

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

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### SELECTION AND MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Selection and Member Services Committee held in the Wantsum Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Friday, 4 December 2009.

PRESENT: Mrs P A V Stockell (Chairman), Mr D L Brazier, Mr N J D Chard, Mr L Christie, Mrs T Dean, Mrs S V Hohler, Mr A J King, MBE, Mr K G Lynes and Mr R A Marsh

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr G Wild (Director of Law and Governance), Mr P Sass (Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership), Mrs M Cooper (Member Liaison Manager) and Mr A Tait (Democratic Services Officer)

### UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

#### **31. Minutes - 13 October 2009**

*(Item 3)*

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2009 are correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.

#### **32. Changes to the Constitution**

*(Item 4)*

(1) The Committee made a number of amendments to the proposed draft Constitution which are set out below, giving the page numbers from the agenda papers:-

(a) the incorporation in the Executive Summary (Pages 17/18) of an explanation that whenever the masculine form of a title is used (e.g. "Spokesman"), this also includes the feminine.

(b) Page 18 last paragraph: replace "and Scrutiny Committees" with "and Scrutiny Committee suite."

(c) Page 7, paragraph 2 (1): "After answering questions, the Cabinet Member, Deputy Cabinet Member and Officers may remain but should not normally be invited to speak during debate (except for the purposes of clarification) unless it seems likely the Committee will be proposing an action on which they have not commented and on which advice is either sought or should be given in order to protect the Council's interests."

(d) Page 93 Paragraph 4.7: Removal of the last sentence.

(e) Page 129 Paragraph 7: Re-inclusion of "Cabinet Scrutiny Committee" in place of "Scrutiny Board."

(f) Page 119 Paragraph 8.18: replace "Cabinet Scrutiny Committee with "Scrutiny Board."

(g) Page 135 Flow Chart: An explanation that the Local Member will continue to be informed and consulted if a change of substance is proposed.

(2) In respect of the budget process, the Committee confirmed that the meaning of the Constitution was that any item that appeared in the Cabinet papers or was the subject of a Cabinet Member decision was in the remit of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee.

(3) The Committee confirmed that it would be content for the Labour and Independent Members to attend and be invited to speak at meetings of the Scrutiny Board.

(4) The Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership agreed to write to the Managing Directors to remind them of the need to inform Members of Officer decisions.

(5) Mr A J King gave a commitment that the operational effectiveness of the Policy Overview Scrutiny Committee suite would be reviewed in the second half of 2010.

(6) RESOLVED that subject to (1) to (3) above: -

(a) the consequential amendments to the Constitution as set out in Appendix 1 be recommended to the County Council for approval;

(b) the amendments to the Constitution and the endorsements requested in paragraph 2 be recommended to the County Council for approval;

(c) the Protocol for the Councillor Call for Action as set out in Appendix 3 be recommended to the County Council for approval;

(d) the Protocol for the operation of the Crime and Disorder Committee as set out in Appendix 4 be recommended to the County Council for approval;

(e) it be noted that the Policy Overview and Co-ordinating Committee had endorsed the Policy Framework and the attached revised version of the Policy Framework at Appendix 5 be recommended to the County Council for approval; and

(f) the work being undertaken to refresh the protocols on the Overview and Scrutiny of Health across Kent and the Overview and Scrutiny Inter Authority Co-operation be noted.

### **33. Appointment of Champions and to Outside Bodies**

*(Item 5)*

(1) The Committee noted and confirmed the additional Champions set out in (2) below.

(2) RESOLVED that:-

(a) the following Champions be confirmed with the Terms of Reference set out in paragraph 3 of the report:-

- (i) Armed Forces Community: Mr L B Ridings;
- (ii) Older Persons': Mr M J Angell
- (iii) Younger Persons': Mrs A D Allen;
- (iv) Cycling: Mr D L Brazier;
- (v) Heritage: Mr D L Brazier; and
- (vi) Member: Mrs P A V Stockell;

(b) Mr B J Sweetland be appointed as the County Council's Elected Member Director on the Boards of Kent County trading Ltd; and

(c) Mr R Frayne as the Local member for Dover Town be appointed as a Trustee to the Dover Painted House Trust.

#### **34. Member accommodation**

*(Item 6)*

(1) Mrs T Dean asked for her objection to the accommodation offered to the Liberal Democrat Group be recorded. In particular, she considered that there should be separate rooms for the Group Members and the officers serving the Group.

(2) RESOLVED that further investigation be undertaken into the feasibility of fitting high intensity bulbs in the Members' Room.