

Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	21 May 2018
Executive Member/ Reporting Officer:	Councillor Brenda Warrington – Executive Leader Sandra Stewart – Director (Governance and Pensions)
Subject:	AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION
Report Summary:	<p>The report sets out proposals for the replacement of Town Councils with Strategic Neighbourhood Forums to provide a new, more strategic way of area based working.</p> <p>The report also outlines, for Members information, revised Executive Member portfolio arrangements.</p>
Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the nine Town Councils be disbanded; (ii) That four Strategic Neighbourhood Forums be created as set out in section 1 of the report; (iii) That the following Member posts be created: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Strategic Neighbourhood Forum Chairs; and • Four Strategic Neighbourhood Forum Deputy Chairs. (iv) That the following Member posts be disbanded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Council Co-ordinator; East Area Neighbourhood Co-ordinator; West Area Neighbourhood Co-ordinator; East Area Assistant Neighbourhood Co-ordinator; and West Area Assistant Neighbourhood Co-ordinator. (v) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums meet at the earliest opportunity to agree the operating arrangements for the Forums. (vi) That the revised Executive Member portfolio arrangements be noted; (vii) That the Constitution be amended to reflect the changes.
Links to Community Strategy:	The Constitution and democratic framework provides an effective framework for implementing the Community Strategy.
Policy Implications:	There are no policy implications.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	The work of the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums will be funded from existing resources. The changes to Executive Member portfolios will see a reduction from 8 to 7 Cabinet Members which more than offsets the cost of changes to Strategic Neighbourhood Forums.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>It is important that Elected Members formal engagement arrangements with its community to ensure arrangements are appropriate for the changing environment.</p> <p>Any changes will need to be reflected in the Constitution.</p>

Risk Management:

The operational arrangements for the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums will need to be clearly set out in the Council Constitution to ensure that proper governance is followed.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services by:



phone: 0161 342 2146



e-mail: robert.landon@tameside.gov.uk

1. STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS

- 1.1 At its meeting on 12 July 2016 Council agreed to the replacement of the six District Assemblies with nine Town Councils. At the time of the creation of the Town Councils it was determined that they could most effectively operate outside of the formal Council meeting arrangement to allow for greater flexibility of approach. This approach also meant that there was no formal officer support provided to the Town Councils.
- 1.2 Having operated for nearly two years it has been apparent that whilst the approach adopted in 2016 has a number of benefits, there would be greater benefits if the approach to area based working for Members was more strategic in nature; better reflected the arrangements adopted by key partners such as health and police and were better linked into the Council's formal decision-making arrangements. With this in mind it is therefore proposed that future area based Member working arrangements should be based on the following areas which are the same, or very similar to, the neighbourhood areas for health and police matters.:

Area	Wards
North	Ashton Hurst, Ashton St Michael's, Ashton Waterloo and St Peters
South	Hyde Godley, Hyde Newton, Hyde Werneth and Longdendale
East	Dukinfield, Mossley, Stalybridge North and Stalybridge South
West	Audenshaw, Denton North East, Denton South, Denton West, Droylsden East and Droylsden West

- 1.3 The new Strategic Neighbourhood Forums will focus on local input into the decision-making process with the Forums being primary consultees on amongst other things:
- (i) **Highways Matters:** to identify and propose traffic calming schemes; to monitor road safety issues ; to make proposals within the area of the Forum relating to non-strategic highways matters;
 - (ii) **Highways Maintenance:** to be consulted on and receive updates relating to the maintenance of principal roads, to propose additions and amendments to the approved programme for the maintenance of local roads, footpaths and street lights and the provision of street furniture;
 - (iii) **Grounds Maintenance:** to be consulted on, receive update relating to and to make proposals relating to grounds maintenance activities;
 - (iv) **Parks, Gardens and Open Space:** to be consulted on, receive updates on and to make proposals regarding the maintenance and management of parks, gardens and open space;
 - (v) **Street Cleansing:** to be consulted on, receive updates and to make proposals concerning the operation of street cleansing activities, including mechanical sweeping routes;
 - (vi) **Young People:** to make proposals and receive updates on the provision of facilities and services for young people other than education and Social Services;
 - (vii) **Community Safety:** To make proposals concerning community safety initiatives;
 - (viii) **Ward Scheme:** To allocate monies through ward budgets in accordance with ward monies scheme,
 - (ix) **Complaints:** to monitor and refer complaints regarding services in the local area;
 - (x) **Environmental Improvements:** to be consulted on environmental improvement schemes
 - (xi) **Street Naming:** to be consulted on and have the facilities to make alternative suggestions in respect of the naming of streets.
 - (xii) **Entertainment and Events:** to be consulted on activities in the local area and the provision of entertainment and support of the arts.
 - (xiii) **Regeneration Initiatives:** to be consulted with regard to regeneration initiatives as appropriate; and
 - (xiv) **Markets:** to be consulted on the operation, management, development and other markets issues;
 - (xv) **Land Use –** to be consulted on, to receive updates on the proposals about the use of Council land and buildings in the area.

- 1.3 In order to facilitate the work of the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums the meetings will be supported by officers from Democratic Services and officers from other Directorates, in particular Growth and Neighbourhoods and Operations, will be expected to attend Strategic Neighbourhood Forum meetings on a regular basis and to support the work of the Forums.
- 1.4 Given the role of the Strategic Neighbourhood Forums in influencing Council wide decisions it is intended to look, where possible, for a balance in terms of the representation of Strategic Neighbourhood Forums across the Council decision making meetings.

2. EXECUTIVE MEMBER PORTFOLIOS

- 2.1 Set out below for Members information are the revised Executive Member portfolios put in place by the Executive Leader:

Executive Member	Portfolio Outline
Executive Leader	Strategic Oversight; to represent the Council externally; Principal political spokesperson; oversight of the annual budget; Portfolio for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing; Chair of Greater Manchester Pension Fund; Member of Greater Manchester Combined Authority; development and implementation of Integrated Care Organisation.
Deputy Executive Leader	Deputise of Executive Leader as and when required; to lead on capital and revenue budget preparation and monitoring; to lead on performance management; to lead on corporate services, information technology; land disposals; and communication
Children and Families	Children's Social Care; Safeguarding (incl. Tameside Safeguarding Children Board); Youth Provision; Children with disabilities; Early Help and Troubled Families; Support services (incl. early intervention, behaviour, respite, communication, sensory & autism); Looked after children - Corporate Parenting; Children's Centres; Health as it relates to Children's Services;
Economic Growth and Housing	Strategic economic development; investment and enterprise; employment initiatives; regeneration; housing matters; economic growth activities; inward investment;
Lifelong Learning, Skills and Employment	Early years learning and school readiness; education attainment and achievement; school development and support; schools capital programme; special educational needs; skills and training.
Neighbourhood Services	Waste Collection, disposal and recycling; Carbon Reduction; Environmental Health and Public Protection (incl. Licensing and Trading Standards); Engineering operations and Highway development; Transportation, fleet management and Parking; To lead on the functions of the Council as highways authority; highway maintenance and improvement works; planning and all enforcement matters
Strategic Development and	Strategic transport matters include matters such as Tameside Interchange and Longdendale bypass; strategic

Transport	and major development matters; regional and sub-regional transport and development matters
-----------	--

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 As set out on the front of the report.