

APPENDIX 2

OUTCOMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 MARCH 2024

Future Governance

THAT, whilst the committee supports the proposals to move to a committee-system of governance in principle, it has regard to the risks associated with the speed of implementation by May 2024.

THAT the committee requests that the Future Governance Working Group considers the following matters:

- a) The risks regarding the speed of implementation, and to provide frequent updates to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee as progress continues.
- b) A full financial analysis.
- c) Increasing the frequency of Full Council meetings.
- d) Increasing the frequency of service committee meetings, particularly where the committees would be taking on both decision-making and scrutiny functions.
- e) The inclusion of 'Regeneration' within the relevant service committee title.
- f) The function of scrutiny and whether separate scrutiny committees should be implemented.
- g) Reconsider the chairman of the Policy, Finance, and Resources Committee being the new leader of the council by default.
- h) The impact on affected staff, and to consult with those whose job roles would be affected.
- i) The representation from IWALC within the new governance system.

RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY FROM COUNCILLOR BRODIE 19 MARCH 2024 (IN RED)

The recommendations of Tuesday's Corporate Scrutiny Committee were considered by the politically proportionate Future Governance Working Group this afternoon. Our responses are annotated below:

a) THAT, whilst the committee supports the proposals to move to a committee-system of governance in principle, it has regard to the risks associated with the speed of implementation by May 2024.

This goes without saying. We do not treat this lightly.

b) THAT the committee requests that the Future Governance Working Group considers the following matters:

- i. The risks regarding the speed of implementation, and to provide frequent updates to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee as progress continues.

This will of course be done. Full Council has a comprehensive, current progress report for 20 March.

- ii. A full financial analysis.

This is awaited from the Finance Directorate. We recognise how important this is.

- iii. Increasing the frequency of Full Council meetings.

On Officer advice we will still recommend 5 per year.

- iv. Increasing the frequency of service committee meetings, particularly where the committees would be taking on both decision-making and scrutiny functions.

Although continuing to recommend quarterly meetings, there will be constitutional provision for extraordinary meetings when necessary. This would be kept under review post-implementation.

- v. The inclusion of 'Regeneration' within the relevant service committee title.

Agreed.

- vi. The function of scrutiny and whether separate scrutiny committees should be implemented.

All statutory scrutiny will be absorbed into the proposed and relevant service committees. There will be no need for formal scrutiny of executive decisions without an executive.

- vii. Reconsider the chairman of the Policy, Finance, and Resources Committee being the new leader of the council by default.

This will remain as our recommendation, though the Independent Remuneration Panel will be asked to consider an SRA for any member of the Council appointed to lead on Finance if not the Leader.

- viii. The impact on affected staff, and to consult with those whose job roles would be affected.

This is in hand as part of the Communications & Engagement Plan that was presented for your meeting.

- ix. The representation from IWALC within the new governance system.

We propose no changes for the Planning Committee and the Health & Wellbeing Board. Corporate Scrutiny Committee would of course be terminated.

I hope this is helpful.

Geoff
as Chair of the Future Governance Working Group.