

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

23 JULY 2014

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ARTICLE 6 OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

1. **Introduction**

- 1.1 On 10 July 2014 the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee considered the terms of reference for the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 1.2 The Committee have recommended a number of revisions to Article 6 of the Council's Constitution. These are set out in full at **Appendix A**.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 Terms of reference describe the purpose and structure of a committee.
- 2.2 Following feedback from Officers and Members, as part of the planning process for the first round of meetings, the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee reviewed Article 6 of the Council's Constitution at their meeting on 10 July 2014.
- 2.3 The proposed revisions have been put forward in view of recent changes including portfolio changes in relation to housing responsibilities and various restructures across the organisation.
- 2.4 An officer structure chart is attached at **Appendix B** for information (correct as of April 2014).
- 2.5 Proposed changes to the Constitution must be accompanied by an evaluation by the Council's Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer has reviewed the revisions at **Appendix A** and concludes that the changes will assist in meeting one of the purposes of the constitution – i.e. "creating a powerful and effective means of holding decision makers to public account".

3. **RECOMMENDED:**

3.1 That:

- (a) The proposed revisions to Article 6 of the Council's Constitution, set out in **Appendix A**, be approved.
- (b) The Community, Leisure Services and Environment OSC be renamed the Community, Environment and Housing OSC.

4. **Relevant Documents**

Appendix A – Article 6 – Overview and Scrutiny Committees
(Proposed Revisions)

Appendix B – MBC Organisation Structure

5. **Background Documents**

None