

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Friday 13th May 2022

Present: Councillor Yusra Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Paola Antonia Davies
Councillor Steve Hall
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor Kath Pinnock
Councillor Melanie Stephen
Councillor John Taylor

Observers: Councillor Paul Davies (Ex Officio) – Cabinet Member
Resources

1 Membership of the Committee

No apologies for absence were received.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

That the Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 22 April 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Yusra Hussain declared an interest on agenda item 7 as she is employed by the NHS in another Local Authority area.

4 Admission of the Public

It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

There were no deputations or petitions received.

6 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

**7 Report of the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel (MAIRP)
(Reference to Annual Council)**

The Committee considered a report which set out the outcome of the Members Allowances Independent Review Panel.

The Committee noted that the Review Panel recommended a Special Responsibility Allowance for a new Lead Councillor: Primary Care Networks and Local Health Improvement. The Committee noted that the new role was the evolution of the Place Partnership Lead Member role, with a proposal to create nine roles to mirror the number of Primary Care Networks.

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The Committee discussed at length the new role of Lead Councillor for Primary Care Networks and how it would be an evolution of the Place Based Partnership Lead Member roles. The Committee had concerns that the role would be one that was particularly technical and could become very time consuming. Richard Parry, Strategic Director Adults and Health informed the Committee that officers from Public Health would provide guidance and training, including a data pack for Lead Councillor consideration.

The Committee concluded that there should be a review and accountability structure along with a review of the roles after 6 months.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Committee conveys thanks to the Members Allowances Independent Review Panel for their work and notes the outcomes of the Panel, as attached at Appendix A of the report.
2. That a review of the new role profile be undertaken after 6 months. The review will include the accountability of those in lead roles having regard to any learning from the Place Based working role which this new Lead Councillor role is intended to replace, [and any work already done to consider that already] with a report back to this committee.
3. That the Committee recommends that Council approves and adopts the recommendations with effect from 25 May 2022, and that the 9 Lead Councillor – Primary Care Networks and Local Health Improvement role be incorporated into the Members Allowance Scheme.

Under the provision of Councillor Procedure Rule 24(5) Councillor John Taylor asked that their vote against the motion be recorded. Councillor Mel Stephen asked that their abstention be recorded.

8 Changes to the Council's Constitution (Reference to Annual Council)

The Committee received a report setting out proposed changes to the Council's constitution as detailed in the Appendices. The report also provided a summary of changes to the Constitution made by the Monitoring Officer using delegated powers.

The Committee noted that it was essential the Council's Constitution be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure that it remained fit for purpose and enabled Council meetings to be conducted in a fair, business like and effective manner. It was also essential that the Constitution complied with current legislation. Failure to do so could lead to challenges, unnecessary procedural delays, and less transparency in the Council's democratic process.

RESOLVED – That the Committee:

1. Notes the changes made to the Constitution in 2021-2022 as listed in Appendix 1 of the report and notes the Cabinet approval of the Safeguarding Policy, set out in paragraph 2.04.

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2. Approves the amendment to the Policy Framework at paragraph 2.04 in the event that Council considers and adopts the Council Corporate Safeguarding Policy referred to in that paragraph.
3. Approves the proposed changes to the Councils constitution as set out in paragraphs 2.08, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, and 2.22 and the accompanying relevant Appendices.
4. Notes the further work proposed to keep the Council's Constitution under review.
5. Notes the proposed further work in respect of standards.
6. Recommends that Council approves and adopts the recommendations with effect from 25 May 2022, and delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning to make appropriate amendments to the constitution which may be agreed by Council as well as any consequential amendments to the constitution to reflect the changes agreed.

9 Corporate Customer Standards Interim Report 2021-22 Item withdrawn.