

Committee and Date

Council

26<sup>th</sup> September 2013

<u>Item</u> **20** Public

## **Changes to the Constitution: Housing Function Delegations**

#### Responsible Officer: Paul McGreary, Head of Public Protection.

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#### 1 Summary

At its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013, Council adopted a number of changes to the Council's Constitution arising from changes to the management of housing stock, services and waiting lists. A further change to the management of Community Housing Services has taken place which requires a further change to the Council's Constitution.

#### 2 Recommendations

- a. That the Head of Public Protection be given the powers and responsibilities of the council in relation to Housing Management.
- b. That the functions and powers set out in the Appendix to this report be given to the officers mentioned in the corresponding column of the Appendix; such delegations to replace and amend what is currently set out in Part 8 of the council's Constitution (pages H16 to H21 as it relates to Housing matters).

## REPORT

## 3 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

It is important that the Council's Constitution is kept up to date to ensure it reflects the way the Council works, to ensure decisionmaking is carried out transparently and that the Council's statutory powers and duties are discharged with the proper authority.

#### 4 Financial Implications

Flaws in decision-making and failure to discharge the Council's statutory powers and duties with the proper authority could lead to the risk of costs arising from challenges to decisions or actions. Delays in decision-making resulting from a lack of clarity about delegated authority may also lead to unforeseen costs

#### 5 **Proposed Changes to the Constitution : Housing Delegations**

The Council has a number of statutory housing functions which are set out in Part 8 of the Constitution (pages H16 – 21). As a result of organisational changes, those functions, and housing management matters, should now be delegated to the Head of Public Protection. Further, and to facilitate good management and administration, roles have been identified to which specific powers have been attached in order to fulfil relevant duties and functions; the Appendix to this report sets out proposed changes to the Constitution that are considered necessary for good government.

# List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Report to Council on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013: 'Changes to Constitution'

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Councillor Mal Price

Local Member All

Appendices Functions and Powers