

Council 20 June 2022

Item 8b refers

Recommendations from the Constitutional Review Committee meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

1. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION – REVIEW OF KEEPING WARD MEMBERS INFORMED

The purpose of the report was to remind Members of the current Access to Information provisions in the Constitution and to note the other existing communication channels available to Members in their Ward duties.

**RECOMMENDED to Council:**

1. **That the amendment to the Constitution set out in the report, in relation to Part 5, Section 3: Section 10 of the Protocol on Member and Officer Relations, be approved, and all references to the “Sensitive Issues Procedure” in the Constitution are deleted;**

**10. Involvement of Ward Councillors.**

**10.1 It is essential that in order for Members to carry out their duties they need to be kept fully informed about matters on which they may be required to make decisions or which affect their Wards.**

**10.2 It is vital all relevant staff are aware of the requirement to keep Members informed and that the timing of such information allows Members to contribute to those decisions. Local Ward Members shall also be kept informed about significant matters affecting their Ward.**

**10.3 Whenever a public meeting is organised by the Council to consider a local issue, all the Members representing the Ward(s) affected should as a matter of course be invited to attend the meeting.**

**10.4 Similarly, whenever the Council undertakes any form of consultative exercise, the Local Ward Member(s) should be notified immediately prior to the outset of the exercise.**

**The report and appendices to the Constitutional Review Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 are attached.**