

County Council – 16 February 2017

Recommendation from the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 20 January 2017

Constitutional Changes

- 14 The Committee considered a report by the Monitoring Officer which set out some suggested changes in the way in which County Council meetings were run to improve the time and quality of meetings.

Members suggested that if the minutes of committee meetings were no longer included then there should be a verbal report from the chairmen of those committees.

RECOMMENDED

That constitutional changes in relation to the arrangements for County Council meetings be approved as amended by the Audit and Governance Committee in relation to a verbal report from Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. (The list of changes is outlined below)

Reason for Recommendation

To contribute to the corporate aim to “provide innovative and value for money services”.

Recommended changes

1. Reporting of deaths of former members – To be referred to in Chairman’s Announcements only and not to hold tributes to former members unless they were serving on the Council when they died. Democratic Services will coordinate tributes to historic members outside of the meeting, as detailed within the report.
2. Notices of Motion – To retain the current arrangements, with the addition of flexibility in the arrangements to be able to debate matters of strategic importance if deemed appropriate (to be determined by the Chairman and the Chief Executive).
3. Minutes of Meetings – Committees to continue to report recommendations to the Council and minutes of the Cabinet to continue to be reported, but not minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees would instead be invited to provide a brief update the Council on the work of the committees.
4. Minutes of Outside Organisations – Removal of minutes from the agenda and expand this section of the agenda to provide a ‘Partnership Brief’ from strategic partners including the Fire Authority, Police and Crime Commissioner, CCG, NHS, and others on a rotational basis.
5. Lunches for Council meetings – To continue to use Oh Crumbs as the lunch provider for Council lunches.