

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of General Purposes Committee

Date: Wednesday, 5th October, 2022

Place: Council Chamber - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor A Line (Chair)
Councillors A Jones (Vice-Chair), J Courtenay, T Cox, K Evans,
M Kelly, K Buck, *T Cowdrey and *P Wexham

*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: R Harris, S Brown, C Gamble and G Gilbert

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

329 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dent (substitute: Cllr Cowdrey), Jarvis (substitute: Cllr Buck) and Thompson (substitute: Cllr Wexham).

330 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

331 Constitution Review - Findings from Centre for Governance and Scrutiny

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive presenting the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) report containing recommendations on the next steps for the review and update of the Council's Constitution.

The Committee asked a number of questions which were responded to by officers.

Resolved:

1. That the contents of the submitted Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) report, be noted.
2. That the redrafting of Council Procedure Rules, alongside the changes to the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (including pre-Cabinet Scrutiny) and a pilot scheme to be in place and trialled by February 2023, be endorsed.
3. That the General Purposes Committee act as a cross-party focus group for ongoing work.
4. That it be noted that the next step will be to agree a timetable and sequence for changes to the Constitution.
5. That an ongoing review of the Constitution as a whole be maintained in tandem with resolution 2 above and an update in this regard be brought before the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

Chair: _____