

COUNCIL MEETING – 17 DECEMBER 2019

HOUSING MANAGEMENT REVIEW – CONSTITUTION CHANGES – DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider amendments to 'Part 2 – Responsibility for Functions' of the Council's Constitution.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Following the decision made by the Council to bring the housing management services back in-house for direct service provision by the Authority and wind up its housing management company (Newark and Sherwood Homes Ltd), a review has been undertaken of the Council's Constitution.

- 2.2 Part 2 of the Council's Constitution sets out the responsibilities for all Council functions, detailing those to be discharged through committees and those delegated to officers. Currently, there are references within this part of the Constitution to managing and overseeing the Council's relationship with, and the performance of, Newark and Sherwood Homes Ltd. These references have been updated to reflect the position to transfer the housing management services back into the Council. Certain housing related functions are currently delegated to the Company, and these will come back to the Council post the transfer. The remits of the Policy and Finance, and Homes and Communities Committees have been amended to ensure that they reflect the housing related decisions to be taken by these two committees once the service has been brought back in-house. There are also some minor amendments proposed to the scheme of officer delegation within Part 2 to facilitate operational decision-making.

- 2.3 The proposed changes to committee remits and officer delegation are set out in **Appendix A** to this report, with the proposed changes highlighted for ease of reference. For clarity, only those sections of Part 2, which are proposed to be changed have been included within the Appendix, the rest remains unchanged. It is proposed that the changes be implemented with effect from the date of the transfer-in of the housing management service, which is anticipated to take place on 1 February 2020.

- 2.4 The proposed changes were considered by the Councillor's Commission at its meeting on 9 December 2019 when it was agreed to recommend to full Council that the amendments as detailed in **Appendix A** be approved.

- 2.5 It should be noted that further work is currently being undertaken to consider how best to actively engage and involve tenants and tenant representatives in the delivery of the housing management service and decision making post the transfer. A report setting out the various options for this will be submitted to the Homes and Communities Committee for consideration in the new year.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the Council approve the amendments to the Council's Constitution, 'Part 2 – Responsibility for Functions' to take effect from the date of the transfer-in of the housing management service.

Background Papers

Nil.

For further information please contact Karen White on extension 5240.

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