

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Governance and Constitution Committee

Date of Meeting: 30 September 2009
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Local Ward Members' Protocol and the Councillor Call for Action Protocol
Portfolio Holder: Leader

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose a Local Ward Members' Protocol (Appendix A) and a Councillor's Call for Action Protocol (Appendix B) which will strengthen Member involvement at Ward level through the provision of timely, relevant information on local issues.
- 1.2 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act emphasises the importance of the role of Ward Members as community leaders and advocates their empowerment to deal with local issues. These Protocols will illustrate how Members, with officer support, can achieve this.
- 1.3 The Local Ward Members' Protocol has received the informal comments of both the Leader and the Cabinet and their suggestions have been included. The Councillor Call for Action Protocol has been considered by the five Scrutiny Committee Chairmen and appropriate revisions have been made.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee consider Appendices A and B and recommend to Council that they be adopted and incorporated into the Constitution.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Local Ward Members' Protocol and the Councillor's Call for Action Protocol are recommended for adoption as a means of ensuring improvement of Member involvement at Ward level.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 All

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 The proposal is to incorporate these two documents into the Council's Constitution.

7.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 In order for the Protocols to become part of the Constitution, this Committee must first make a recommendation to the Council to this effect.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 No implications

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 There are no background papers

11.0 *Access to Information*

There are no background papers.

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