

Meeting: COUNCIL

Date: 10TH JULY 2007

AMMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION – RESOURCES PORTFOLIO
(Constitutional Services)

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1 PURPOSE

To seek approval to revise the Council's Constitution to include specific responsibility for Risk Management within the Portfolio of the Executive Member (Resources).

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Portfolio Areas shown at Part 3 "Responsibility for Functions" of the Council's Constitution be amended by the addition of "Risk Management" to the specific list of responsibilities within the Resources Portfolio.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The list of detailed responsibilities within individual Executive Portfolios was agreed by the Council at its meeting on 23rd May 2007.
- 3.2 As part of the annual Use of Resources Assessment made by the Audit Commission, the Council is required to demonstrate that Members responsible for risk make sure that risks are being actively managed and that risk management is *embedded* in the work of the organisation (The Audit Commission defines "embedded" as "operating consistently with clear outputs and having an impact.")

4. REASONS FOR DECISION/OTHER OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Audit Committee currently receive regular reports on organisation risks for comment. In order to further improve the Council's risk management arrangements, it is recommended that Council include specific responsibility for Risk Management within an Executive Portfolio area, with that individual acting as the Members' Risk Management Champion.
- 4.2 The role of Members' Risk Management Champion is broadly threefold:
- Recommend actions needed to manage specific corporate risks and report to Council if required.
 - Agree actions needed to improve the monitoring & management of risks.
 - Contribute to embedding risk in the work of the Council.

- 4.3 Creating a Members' Risk Management Champion will add to the Council's good corporate arrangements for managing risk. It will also help consolidate the Audit Commission's judgement on Use of Resources that the Council is performing well.

5 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- Council Agenda – 23rd May 2007
- The Council's Constitution.