

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE – 7 SEPTEMBER 2009**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION****Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend changes to the Constitution as part of this year's annual review.

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.
4. The Constitution has been reviewed on an annual basis every year since it came into effect in June 2001. This report sets out the results of the latest review. Proposed changes to the Standard Financial Instructions arising from the review will be considered and determined by the Corporate Governance Committee.
5. The proposed changes to the Constitution are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
6. None of the changes are particularly significant. Most of them reflect changes in the law or the Authority's practices, or are simply to clarify the existing position.
7. At its meeting on 22 July 2009 the Corporate Governance Committee agreed minor changes to the Contract Procedure Rules. Therefore, in accordance with previous practice, it is proposed to combine all changes to the Constitution now being recommended into a single joint

report of the Corporate Governance and Constitution Committees to the next meeting of the Council.

Recommendation

8. That the County Council be recommended to approve the proposed changes to the Constitution as set out in the Appendix to this report.

Background Papers

The Constitution of Leicestershire County Council.

Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

Officer to Contact

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Equal Opportunities Implications

None.