future monitoring information on the Council's website, to enable future monitoring information to be made available to the public as soon as possible after the information becomes available, in line with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.**
- (3) That future monitoring information is, wherever appropriate, made available to the public on the Council's website in open and machine readable format subject to the Open Government Licence published by the National Archive or an appropriate equivalent standard, to allow open re-use to maximise the value of the data to the public.**

B. CABINET – 24 JANUARY 2013

170 NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING

The Chief Executive reported upon the development of a neighbourhood working approach across constituencies in Wirral, in order for services and community engagement to be more effectively and efficiently configured, targeted and delivered.

The Chair commented that the proposed neighbourhood working approach would help to develop a closer relationship between the Council and residents, promote improved partnership working across the public sector and ensure future service delivery reflected an improved understanding of resident views through consultation and participation. The proposal also potentially offered a more cost-effective approach to the future delivery of services by joining front line delivery and tackling issues at their source. It was about changing ways of working for all public, private, social sector providers to deliver improvements for neighbourhoods. He commented that it would not be possible to adopt a new model of working utilising the existing 11 Area Forum boundaries because of the costs of administration and the Area Forum footprints being too small for services to be more effectively co-ordinated.

It was proposed that the neighbourhood working structure would be based upon Wirral's four Parliamentary Constituency boundaries, with staff and services being located within Constituencies and a Constituency Committee established for each area. Each Constituency would have a Public Service Board that would bring together bodies including the Council, Police, Fire and Health, to co-ordinate the strategic delivery of a Constituency Plan that would outline priorities for each area.

The Chair indicated that he had received support for the proposals from the Council's partners and that feedback from a recent visioning event had been very positive. The Cabinet Member for Improvement and Governance commented that the proposal had the potential to be a very effective way of engaging with local communities. She hoped that all members would engage with the process and commented that more detailed work would be undertaken by the Democracy Working Party.

Resolved –

- (1) That the proposals to establish a new neighbourhood working approach across constituencies in Wirral, be endorsed and the report be referred to the Council for consideration and agreement.**
- (2) That a special meeting of the Democracy Working Group be held, on 31 January 2013, to discuss the report and make comment prior to the referral of the recommendation to Council on Monday 11 February 2013.**

171 BUDGET COUNCIL PROCEDURE

The Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management presented a proposed procedure for the Budget meeting of the Council, scheduled to take place on 5

March 2013, which had been prepared following consultation with all three Political Group Leaders.

Resolved – That Cabinet approves the Budget Council Procedure set out at Appendix 1 to the report now submitted and recommends it to Council for adoption.

172 COMMITTEE CALENDAR 2013/2014

The Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management presented a proposed calendar of meetings for Council, Cabinet and Committees for the municipal year 2013/2014. It had been prepared on the basis that in 2013/2014, there would be the same number of Regulatory Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees and, as in previous years these would meet in 5 cycles through the year. A date has also been set aside for the Youth Parliament/Council meeting and dates for Cabinet meetings had been agreed with the Leader in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 1.6. It was proposed that the Cabinet had eight ordinary meetings and three budget meetings during the year and he commented that this would be subject to an amendment to the Council's Constitution Executive Procedure Rules.

In addition to the Council, Cabinet and Standing Committees, the Acting Director had also included dates set aside for pre-Council group meetings and Area Forums. Dates had been included in the calendar for Member training, for which a programme would be drawn up by the Member Training Steering Group.

He had received only one representation from a Member of the Council, who had requested that Panel dates should also be included in the published calendar. However, it was not always possible to identify in advance when Panels would be required and, out of necessity, were often arranged at comparatively short notice.

Resolved –

- (1) That the calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2013/14, attached at Appendix A to the report now submitted, be approved.**
- (2) That the Council's Constitution be amended to reduce the number of Cabinet meetings to 8 ordinary meetings, plus 3 budget meetings during the municipal year.**