

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Standards Committee

Date: Tuesday, 10th September, 2024

Place: Committee Room 4 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor P Collins (Vice-Chair, in the Chair),
Councillors K Buck, O Cartey*, J Moyies, K Murphy, S Nadeem,
M O'Connor and S Wakefield*
(*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 40.)

In Attendance: Councillor Cowan (Cabinet Member)
S Zeiss, J Chesterton, T Row and C Ward (Anthony Collins)

Start/End Time: 5.00 pm - 7.10 pm

8 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Robinson (no substitute), J Courtenay (substitute: Councillor O Cartey) and M Terry (substitute: Councillor S Wakefield).

9 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared at the meeting.

10 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 16th July 2024

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th July 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

11 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 31st July 2024

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 31st July 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

12 Constitution Review Stage 2 Agreement on Drafting Parts 1 and 2 of the Work Programme and Consideration of Parts 3 and 4 of the Work Programme

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director (Strategy & Change) that presented the comments from the Committee and the amendments and adjustments to Part 1 (Summary and Explanation and Public Participation) and Part 2 (The Council) of the proposed new Constitution for Southend on Sea City

Council. Copies of these were attached to the submitted report at Appendices A, B and C.

The report also presented the first draft of Part 2 (Budget & Policy Framework Procedure Rules), which had been deferred from the last meeting, together with the first drafts of Part 3 (Committees) and Part 4 (The Executive). Copies of these were attached to the submitted report at Appendices D, E and F.

The Committee noted comments had been received via email from Councillor Courtenay in respect of Part 1 (Summary and Explanation and Public Participation) and Part 2 (The Council) following the last meeting. The Committee discussed and reviewed these sections and suggested some further amendments.

The Committee also discussed and noted the comments of the Executive Director (Finance & Resources and S.151 Officer in respect of the first draft Part 2 (Budget & Policy Framework Procedure Rules), attached at Appendix D to the submitted report.

Consideration of the first drafts of Part 3 (Committees) and Part 4 (The Executive) attached to the submitted report at Appendices E and F were, however, deferred until the next meeting of the Committee taking place on 7th October 2024.

The Leader of the Council gave his assurance that he would discuss the amendments and adjustments to Part 1 (Summary and Explanation and Public Participation) and Part 2 (The Council) with the Monitoring Officer and Claire Ward of Anthony Collins. He also gave an undertaking to ensure that the documents be circulated to the Committee at a reasonable time in advance of the next meeting and the this would include a version showing the tracked changes, where appropriate, and a clean amended version.

The Committee was reminded that comments on Appendices E & F were required by 30th September at the latest so that they may be considered at the meeting on 7th October.

Resolved:-

1. That the summary of suggested drafting amendments made by the Committee at its meeting on 31 July and attached as Appendix A be noted.
2. That, subject to the further comments made at the meeting, the first draft Part 1 (Summary and Explanation and Public Participation) of a new proposed constitution for Southend-on-Sea City Council as set out in Appendix B to the submitted report be noted and that officers make any amendments and/or additions as appropriate based on those comments for approval at the next meeting.
3. That, subject to the comments made at the meeting, the first draft Part 2 (The Council) of a new proposed constitution for Southend-on-Sea City Council as set out in Appendix C to the submitted report be noted and that officers make any amendments and/or additions as appropriate based on those comments for approval at the next meeting.

4. That, subject to the comments made at the meeting, the draft of Part 2 (The Council) sections on the Budget and Policy Framework Rules deferred from the meeting held on 31 July 2024 as set out in Appendix D to this report be noted and that officers make the amendments and/or additions as appropriate based on those comments for further review at the next meeting of Committee on 7 October 2024.

5. That consideration of the initial drafts of Part 3 (Committees) and Part 4 (The Executive), attached to the submitted report at Appendices E and F, be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee taking place on 7th October 2024.

6. That officers bring the first drafts of the new proposed constitution as described in Part 5 (Overview and Scrutiny) of the Work Programme for consideration by Committee at its meeting to be held on 15 October 2024.

Chair: _____