

Committee Model Working Group

24th November 2023



Report of: Director, Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Committee Model Working Group – Next Steps

Ward: All

Officer Presenting Report: Director, Legal and Democratic Services

Recommendations:

That the Committee Model Working Group agree the proposed next steps.

The significant issues in the report are:

This report sets out the suggested next steps for the Committee Model Working Group.



1. Summary

The Committee Model Working Group have been meeting in public since January 2023 and during this time have made a number of recommendations to Full Council covering all aspects of the design of the Committee Model.

Now that the recommendations of the Working Group have been approved by Full Council, the Council's Constitution is being redrafted to take account of all of the changes required. The updated Constitution will be taken to the Audit Committee in December 2023, before being referred to Full Council for approval in January 2024.

The Committee Model Working Group are therefore unlikely to require any additional public meetings until autumn 2024, at which point Members are likely to commence a review of whether the Committee Model is working effectively and agree whether any changes are required.

In the meantime, it is proposed that a Subgroup be established to meet in January, February and March 2024 so that Members of the Committee Model Working Group have oversight of various work streams that are being undertaken in order to prepare for the change of governance in May 2024. These briefings will mainly relate to internal functions of the Council, for example staff training and Member development activities.

2. Matters for the Working Group to Consider

The Working Group are asked to consider the following matters as part of the preparation for the Committee Model of governance.

- a. Does the Working Group agree to schedule a review to establish whether the Committee Model is operating effectively via a series of public meetings commencing in autumn 2024?
- b. Does the Working Group agree to set up a Subgroup, which will meet between January 2024 and March 2024, to brief members on the work the Council is undertaking to prepare for the change of governance?
- c. Does the Working Group agree to suspend public meetings of the Committee Model Working Group for the current time?

Appendices:

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None