

**FOR INFORMATION IN RELATION TO THE AGENDA OF
THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

M5CBC2A

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KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Thursday 11 May 2006

Present: Councillor Palfreeman in the Chair
Councillors P Batty, Calvert, Hemingway, Iqbal, Light, K Pinnock, Sims, K Smith, Smithson and Julie Stewart Turner

The Mayor Councillor Margaret Fearnley
The Deputy Mayor Councillor Donald Firth

84 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23 March 2006 were submitted and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

85 Admission of the Public

The Committee considered the question of the exclusion of the public.

86 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

87 Public Question Time

No questions by members of the public were considered.

88 Review of the Council Constitution

ITEM The Committee considered a report by the Solicitor to the Council which detailed proposed revisions to the Constitution in the light of its operation
6(a) in the current Municipal Year. The attached paper set out issues which
REFERS had arisen through either practical problems, comments by Members or officers, legislative change since the last Annual Council Meeting or decisions of this Committee arising from some of the foregoing.

RESOLVED - That the proposals outlined in the submitted report be agreed and Annual Council recommended to confirm the proposals.

89 Revision to Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules

The Committee considered a joint report by the Director of Finance and the Assistant Director Purchasing and Procurement which detailed proposed revisions to Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure

Rules recommended by the Audit Commission and the Capital Project Review Group.

RESOLVED - That the proposals outlined in the submitted report be agreed and Annual Council recommended to confirm the proposals.

90

Review of Constitution - Additional Issues Raised

(Additional item included on the Agenda with the agreement of the Chair in order that the Committee might comment on the proposals prior to reference to Annual Council)

The Committee considered a report which outlined additional issues raised in relation to the Constitution of the Council. The report advised that the Conservative Group had suggested that arrangements for Area Committees should be amended to revert to the situation which existed in 2004/05 i.e., that the Area Committees for 2006/07 be as follows:-

- * Batley (Batley East and Batley West)
- * Birstall and Birkenshaw
- * Colne Valley (Colne Valley and Golcar)
- * Denby Dale
- * Dewsbury (Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South and Dewsbury West)
- * Holme Valley North
- * Holme Valley South
- * Huddersfield North (Ashbrow, Greenhead and Lindley)
- * Huddersfield South (Almondbury, Crosland Moor and Netherton, Dalton and Newsome)
- * Kirkburton
- * Mirfield
- * Spen Valley (Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge and Gomersal)

The Ward(s) of each Area Committee to be as determined in 2004/05 including arrangements for establishing Parish memberships. This would require appropriate amendments to Article 10 of the Constitution. The report advised that some Services had established working structures around the previous seven locality areas and suggested that on occasion it might be good governance for issues to be addressed in a joint meeting of the Area Committees within each of the seven localities convened at the agreement of all the Area Chairs in that locality.

The report proposed that membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and Management Committee be increased from four to five Members which would require appropriate amendments to Article 6 of the Constitution and to the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

The report advised of the proposal to remove the current Cabinet Committees with the exception of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Committee (This is a matter for the Cabinet to decide and had been brought to the attention of this Committee for information purposes).

The Director of Finance advised that the Corporate Performance Assessment proposed a new requirement as to the establishment of a separate Audit Committee the work of which had previously been undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

RESOLVED -

(1) That proposals in relation to the number of Area Committees for 2006/07 as suggested above be referred to the Annual Council for determination.

(2) That Council be recommended to change the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from four to five Members.

(3) That proposals to remove the Cabinet Committees with the exception of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Committee be noted and

(4) That Council be recommended to appoint a separate Audit Committee with the same membership as the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

91

Dates of Council Meetings - 2006/07 Municipal Year

(Additional item included on the agenda with the agreement of the Chair in order that the Committee might consider the dates of Council Meetings for the 2006/07 Municipal Year and advised Annual Council accordingly)

The Committee considered a report which advised that this Committee at a meeting held on 9 February 2006 had agreed to recommend the Annual Meeting of the Council to determine the following schedule of Ordinary Meetings of the Council for the 2006/07 Municipal Year:-

28 June 2006
13 September 2006
18 October 2006
29 November 2006
17 January 2007
4 April 2007

The Budget Council to be held on 28 February 2007

A provisional date for the Annual Meeting 2007/08 of 23 May 2007.

A suggestion had been received from two of the Political Groups to the effect that the Council Meeting scheduled for 13 September 2006 be held on 27 September 2006, that the meeting scheduled for 18 October 2006 be deleted from the schedule and that the meeting scheduled for 4 April 2007 be brought forward to 21 March 2007.

RESOLVED -

(1) That Council be recommended to confirm the following dates for Ordinary Meetings of the Council for the 2006/07 Municipal Year:-

28 June 2006
27 September 2006
29 November 2006
17 January 2007
21 March 2007

Budget Council 28 February 2007

Annual Meeting 2007/08 - Provisional date of 23 May 2007.

(2) That clarification be sought on the dates of any Political Party Annual Conferences held in September 2006.