

MEMBERS' ROLES

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report introduces a set of main activities for each of the Member roles, for consideration and approval. It also proposes that the post of Deputy Leader of the Council should be created from the next Municipal Year 2007/08.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Over a period of time, the roles and responsibilities associated with Members have continued to develop, with the recent Local Government White Paper and forthcoming legislation promising yet further development of the Members' role.
- 2.2 The attached appendix, which outlines the main Members' roles, attempts to identify the activities around each role. It also includes a new post of Deputy Leader of the Council, to stand in when the Leader is unavailable.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Members' role continues to grow and, at the same time, there is often a lack of clarity over what it entails from a public and partners' perspective. Also, in terms of prospective candidates and those Members who find themselves voted in as Councillors. The attached appendix seeks to provide that clarity and, if agreed, will form part of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and included in appropriate literature and be website information.
- 3.2 As to the post of Deputy Leader of the Council, that is now put forward for formal consideration. As the partnership agenda continues to grow and with more and more emphasis being given to the Leader, it can be difficult to meet all the demands now associated with the post. It is therefore proposed that the Council formally consider appointing not just a Leader, but also a Deputy Leader from the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** to Full Council that it **RESOLVES** to:-
- (1) Appoint a Deputy Leader of the Council from the 2007/08 Municipal Year
 - (2) Agree to the key activities for each of the Members' roles, as outlined in the appendix, for inclusion in the Constitution and other relevant publications. Whether this includes a Deputy Leader role will be dependent on Recommendation (1) above.

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Background Papers:-

None

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