



AGENDA ITEM: 14

SUMMARY

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| Report for: | Cabinet |
| Date of meeting: | 24 November 2015 |
| Part: | 1 |
| If Part II, reason: | |

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| Title of report: | Review of Scrutiny & Portfolio Holder Roles and Responsibilities |
| Contact: | <p>CLlr Andrew Williams, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Author/Responsible Officer: Sally Marshall, Chief Executive</p> |
| Purpose of report: | To review the roles and responsibilities of individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees to improve the alignment of member and officer structures. |
| Recommendations | That Cabinet recommend Council the amendment of the Council's Constitution to adopt the new roles and responsibilities for individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees as set out in appendix B to this report. |
| Corporate Objectives: | Dacorum Delivers |
| Implications: | <p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>No financial implications arising from this report.</p> |
| 'Value For Money Implications' | <p><u>Value for Money</u></p> <p>The alignment of roles and responsibilities of the Member and Officer structures would enable more efficient use of officer and member time and increase the focus of scrutiny.</p> |
| Risk Implications | Good corporate governance encompasses risk management and making sure that the Council makes decisions with the full knowledge of the associated risks and opportunities. The risk of not reviewing and updating our corporate governance arrangements have been addressed by this report |

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| Community Impact Assessment | A detailed Community Impact Assessment review has not been undertaken. The purpose of the proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution is to improve the focus of scrutiny undertaken by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees when scrutinising the delivery of the Council's policies and services functions. |
| Health And Safety Implications | None arising from this report |
| Monitoring Officer/Deputy S.151 Officer Comments | <p>Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>Effective Overview and Scrutiny arrangements are a key element of the Council's political management structure and decision making process. It is important therefore that such arrangements are kept under review and any revisions are recommended to Council for approval.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer</p> <p>There are no direct financial implication of this report.</p> |
| Consultees: | <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairs</p> <p>Chief Officer Group</p> <p>Corporate Management Team</p> |
| Background papers: | Constitution |
| Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report: | OSC - Overview and Scrutiny Committees |

Background

1. Introduction

Following the Borough Council election in May, the Portfolio Holders areas of responsibility have been amended to more closely align with the senior management areas of responsibilities.

The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive have since received feedback from members and officers suggesting that it would also be appropriate to review the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSC) to more closely align their areas of responsibility with the individual Cabinet Portfolios.

2. Proposals

The Leader of the Council asked the Chief Executive to review the areas of responsibility for each OSC. In undertaking this review the Chief Executive discussed initial thoughts with the Chief Officer Group. The proposals for amendments to the areas of responsibility are set out in Appendix A & B to this report.

Appendix A maps the areas of responsibility of the Portfolios suggested alignment with OSCs and lead senior officers.

Appendix B summarises the proposed areas of responsibility for each OSC. This appendix forms the basis of the required amendment to the Constitution

The proposals provide clarity regarding areas of responsibility; would enable more efficient use of officer and member time and increase the focus of scrutiny.

Members of Cabinet and all Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been consulted on the proposed amendments to areas of responsibility for each OSC and support these proposals.

3. Conclusion

To enable the more efficient use of member and officer time and to increase the focus of scrutiny it is recommended that Cabinet recommend Council that these changes be adopted and the Constitution be amended as set out in Appendix B.