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**Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Thanet District Council, and the planning protocol**

To: **Constitution Review Working Party – 11 November 2010**

By: **Harvey Patterson, Monitoring Officer**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

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**Summary:** **To consider a number of amendments to the Constitution arising out of the meeting of the Working Party on the 25 August 2010 and to make recommendations to the Standards Committee thereon**

**For Decision**

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**1.0 Introduction**

1.1 Members will recall that the Constitution Review Working Party met on 25 August 2010 and made a number of recommendations including:-

- Requesting further revisions to the Protocol for the Guidance of Planning Committee Members and Officers to reflect the recommendations made by the Working Party in the last cycle; and
- A review of the public speaking arrangements at Planning Committee,

**2.0 Details**

2.1 An amended Protocol for the Guidance of Planning Committee Members and Officers is attached for consideration as **Annexe 1**. The amended provisions can be found at paragraphs 8 and 11.

2.2 A short discussion paper on possible revised public speaking arrangements at Planning Committee is attached as **Annexe 2** from which it can be seen that on balance the officer support the retention of the existing arrangements

2.3 The Planning Applications & Enforcement Manager also reviewed the 'Development Control' delegations in the Scheme of Delegations to Officers and suggested amendments thereto are attached as **Annex 3**.

2.4 The Monitoring Officer and Planning Applications Manager will be present to answer questions in relation to the proposed amendments including the further amendments or omissions recommended by the Constitution Review Working Party.

### **3.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **3.1 Financial**

3.1.1 None apparent

#### **3.2 Legal**

3.21 As set out in the report

#### **3.3 Corporate**

3.3.1 The Constitution is the Council's principal governance document and is required to be kept under regular review

#### **3.4 Equity and Equalities**

3.4.1 None Specific

### **4.0 Recommendation(s)**

4.1 That the report be received and noted.

4.2 That the Working Party makes recommendations to the Standards Committee in respect of the matters set out in the Annexes 1, 2 and 3.

### **5.0 Decision Making Process**

5.1.1 The recommendations of the Constitution Review Working Party are considered by the Standards Committee who will make final recommendations to Council. Council will determine the date by which any constitutional reform is to take effect.

Contact Officer: Harvey Patterson, Head of Legal & Democratic Services  
Reporting to: Sue McGonigal - Deputy Chief Executive

### **Annexe List**

Annex 1	An amended Protocol for the Guidance of Planning Committee Members and Officers
Annex 2	A short discussion paper on possible revised public speaking arrangements at Planning Committee
Annex 3	Amended Scheme of Delegations to Officers – Planning Applications Manager – Development Control