

IMPLEMENTATION EXECUTIVE

13 MAY 2009

MEMBER/OFFICER RELATIONS PROTOCOL

Executive Summary

The protocol attached to this report sets out the essential elements of the relationship between Members and Officers and clarifies the respective roles and responsibilities.

This is a key element of a successful and high performing Council.

The report has a number of Appendices including the document "What will we be like" which will help to set the protocol within the context of the culture of the new Council. Other appendices are referred to within the Protocol such as the Media protocol and the Briefing and Information for Local Members protocol. Both of these documents have already been approved as part of the Constitution so are not reproduced here but are available if any Member should wish to see a copy.

Previous drafts of this document have been reviewed by the Constitution Focus Group and the Electoral/Democratic Services Rapid Scrutiny Group. The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Transition Board will also be considering this protocol on 8 May and their views will be reported to the IE at the meeting.

Proposal

That the Implementation Executive approves the Member/Officer Relations protocol.

Reason for Proposal

To ensure that there is a framework for Member/Officer relations in place for the new Council.

Author: **IAN GIBBONS**

Service Director Legal and Democratic Services