

Models of Governance Group Terms of Reference (V 2)

1. Objectives

A review of the Council's governance structure - evaluate the current structure and compare with alternative models (committee structure and Mayoral options).

Any enhancements to the current structure

Explore the practicalities and feasibility of 'area committees'.

2. Membership and meetings

The group will comprise of the following:

- Cllr Mike Every – (Chair)
- Cllr Stephen Andrews
- Cllr Patrick Coleman
- Supported by:
- Angela Claridge –Monitoring Officer
- Claire Hughes – Business Manager: Corporate Responsibility
- Caleb Harris – Democratic Services Officer
- Mark Stedman - Project Manager

Minutes will be shared with the Constitution Working Group.

The Group will meet fortnightly.

3. Working Principles

- maximising individual talents and allow for a greater engagement of all the Councillors outside of Committees;
- solution is costed and fully resourced;
- facilitates decision making at an appropriate pace;
- demonstrates propriety, regularity and accountability

4. Supporting Information

Feedback of governance systems applied at other councils, including those that have a) changed their governance structure b) after consideration retained their governance structure c) changed their governance structure then sought to reverse.

Professional bodies such as the Local Government Association, Centre for Governance & Scrutiny, Association of Democratic Services Officers – feedback, reports or presentations.

5. Outputs

Report for the Constitution Working Group with a “mid-term” reviews of an evaluation of the Council’s current Leader/Cabinet model.

Final report to Constitution Working Group with recommendations for further work.

Report to Full Council

6. Dependencies

Legislative & constitutional framework.

Any governance change will need to coincide with Full Council

7. Constraints

Legal/democratic – date to change, constitution and political balance

Financial – cost of change, members allowances (under auspices of Independent Remuneration Panel) and officer support.

Agreed 23.12.2021

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