



Chelmsford City Council

7 December 2022

Community Governance Review – minor change to delegation and dispensation

Report by: Deputy Leader of the Council

Officer contacts:

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Purpose

To consider a minor change to the existing delegation in relation to implementation of the Final Recommendations and approval of a general dispensation to enable all councillors to participate fully in any formal meeting in relation to the community governance review.

Recommendation:

That the change to the delegation and the general dispensation are approved.

1. On 18 May 2022 the following officer delegation was approved by Full Council:-

That any decisions relating to the implementation of the Community Governance Review are delegated to the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

2. The Leader of the Council sits on the shadow council for Chelmsford Garden Community. To avoid potential conflicts and/or perceived bias in the delegated decision-making process it is recommended that the Monitoring Officer instead consults the Deputy Leader of the Council in relation to any decision taken under this officer delegation. Full Council is asked to approve that minor change to the delegation.

3. As Members know the City Council has adopted the LGA Model Code of Conduct. Accordingly, any city councillor who is also a parish councillor and/or shadow village/community councillor and/or County councillor) would have an “other registrable interest” and depending upon the circumstances may be prevented from fully participating in the decision-making process. It is recommended that a general dispensation is approved to ensure that it is clear that all councillors can fully participate in all meetings without the need to seek an individual dispensation. The scope of the general dispensation suggested is to enable a member to speak and/or vote where, but for the “other registrable interest” they would have the right to do so and not to extend speaking or voting rights where these do not already exist.

Background papers:

None

Appendices:

None

Corporate Implications

Legal/Constitutional: These are set out in the report

Financial: None

Potential impact on climate change and the environment: None

Contribution toward achieving a net zero carbon position by 2030: None

Personnel: None

Risk Management: None

Equality and Diversity: None

Health and Safety: None

Digital: None

Other: None

Consultees: Leader of the Council and Chair of Governance Committee

Relevant Policies and Strategies:

None
