

# **Full Council**

18 January 2016

# Report from the Chief Legal Officer

For Action Wards Affected: ALL

# **Changes to the Constitution**

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The Chief Legal Officer is authorised to make legal, factual and other technical changes to the Council's Constitution as may be required from time to time. The Chief Legal Officer can also remove inconsistencies or ambiguities.
- 1.2 This report informs Members of changes to the officer scheme of delegations following the implementation of the senior management restructure; changes to contract standing orders in line with new EU procurement thresholds and clarification of standing orders 78 and 79.

#### 2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That Full Council note the changes to the Constitution marked up in Appendix 1 and the need to make consequential changes throughout the Constitution.

### 3.0 Detail

#### Officer scheme of delegations

3.1 On 16 December 2015, the General Purposes Committee approved the Chief Executive's senior management re-structuring proposals. Accordingly, the officer scheme of delegations (which is in Part 4 of the Constitution) has been amended to record the changes made (see Appendix 1). As references to job titles and allocation of responsibilities appear elsewhere in the Constitution, Members are asked to note that further consequential changes throughout the Constitution will also need to be made.

#### Revised EU Procurement Thresholds

3.2 On 1 January 2016, new (lower) EU procurement thresholds came into force across all EU member states. Accordingly, Contract Standing Orders have been revised in line with the legislative change (see Appendix 1).

## Standing Orders 78 & 79

- 3.3 On 22 June 2015 legislative changes to the disciplinary and dismissal procedures for the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Section 151/Chief Finance Officer were reported to Full Council.
- 3.4 More recently, on 16 December 2015, the General Purposes Committee approved the Council's new HR procedures for the officers concerned. These procedures are referenced in Standing Orders 78 and 79 which have been amended (see Appendix 1) to make clear when a dismissal has to be approved by Full Council.

### 4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 None.
- 5.0 Legal Implications
- 5.1 These are addressed in the body of the report.
- 6.0 Diversity Implications
- 6.1 None.

#### **Background Papers**

None

#### **Contact Officers**

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