

Name of meeting: Annual Council

Date: 23 May 2012

Title of report: Constitutional Working Party Update

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not applicable
Is it in the Council's Forward Plan ?	Not applicable
Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny ?	No, as it is a decision for Council
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	David Smith, Director of Resources, 15 May 2012
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	No financial implications
Is it signed off by the Acting Assistant Director - Legal & Governance?	No legal implications
Cabinet member portfolio	

Electoral [wards](#) affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable

Public or private: Public

1. Purpose of report

To provide progress of the Constitutional Working Party in 2011/12 and proposed areas of work in 2012/13, and to consider a proposed option in regard to the Council's wider engagement in policy.

2. Key points

These are set out in the key points section of the attached report, as considered by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee on 11 May 2012. That Committee has recommended Option 2 regarding the Council's wider engagement in policy, which will require changes to the constitution in September 2012.

3. Implications for the Council

See Section 3 of attached report.

4. Consultees and their opinions

See Section 4 of attached report.

5. Next steps

Work on the preferred option will be undertaken and a report be made back to Council, via the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

That, as recommended by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee of 11 May 2012:

Annual Council be recommended to approve that work takes place between now and September 2012 to revisit and refresh the Council's Policy Framework which will thereafter be used as a basis for Full Council to establish a time limited Policy Advisory Committee that will undertake detailed work that is reported to Full Council, who will thereafter agree policy and request Cabinet to implement such policy.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation

As per the Officer recommendations.

8. Contact officer and relevant papers

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Background Papers: Constitutional Working Party - Update on work, submitted to Corporate Governance and Audit Committee on 11 May 2012

10. Assistant director responsible

Vanessa Redfern, Acting Assistant Director, Legal Governance and Monitoring.