

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

21 JANUARY 2015

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval of proposed amendments to the Constitution which reflect changes to the Council Procedure Rules and the recent realignment of responsibilities.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

- 2.1 The Corporate Management structure has a direct impact on the responsibility for and the delivery of the corporate themes.
- 2.2 The Constitution governs the operation of the Authority and thereby connects to the Corporate Improvement Plan and all Corporate Priorities.

3. Background.

- 3.1 The Constitution is regularly reviewed to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.
- 3.2 On 10th December 2014, Council approved the proposal to realign the responsibilities of the Corporate Director – Wellbeing and the Corporate Director – Children. The new arrangements took effect from 1st January 2015 and therefore it is necessary to update the Constitution.

4. Current situation / proposal.

Realignment of responsibilities

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Constitution be amended accordingly to reflect that:
- the Corporate Director – Wellbeing is now the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing;
 - the Corporate Director – Children is now the Corporate Director – Education and Transformation;
 - the safeguarding and family support functions and responsibilities have now transferred to the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing.

Council Procedure Rules

- 4.2 The present wording of the Council Procedure Rules has caused confusion and it is therefore proposed that the Council Procedure Rules be amended as set out in italics and underlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 The Constitution governs the operation of the Authority and thereby has an effect upon the operation of the Policy Framework.

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

6.1 There are no equality implications.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications.

8. Recommendations.

8.1 Council is recommended to approve the amendments to the Constitution as set out in paragraph 4.1 and Appendix 1 of the report.

P A Jolley

**Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer
January 2015**

Contact Officer: G P Jones
Head of Democratic Services

Telephone: (01656) 643148

E-mail: Gary.Jones@Bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address Bridgend County Borough Council,
Civic Offices,
Angel Street,
Bridgend.
CF31 4WB

Background documents: None.

PART 4 – RULES OF PROCEDURE

Council Procedure Rules

1 Annual Meeting of Council

1.1 Timing

The annual meeting shall be held on the second Wednesday following the first Thursday in May.

1.2 Business

The annual meeting will:

- (i) elect a person to preside and to exercise the powers of the Mayor at the meeting if the Mayor is not present;
- (ii) receive any declarations of interest from members;
- (iii) receive any announcements from the Mayor
- (iv) receive the report of the Leader
- (v) elect the Mayor, the Mayor announces their consort;
- (vi) appoint the Deputy Mayor, the Deputy Mayor announces their consort;
- (vii) receive any announcement from the newly elected Mayor;
- (viii) elect the Leader;
- (ix) agree the number of members to be appointed to the Cabinet;
- (x) ~~the Leader appoint members of the Cabinet;~~
appoint the members of the Cabinet;
- (xi) ~~the Leader may announce the Deputy Leader from those members appointed by Council to the Cabinet and may announce the appointment of Cabinet members to portfolio;~~
- (xii) approve a programme of ordinary meetings for the municipal year.
- (xiii) appoint the overview and scrutiny committees and such other committees as the Council considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither reserved to the Council nor are executive functions and:
 - (a) determine the size and terms of reference for those committees;
 - (b) determine the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules;
 - (c) determine which political groups represented at Council are entitled to make which appointments of overview and scrutiny chairpersons;
 - (d) receive nominations of councillors to serve on each committee;
 - (e) appoint to those committees (and elect the chairpersons and vice chairpersons);
 - (f) where any overview and scrutiny chairperson appointments have not been made, determine how the unappointed chairpersons are to be appointed.
- (xiv) approve a programme of committee meetings for the period up to the end of the municipal year;
- (xvi) in a year of ordinary elections of councillors to the Council appoint the requisite number of elected Members to the Standards Committee;