

## **Green Group proposed amendments to Governance Review (agenda item 11)**

### **Amendment 1 – Committee Structure**

The Council will establish an executive function via Full Council and a feeder committee structure reporting to Full Council for approval. The Committee structure will reflect the service areas of the Council and be composed of Councillors in proportion to their political group numbers (A full report on adoption this Committee system to be prepared by officers to illustrate the detailed operation of this system) and that Council does not adopt recommendations in the report that conflict with this one.

### **Amendment 2 – To recommendation A1 – Single Executive Member Arrangements**

Add the following amendment: All decisions identified in Annex 1, shall be delegated to the Board without exception.

If the amendment is approved, the amended recommendation would read:

*That the single executive member arrangements for decision-making be discontinued and to RECOMMEND the Board that the responsibilities of single members all be allocated to the Board*

### **Amendment 3 – To recommendation A2 – Board Addresses**

Delete the following words “where the chair agrees” in the proposed new wording for procedure rule 12.9 (Annex 3)

If the amendment is approved, the amended procedure rule 12.9 would read as follows:

*City Councillors may address the Board on an item for decision on the agenda (other than on the minutes). The member seeking to make an address must notify the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 9.30am on a day so that there is at least one working day before the meeting. An address may last for not more than three minutes. If an address is made, the Board member who has political responsibility for the item for decision may respond or the Board will have regard to the points raised in reaching its decision.*

### **Amendment 4 – To recommendation A3 – Scrutiny Committees**

To retain the current two Scrutiny Committees based on the themes already established, namely the Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee and the Communities and Partnership Scrutiny Committee.

### **Amendment 5 – To recommendation A4 – Council Procedures**

- (a) With regard to public questions and addresses:
- A maximum of 90 minutes will be made available to take public questions and addresses. If a question or address is not taken within the time allowed the Chief Executive is authorised to provide a written answer.
- (b) With regard to Motions:
- Substantive amendments to Motions must be submitted no later than 1.5 working days before the meeting so that they may be circulated with the briefing note
  - Minor technical or limited wording amendments may be submitted during the meeting but must be written down and circulated.
- (c) With regard to members reporting to Council;
- to delete the wording in Procedure Rules 11.14 and 11.15 and replace with the following wording:
- Members who are Council representatives on external bodies or Chairs of Council Committees who consider that a significant decision or event has taken place, will give notice of up to 1.5 working days prior to the Council meeting to present a written or oral report on the event of significant decision and how it may influence future events. All Council members will be able to ask for a report to be given at Council by the Council representative on a significant change or important event if they lodge their request up to 4.5 days prior to the Council meeting.*
- (d) With regard to special meetings of Council:
- to delete “any twelve Councillors” may call a special meeting and replace with “10% of the Council representatives may call a special meeting”.

### **Amendment 6 – To recommendation B1 – Programme of Council and Committee Meetings**

Add the following words:

There shall be 9 meetings of Full Council in a year - in May (Annual), early June, September, October, November, December, January, February (Budget) and March. There shall be no meeting of Council in August and in April each year. Meetings of the City Executive Board should be organized to present their decisions to subsequent Full Council meetings. A detailed report on these decisions to be produced by officers with a new structure of dates to be established.

If the amendment is approved the amended recommendation would read as follows:

*That the programme of Council and Committee meetings for 2013/14 and 2014/15 be approved subject to there being 9 meetings of Full Council in a year - in May (Annual), early June, September, October, November, December, January, February (Budget) and March. There shall be no meeting of Council in August and in April of each year. Meetings of the City Executive Board should be organized to present their decisions to subsequent Full Council meetings. A detailed report on these decisions to be produced by officers with a new structure of dates. .*

**Amendment 7 – Public engagement**

To delete the whole of Annex 5 to the report and replace with the following wording:

*That City Council officers prepare a report on the logistical arrangements for returning to a locally devolved democratic structure based on Area Committees. These Committees to have control of a range of Council services that are locally delivered, powers over planning and to set a devolved budget related to their size.*

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