

Report to Council

Subject: Timing of Council Meetings
Date: 10 July 2013
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1. Purpose of the Report

To enable Council to consider changing the start time of Council meetings following a request from the Labour Group.

2. Background

Standing Order 1.07 of the Procedural Standing Orders states that:

“The Annual Meeting and other meetings of the Council for the transaction of general business shall be held at 6.45pm.”

3. Proposal

- 3.1 Council is asked to consider changing the start time of Council meetings from 6.45 pm to an earlier time of 6.00 pm.
- 3.2 To implement a change of start time for Council meetings the Constitution will need to be amended. It is therefore proposed that Standing Order 1.07 is amended as follows:-

“The Annual Meeting and other meetings of the Council for the transaction of general business shall be held at 6.00 pm.”

- 3.3 The proposed changes fall within Standing Order 29 which states:

“29. Variation and Revocation of the Constitution

Any motion to add to, vary or revoke the Articles of the Constitution, Procedural Standing Orders, Standing Orders relating to Contracts, Standing Orders for Dealings with Land and Standing Orders relating to staff except for the amendment of financial limits and other amendments

appropriate to give effect to changes in officers' duties, responsibilities and titles, shall, when proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without disclosure to the next ordinary meeting of the Council."

Consequently, these changes cannot be agreed straightaway and would need to be held over to the next meeting.

4. Resource Implications

There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

5. Recommendation

To authorise the Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to amend Standing Order 1.07 of the Constitution so that meetings of Council will begin at 6.00 pm.