

***Review On the Implementation of Recommendations of the
Scrutiny Review on the Constitution***

FOR RECOMMENDATION

KEY DECISION NO

REPORT BY: Budget Scrutiny and Policy Development Panel

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In 2017 a review of the Constitution was carried out by the Panel and a number of recommendations made.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on the actions agreed by Council on 11 May 2017 in response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Board.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Board is requested to note the achievements made in implementing their recommendations (Appendix A)
- 2.2 The Governance and Audit Committee be Recommended to request the Council to amend Standing Orders 1.11 and 6.14 of the Constitution to read as follows:

Standing Order 1.11

*Every member of the Council must within twenty eight days from the start of each municipal year sign a declaration on a form supplied by the Democratic Services Team, that she or he has read **and understood** the Council's latest version of the Constitution*

Standing Order 6.14

*Every member of the Council must within twenty eight days from being appointed to a Committee, Sub Committee or Board sign a declaration on a form supplied by the Democratic Services Team, that he or she has read **and understood** the terms of reference for each committee, sub committee or board he or she has been appointed to. A failure to copy with this standing order will be considered as a breach of the adopted Councillor's Code of Conduct*

*amendments shown in bold

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3.0 RESOURCES:

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

4.0 LEGAL:

4.1 Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to keep its constitution under review.

5.0 STRATEGY:

5.1 The project links with the key aim in the Corporate Strategy to provide public service excellence

6.0 RISKS:

6.1 There are no risks arising directly from this report.

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS:

7.1 None

8.0 FOR THE COMMUNITY:

8.1 The aim of this review was to improve the clarity and transparency of the Council's decision making process so as to encourage public engagement in the work of the Council.

9.0 UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The current position regarding the Board's recommendations are contained in Appendix A.

10.2 The Panel noted that the declarations required under Standing Orders 1.11 and 6.14 needed to be strengthened to ensure that Councillors declared that they not only read the documents stated in these standing orders but also stated that they also understood what they had read.

Appendices

Appendix A – Update on actions agreed by Council on 11 May 2017

Background Papers

[Findings Pack](#)

Contact: Councillor Gary Hughes
Title: Scrutiny Lead for the Budget Scrutiny and Policy Development Panel
Telephone: 02392 374152
E-Mail: gary.hughes@havant.gov.uk