

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

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| 1. | Meeting: | Annual Council Meeting |
| 2. | Date: | 20th May 2011 |
| 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 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 on the Intranet/Internet as part of the agenda for this meeting.

6. Recommendations

That the Scheme of Delegation for Members and Officers for 2011/12 be approved.

7. Proposals and Details

Appendix 9 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 such as planning and licensing. The delegated powers of the Licensing Board and the Licensing Committee have been updated so as to reflect current legislation and changes agreed by the Council as part of the statement of licensing principles approved at the last Council meeting.

Under the "Strong" Leader and Cabinet Model adopted by the Council last year, 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 previous arrangements as regards the allocation of executive functions, except for those of a clerical nature and those which reflect organisational changes within the Council. The Leader may make a statement at the meeting as to any further amendments to be made to the scheme as regards executive functions. Any future changes will be notified to all Members of the Council directly they are made, formally reported to the next meeting of the Council and included in the Council's Scheme.

Changes to the Scheme include:-

- (a) Functions previously allocated to the Director of Culture and Leisure Services are now allocated either to the Director of Planning and Regeneration or the Director of Streetpride.
- (b) As regards Children and Young Persons' Services, the Schedule of Delegated Powers has been extended to include current statutory duties. Some of these are under review or due to be replaced or amended and potential changes have been annotated as part of the schedule.
- (c) In Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, functions previously discharged by the Director of Independent Living have now been allocated to the Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods.
- (d) The Scheme has been amended to reflect the appointment of the Director of Public Health as Proper Officer, with regard to the Council's statutory responsibility for public health functions in relation to infectious disease and environmental hazards.

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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