

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meetings: 19th May 2015 & 15 June 2015 (Presented to Full Council, 29 June 2015)

General:

Key elements of both meetings related to the continued development and improvement of the Council's Governance activities and the continued embedding of the new Committee structure.

The following recommendations are made to Full Council:

Committee Meeting 19th May 2015

Minute 6: Delegated Powers etc. for Committees

- a. It is suggested that an authorisation limit of £2000 per item be set for each Committee and each committee have the delegated power to authorise expenditure up to that limit providing the expenditure is allowed for in the budget and allocated to that committee. If the Council is in agreement with this proposal then the budget will need to be revised to identify the budgetary allocation to each committee. Following on from this, each Committee would become responsible for reviewing its own budget.
- b. It was unanimously agreed by the committee that the Terms of Reference as provided in the Review report should be accepted and that Delegated Authority for Policies with no Financial impact should be given to each Committee. This is the recommendation to be made to Council

Committee Meeting 15th June 2015

Minute 15: Clerks Report

The Committee reviewed the Clerk's report which gives additional clarity to the delegated authority of committees and includes recommendations for approval. Some of the recommendations will require changes in the Council's Standing Orders.

The committee agreed that the Clerks Report and proposed actions and proposed that this should be recommended to Council for adoption.

Minute 17: Freedom Of Information Documentation

The FOI 'Guide to Information' template has already been adopted by Council. The template has now been populated and a preamble attached. Both are ready to be placed onto the new website. The content of the preamble and populated Guide to Information was agreed by Committee. It was proposed that both should be recommended to Full Council for adoption.

Minute 18: Council's Investment Strategy

The Committee expressed concerns that all of the Council's funds are lodged with the same bank. Investment should be spread to reduce risk. The recommendation is made to Full Council that delegated authority be given to the Finance & General Purposes Committee to determine the best investment strategy and action it accordingly.

Minute 19: Debit Card Usage Policy

The Committee reviewed the Debit Card Usage Policy and proposed that the recommendation be made to Full Council for adoption.

Minute 20: Expenditure Benefit and Best Value Policy

The Committee reviewed the Expenditure Benefit and Best Value Policy and proposed that the recommendation be made to Full Council for adoption.

**Cllr R Hendy
Chairman, Finance & General Purposes Committee**