

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Executive Director (Legal and Democratic Services)

to

Council

on

10 September 2020

Agenda
Item No.

Report prepared by: John Williams
Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services)

Change to the Constitution – New Working Party

Part 1 - Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

For the Council to establish the ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party be established with the terms of reference set out in Appendix 1
- 2.2 That Council appoints councillors to the Working Party on a politically proportional basis 3(Con) :2 (Lab) :2 (Indep) :1(LD)

3. Background

- 3.1 A special meeting of the Council was held on 30 July 2020 to consider the Cabinet's proposal to support a collaboration with South Essex Authorities to deliver regeneration across South Essex and to note the intention of ASELA (the Association of South Essex Local Authorities) to immediately engage with Central Government to start negotiations. The Council noted the Cabinet's decision (minute 185 refers).
- 3.2 At the Council meeting on 30 July 2020 referred to in 3.1, the Leader stated that he was prepared to establish a Working Party to have oversight of the on-going work of ASELA and issues coming from the forthcoming White Paper on Devolution.
- 3.3 An informal meeting of this proposed Working Party was held on 2 September 2020, to ensure councillor involvement was not delayed. Prior to this informal meeting, two Councillor Briefing Sessions were held on 26 and 27 August 2020.

- 3.4 The purpose of this report is for the Council to formally establish the ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party with the terms of reference set out in **Appendix 1.**

These terms of reference were endorsed at the informal meeting referred to in 3.3 above.

If this is agreed, the terms of reference will be added to Part 2 of Schedule 3 to the Constitution.

4. Background Papers

None

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Proposed terms of reference of the ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party.

Appendix 1

The ASELA and Local Government Reform Working Party

Membership

8 Councillors

Substitutes: Permitted in accordance with Standing Order 31

Proportionality: By convention political proportionality shall apply

The Chair shall be the Leader, or such other Cabinet Member as the Leader shall appoint.
The Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the Leader.

Quorum

3

Terms of Reference

1. To monitor and have oversight of the on-going work of the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA).
2. To consider and advise on matters relating to local government reform, including issues arising from the anticipated White Paper on Devolution.

Status of Meetings

Private

Reports to

The Cabinet