

REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS



Report Reference C-21-31
Meeting Date 7th March 2022
Agenda Item 11
Prepared by Town Clerk

1.0 BACKGROUND

The council's Standing Orders are one of its principal policy documents and are required to be reviewed annually. In recognition of their importance, Standing Order 115 sets out that any resolution to permanently add, vary or revoke a Standing Order shall stand adjourned from one meeting to the next.

The Town Clerk issued a circular email seeking any proposals from members for amendments to Standing Orders, two proposals were received and are included within section two.

Members may propose additional amendments at the meeting, which will stand adjourned to the next meeting.

2.0 PROPOSED CHANGES TO STANDING ORDERS

2.1 AMENDMENT TO PERSONNEL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Current: The Personnel Committee ('the Committee') shall consist of seven councillors, as provided for by Standing Order 61, the Town Mayor (ex officio) and the Deputy Town Mayor (ex officio)."

Proposed: The Personnel Committee ('the Committee') shall consist of five councillors, as provided for by Standing Order 61, the Town Mayor (ex officio) and the Deputy Town Mayor (ex officio)."

Rationale: This will correct the voting anomaly that increased its numbers a few years ago, reflect that its role is somewhat specialist and be in line with the emerging outcome of the community governance review for Knutsford which will see five town council wards not four. It will also cut the council's carbon-footprint by cutting the number of summonses being sent out and councillors travelling to and back from meetings by two for all the committee's meetings.

2.2 AMENDMENT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Current: The Finance Committee ('the Committee') shall consist of six councillors, as provided for by Standing Order 61, the Town Mayor (ex officio) and the Deputy Town Mayor (ex officio)."

Proposed: The Finance Committee ('the Committee') shall consist of five councillors, as provided for by Standing Order 61, the Town Mayor (ex officio) and the Deputy Town Mayor (ex officio)."

Rationale: This will reflect that its role is somewhat specialist and be in line with the emerging outcome of the community governance review for Knutsford which will see five town council wards not four. It will also cut the council's carbon-footprint by cutting the number of summonses being sent out and councillors travelling to and back from meetings by one for all the committee's meetings.

3.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED

In accordance with Standing Orders, any proposed changes to Standing Orders shall stand adjourned to the next meeting without debate.