
Review of Leader's Report

To: **Constitutional Review Working Party – January 2011**

Main Portfolio Area: **Democratic Services**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **N/A**

Summary: **Following discussion at the last meeting of the Constitutional Review Working Party this report sets out recommendations regarding changes to the Leader's report as requested.**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Following discussion at the last meeting of the Constitutional Review Working Party it was agreed that an alternative way of conducting the Leader's report at Council meetings, in line with the Kent County Council scheme be put before this working party.

2.0 The Current Situation

2.1 Currently the Council's constitution allows for a Leader's report; however it is not prescriptive in how that report is structured or dealt with or how it is responded to. Thanet District Council's rules on Leader's reports are included in Annex 1.

2.2 Attached at Annex 2 are proposed changes to the Council's Constitution in line with the request made at the last meeting of the Constitutional Review Working Party. It is proposed to insert a new council procedure rule 2.2 covering the changes to the Leaders report.

2.3 Such a scheme would not require the Leader to provide a written report to support his speech.

3.0 Options

3.1 The Constitutional Review Working Party can recommend to Standards Committee that the rules for the Leader's report are altered as per the alternative scheme attached, or remain as they are or amended in another way.

4.0 Corporate Implications

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 There are no financial implications.

4.2 Legal

4.2.1 If changes are made to the existing Leader's report arrangements, the Council's constitution will need to be amended.

4.3 Corporate

4.3.1 Amendments to the Council's constitution such as the Leader's report fit with the Modern Council theme of the Corporate Plan.

4.4 Equity and Equalities

4.4.1 None Apparent

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 The working party's instructions are requested.

6.0 Decision Making Process

6.1 If the Constitutional Review Working Party recommends any changes to the Leader's Report then they would be recommended to the Standards Committee.

Meeting: Standards Committee	Date: 8 February 2011
Meeting: Council	Date: 24 February 2011

Contact Officer:	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager
Reporting to:	Glenn Back, Democratic and Scrutiny Manager

Annex List

Annex 1	Thanet District Council's rules on the Leader's report
Annex 2	New Leaders report proposals

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
<i>None</i>	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	<i>N/A</i>
Legal	<i>Harvey Patterson, Head of Legal & Democratic Services</i>