

Committee: RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item

Date: 17TH November 2005

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Title: **IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW
CONSTITUTION**

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Item for decision

Summary

This report advises the Committee of the need to report back to the Full Council at its meeting in December regarding issues relating to the implementation of the new Constitution following the Council decision taken on 18th October 2005. It recommends a number of suggestions to assist the new Operations Committee with its work.

Recommendations

1. That the Asset Review Task continue to meet with a view to a report being brought to the first meeting of the newly constituted Operations Committee in February 2006.
2. That the Information Technology Working Group, Corporate Support Working Group, Corporate Procurement Group, and Local Service Agreement Working Party continue to meet and report issues to the Operations Committee as appropriate with a review of their roles and functions being taken to the Committee in March 2006.
3. That presentations to the Operations Committee normally take place prior to the official starting time of 7.30 pm.
4. That the Members Bulletin be used where appropriate for issues that would otherwise only require noting by the Operations Committee.

Background Papers

The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author.

1. Constitution of the Council adopted 18th October 2005.
2. The report to the Resources Committee on 28th July 2005 setting up the Asset Review Task Group

Impact

Communication/Consultation	None
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Community Safety	None.
Equalities	None.
Finance	None.
Human Rights	None.
Legal Implications	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

1. This report is presented to the Committee in order for the Committee to make suggestions to the Council to ensure that the new Operations Committee operates efficiently.
2. All of the current functions of the Resources Committee will transfer to the new Operations Committee.
3. As the new Committee is expected to deal with policy and strategic decisions it will be necessary to structure the agenda so that the Committee can concentrate on its prime duty.
4. The Committee may be required to allocate time on an as and when basis on issues that emerge from the Area Panels.

Current Task Groups

5. The Committee has a number of Task Groups, some of which are very active and others which rarely meet. It is proposed that these Groups continue until a review is taken to the Operations Committee in March 2006.

Other Issues

6. In order to assist the new Operations Committee with its workload it is suggested that the Committee adopts a policy that as a general principle, any presentation takes place prior to the normal 7.30 p.m. start of the meeting. Otherwise the Operations Committee may not be in a position to commence its work until well into the evening.
7. In an attempt to keep the agenda focussed on policy/strategic decisions, it is suggested that issues for noting only should be reported to Members via the Members Bulletin. This will impose a discipline on officers to ensure this facility is used.

Risk Analysis

10. The following has been assessed as the potential risk associated with this issue.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
That agendas are long due to consideration of operational or 'to note' issues, rather than policy and strategic issues.	Medium	High	Careful agenda management and use of alternative communication mechanisms to keep Members informed