

Title: **Amendments to the Constitution and Extension Scheme of Delegation.**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Tony Phillips OBE**

Reporting Officers: **Nicola Mathiason – Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Tim Darsley – Monitoring Officer
George Curran - Legal Consultant**

Purpose

To amend the current Constitution and Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

Background

The Cabinet on the 4 July 2007 received a report (copy of that report is attached at Appendix `A`) concerning new grant arrangements for historic buildings and areas. This involved a withdrawal from the current Historic Buildings Joint Committees (HBJCs) and the creation of a District-wide grant scheme that required the Planning Policy and Conservation Services Manager to be authorised to approve grant payments as set out in that report.

The new arrangements will engage with town and parish councils through the establishment of an informal Partnership Panel. This will meet periodically to consider projects of mutual concern. Grant funding, either individually or in partnership, will be at the discretion of the constituent councils. .

The purpose of this report is therefore:-

- (a) to seek approval from Council to remove the references to HBJCs from the Constitution after expiry of the notice period; that is from 30 September 2007.
- (b) to seek authorisation for the Planning Policy and Conservation Services Manager to authorise grant payments, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, up to a limit of £10,000 in any individual case.

Key Issues

To make amendments to the Constitution to remove references to the HBJCs and authorise the Planning Policy and Conservation Services Manager to approve grant payments.

Effect on Strategies and Codes

None

Risk Management Implications

None.

Finance and Performance Implication

Enhances the ability to award grant assistance for historic buildings and areas throughout the District.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

None

Next Steps

To amend the text of the Constitution and establish the informal Partnership Panel.

Recommendations.

Council is recommended to authorise:-

(a) the removal of references to HBJCs from the Constitution after expiry of the notice period; that is from 30 September 2007, and

(b) the Planning Policy and Conservation Services Manager to authorise grant payments, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, up to a limit of £10,000 in any individual case.

Background Papers

The Constitution of the Council.
Report to the Cabinet 4 July 2007