

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 13 JUNE 2022

PART I – DELEGATED

5. SUB-COMMITTEES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (CED)

1 Summary

- 1.1 The report is being presented to the Committee to agree to re-establish the Constitution sub-committee for 2022/23 but to request that the Covid-19 Response sub-committee is not re-established.
- 1.2 It is proposed that the Members appointed to the sub-committee be proportional based on the number of seats each Group has on the Council. Following the election (5 May 2022) the number of seats held by each Group is: 23 Liberal Democrats; 12 Conservative and 3 Labour. The Green Party have one seat on the Council but are not a Group.
- 1.3 It is proposed that the sub-committee has a total number of seats of 9 and for it to be proportional the allocation of the seats be:
- 5 Liberal Democrats
 - 3 Conservative
 - 1 Labour
- 1.4 Any Member of the Council is able to be appointed as a Member of a sub-committee and any Member can be a substitute.
- 1.5 The Committee are also asked to agree that the Covid-19 Response sub-committee is not re-established for 2022/23. The Committee will note that it was not re-established for 2021/22.

2 Details

- 2.1 The Constitution sub-committee have no decision-making powers with its remit being:
- To review the Council's Constitution and Governance arrangements and to make recommendations to the Policy and Resources Committee for Council ratification.*
- 2.2 The Covid-19 Response sub-committee was established in 2020 to review service restoration priorities and updates in response to Covid 19. The sub-committee has not met since November 2020
- 2.2.1 It is proposed to not re-establish this sub-committee and that any reports are provided directly to P&R Committee in the future.
- 2.3 As responsibility for the matters considered by the sub-committees is under the remit of this Committee, it is for this Committee to appoint Members to them.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Committee re-establishes the Constitution sub-committee and appoints Members with the political proportionality being 5, 3 and 1.
- 3.2 That substitute Members be allowed and all Members of Council can be substitute Members.

- 3.3 That any Member of Council can be appointed a Member on the sub-committee.
- 3.4 That the meetings can be held remotely/virtually, face to face or as a hybrid meeting.
- 3.5 That Covid-19 Response sub-committee is not re-established.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations fall within the Council's agreed policy and budgets.

5 Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre Implications

- 5.1 None specific.

6 Legal Implications

- Policy and Resources Committee have the power to set up sub-committees;
- Membership of the sub-committees can derive from the membership of the whole Council not just on the Committee itself;
- The membership has to be politically proportionate;
- The sub-committee can be given delegated authority to make decisions within its remit save where reserved to Council such as constitutional changes and some aspects of the local plan framework;
- The provisions of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 will apply to meetings of the sub-committee so they have to be held in public unless there are exceptions to the rule which allows for the meeting to move into private as Part 2 business;

7 Equal Opportunities Implications

- 7.1 None specific.

8 Environmental Implications

- 8.1 Holding of meetings virtually supports the Council's Climate Change strategy in reducing our carbon emissions

9 Communications and Website Implications

- 9.1 Details of the meetings and agendas will be published for the sub-committees on the Council's website.

10 Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

- 10.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.
- 10.2 The subject of this report is covered by the Committee service plan. Any risks resulting from this report will be included in the risk register and, if necessary, managed within this service plan.

10.3 There are no risks to the Council in agreeing the recommendations.

11 Recommendation

That the Policy and Resources Committee be asked to re-establish the Constitution sub-committee.

11.1 That Members appointed to the Constitution sub-committee be proportional based on the number of seats each Group has and that the allocation of seats be 5, 3 and 1 with the Members being:

Cllrs Sarah Nelmes, Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Chris Lloyd, Roger Seabourne and Dominic Sokalski, Ciaran Reed, Lisa Hudson, Debbie Morris and Stephen Cox

11.2 That no decision making powers be delegated to the sub-committee.

11.3 That any Member of the Council can be appointed a Member of the sub-committee and all Members can be substitute Members.

11.4 To not re-establish the Covid-19 Response sub-committee for 2022/23.

Report prepared by: Sarah Haythorpe, Principal Committee Manager

Data Quality

Data sources:

Policy and Resources Committee – P&R Committee 15 June 2020

Data checked by: Ciara Feeney, Solicitor to the Council

Data rating:

1	Poor	
2	Sufficient	√
3	High	

Appendix - none

Background Papers

None