

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Annual Council Meeting
2.	Date:	21st May 2010
3.	Title:	Delegation of Powers
4.	Directorate:	Chief Executive's

5. Summary

The Council's Constitution includes the Scheme of Delegation for Members and Officers. The Scheme has been updated and it is proposed to make some minor changes, as set out in the report.

Changes to the Scheme as regards executive functions may be made by the Leader, and will be reported to all members.

Copies of the full scheme are available in the Members Room, and on the intranet / internet as part of the agenda for this meeting

6. Recommendations

That the Scheme of Delegation for Members and Officers for 2010 / 2011 be approved.

7. Proposals and Details

Appendix 10 to the Council's Constitution sets out the Council's Scheme of Delegation for Members and Officers.

The Council is required annually to approve the Scheme of Delegation in respect of non-executive functions. Under the "strong" Leader and Cabinet model adopted by the Council, with effect from this month, the Leader has become responsible for the delegation of executive functions. The Leader may discharge such functions or may arrange for them to be discharged by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, a Committee of the Cabinet, an Area Assembly Co-ordinating group, an Officer or by joint arrangements.

The Scheme of Delegation has been prepared on the basis that there will be no changes to the previous arrangement as regards the allocation of Executive functions. The Leader may make a statement at the meeting as to any amendments made to the Scheme as regards Executive functions. Any future changes will be notified to all Members of the Council directly they are made, and formally reported to the next meeting of the Council.

Some minor changes have been made to the Scheme as follows:-

- a) The list of plans and strategies that require approval by the Council has been updated to reflect changes in legislation.
- b) As regards introductory tenancies, it is recommended that panels be drawn from the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel as well as the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel as with such a small number of Members it has proved difficult on occasions to get a panel. Cases often relate to anti-social behaviour which is within the remit of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel.
- c) Delegations to Service Directors in respect of Human Resource matters have been updated in line with current Council policy
- d) Delegations to the Director of Planning and Regeneration have been updated as recently agreed by the Planning Board and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation.
- e) It is recommended that the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) be given powers to agree changes to polling stations at any time, in consultation with Ward Members. This may on occasion be necessary outside of the four yearly full review which is carried out, if premises become unavailable at short notice.

The Scheme has been updated to reflect the above changes if approved.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Without a clear and specific Scheme of Delegation of Powers there may be confusion and incorrect decision making.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

There is a need for sound corporate governance and open and transparent decision making, which is assisted by clear delegation arrangements.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Council's Constitution

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