



Leaders' Committee AGM

Constitutional Matters – Amendments to London Councils Standing Orders

Item no: 15B

Report by: Christiane Jenkins

Job title: Director, Corporate Governance

Date: 2 June 2015

Contact Officer: Christiane Jenkins

Telephone: 020 7934 9540

Email: christiane.jenkins@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary:

This report proposes a number of amendments to London Councils Standing Orders.

These provide additional clarity to procedures and consistency of wording throughout the document. The changes are minor and do not alter the provisions for managing meetings.

Recommendations:

Leaders' Committee is asked to:

- Agree to the proposed amendments to London Councils Standing Orders, as detailed in Appendix 1.

Constitutional Matters – Amendments to London Councils Standing Orders

1. London Councils Standing Orders are contained in Schedule 6 of the Leaders' Committee Governing Agreement. In accordance with section 27.2 of the Standing Orders, they can be amended by a decision of London Councils Leaders' Committee.
2. The Standing Orders have been amended a number of times since 2001. The current version was approved by Leaders' Committee on 15 July 2014.
3. The proposed amendments are detailed in Appendix 1. The current Standing Orders and a revised version, as proposed, are available as background papers.
4. The changes are intended to provide additional clarity to procedures and for consistency, for example in using the term 'clear working day' instead of 'working day' throughout the document. The provisions for filming meetings have also been updated to reflect current practice and The Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014. The changes are minor and do not alter the provisions for managing meetings. Some further minor drafting changes are also proposed to ensure clarity of language throughout the document. These are not included in the Appendix attached but a version including all the proposed changes can be provided upon request.

Recommendations

5. Leaders' Committee is asked to:
 - Agree to the proposed amendments to London Councils Standing Orders as detailed in Appendix 1.

Financial Implications for London Councils

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications for London Councils

It is necessary that changes to London Councils governance documents are properly made in a manner which is consistent with the joint committees' Governing Agreements. Leaders' Committee has the authority to approve changes to London Councils Standing Orders. Should these revised Standing Orders be approved, they will be deemed to be substituted as Schedule 6 to the Leaders' Committee Governing Agreement.

Equalities Implications for London Councils

There are no specific equalities implications for London Councils from this report.

Appendix 1

- The proposed amendments to London Councils Standing Orders

Background Documents:

- The current Standing Orders (last revised July 2014)
- A revised version as proposed in this report.