

**CONSTITUTION FOCUS GROUP**

**15 April 2014**

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**Review of Part 9 of the Constitution**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to ask the Constitution Focus Group to consider proposed changes to Part 9 of the Constitution, as shown tracked in Appendix 1.

**Background**

2. Part 9 of the Constitution deals with the Financial Regulations and Part 10 deals with Financial Procedures.
3. Parts 9 and 10 have become out of date due to changes in the Council's management structure and the law.
4. It is envisaged a further review of Part 9 will be undertaken by the Chief Finance Officer in the future with a view to produce guidance document which means a lot of the detail contained in Part 9 could be removed.

**Main Issues for Consideration**

5. The changes which have been made to Part 9 are shown in tracked changes (the different colours do not have any relevance). The formatting and numbering will be updated once the document has been finalised.
6. The majority of the changes which have been made are intended to make this Part clearer and easier to follow and as such Parts 9 and 10 have been merged into a single Part 9.
7. Some updates have been required to:
  - a. remove duplication
  - b. take account of the Council's current management structure
  - c. take account of the Council's financial practises
  - d. and take account of changes in legislation.
8. These changes do not make any material changes to existing financial controls but seek to ensure that the financial regulations and procedures under the constitution are exercised properly.

**Recommendations**

9. Members of the Focus Group are asked to:

- a. consider the proposed changes to Part 9 as shown tracked in Appendix 1 and make recommendations to the standards committee as appropriate.

**M HUDSON**

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