

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**16 May 2018**

1. **REPORT TITLE**            **ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

**Submitted by:**            **Acting Chief Executive – John Tradewell**

**Portfolio:**                **Corporate and Service Improvement, People and Partnerships**

**Wards affected:**        **All**

**Purpose of the Report**

The Council is asked to consider asking a number of changes to its constitution as follows:

1. The Changes to Committees proposed to reflect the reduced number of members on the Council
2. Changes to the Planning Service Scheme of Delegation to reflect changes to legislation (full report attached)
3. Changes to the Constitution to reflect new ways of working (particularly the use of sub-committees) consequent on bringing together the Licensing and Public Protection Committees together into a single committee (whilst maintaining the statutory separation of the work) (full report attached)

**Recommendations**

That the acting Chief Executive be authorised to make the changes to the Constitution need to effect the changes set out in this report and the two reports attached.

**Background**

The Council's membership has reduced from 60 to 44 but the Council's workload has not reduced. In order to avoid overburdening individual members it is proposed that the Council's standing Committee structure is streamlined so as to comprise the following Committees:

- Health, Wellbeing and Partnerships Scrutiny Committees (to mirror the Community Safety and Wellbeing and Sport and Leisure Portfolios)
- Economy, Environment and Place Scrutiny Committee (to mirror the Planning and Regeneration and Environment and Recycling Portfolios)
- Finance, Assets, and Performance Scrutiny Committee (to mirror the Corporate and Service Improvement, People and Partnerships and Finance and Resources Portfolios)
- Planning Committee

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- **Licensing and Public Protection Committee (to bring together the work of the Licensing Committee and the Public Protection Committee into one Committee but preserving the strict separation between the two functions)**
- **Audit and Standards Committee**
- **Employment Committee**
- **Conservation Advisory Working Party.**

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