

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE – 29 JUNE 2009

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to enable recommendations to be put to the meeting of the County Council on 8th July 2009 relating to the proposed changes to the structure of Overview and Scrutiny bodies.

Background

2. Article 15 of the County Council's Constitution gives the Chief Executive a duty to monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect. It requires that changes to the document should only be approved by the full County Council after consideration of the proposal by the Chief Executive and the Constitution Committee or, in the case of the Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules, the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee.
3. In the case of everything except the Meeting Procedure Rules the final decision on changes can be made at a single meeting of the County Council. However, in the case of the Meeting Procedure Rules any motion to add, to vary or revoke Standing Orders must, having been proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

Scrutiny

4. The Political Administration has a manifesto commitment to make the overview and scrutiny function more streamlined and effective. Accordingly, a review of the scrutiny arrangements is anticipated. Aspects of the Council's Constitution will be likely to require amendment as a result of this review

Recommendation

5. The Committee is asked to note this report and consider any proposed changes to the Constitution it wishes to recommend to the County Council.

Background Papers

The Constitution of Leicestershire County Council.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

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Equal Opportunities Implications

None.