

## CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

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REPORT OF: Head of Legal Services

TO: Civic Affairs Committee

18/5/2015

WARDS: None directly affected

### **CHANGES TO EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

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#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The power to allocate responsibility for executive portfolios rests with the Leader. The remit of scrutiny committees is a matter for full Council. However, the practice has been for the scrutiny committees to reflect the responsibilities of executive councillors in order that the responsibility of executive councillors is not split across scrutiny committees.
- 1.2 The Leader has indicated that he is making a change to executive responsibilities. Responsibility for public health is moving from the Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Public Health to the Executive Councillor for Community Arts and Recreation. Responsibility for environmental health services remains with Environment and Waste.
- 1.3 Changes are also being made to portfolio titles. The reference to Public Health is deleted from the Environment and Waste portfolio. Community, Arts and Recreation (and Public Health) is being renamed Communities. 'Communities' is intended to refer to services provided or promoted by the Council that have a tangible impact on people's lives - either through culture, recreation, public health and community development.
- 1.4 The amended portfolios are set out in Appendix 1. The revised portfolio titles are subject to confirmation.

1.5 This report recommends that the terms of reference of the Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Community Services Scrutiny Committee are amended as set out in Appendix 2.

## 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the Committee notes the changes in executive portfolios set out in Appendix 1.

2.2 That Council amends the terms of reference of the Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Community Services Scrutiny Committee as set out in Appendix 2.

## 3. **CONSULTATIONS**

There has been no consultation on this proposal. As explained, the decision with regard to executive portfolios rests with the Leader. This report gives members the opportunity to consider whether to change scrutiny arrangements.

## 4. **OPTIONS**

It would be open to the Council to leave scrutiny arrangements as they are. This would mean that scrutiny arrangements were not fully aligned with executive responsibilities.

## 5. **IMPLICATIONS**

(a) **Financial Implications** – None.

(b) **Staffing Implications** – None.

(c) **Equal Opportunities Implications** – None.

(d) **Environmental Implications** – None.

(e) **Procurement** - None

(f) **Consultation and communication** – See consultation section. The changed responsibilities will be set out in the Council's constitution.

(g) **Community Safety** - None

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** There are no background papers to this report.

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## Appendix 1: Change to Executive Responsibilities.

### 2.7 Executive Councillor for Environment, and Waste ~~and Public Health~~

2.7.1 The Executive Councillor shall be responsible for the exercise of Executive functions in the areas listed in this section.

#### Plans, policies and strategies

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Waste management and recycling
- Street services
- Environmental Health (excluding those functions which are the responsibility of the Executive Councillor for Housing).

The Council's responsibilities for food and occupational safety i.e.

- Food hygiene and safety
- Health and safety
- ~~Health Promotion~~
- Drinking water
- Sale of game
- Control of infectious diseases
- Acupuncture, tattooing, ear piercing and electrolysis.

It also includes responsibility for making the Council's contribution to local, regional and national plans, policies and strategies formulated by other bodies or by joint bodies in which the Council participates.

#### Functions and Services

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- Contaminated land; water pollution; radioactive substances
- Refuse collection, waste disposal and recycling
- Street and other public cleansing
- Public conveniences
- Abandoned vehicles
- Monitoring and control of air and noise pollution
- Control of dogs and other animals and all matters concerned with animal welfare and control

- Control of pests and nuisances
- Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles
- Fleet management.

~~The Council's responsibilities for public health, working with the county council and health services.~~

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

## **2.9 Executive Councillor for Communities ~~Community Arts and Recreation~~**

### **2.9.1 Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- The local welfare and community development needs of all neighbourhoods and the special needs of the disadvantaged throughout the City.
- The development of policies and programmes to further the childrens' play and participation objectives of the Council, including providing direction and advice to other committees of the Council in pursuance of these aims  
the provision and promotion of leisure, sporting, artistic and cultural activities

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- The powers and duties of the Council in respect of children's activities and youth facilities
- Community strategy including the powers and duties of the Council in respect of opportunities for individuals and communities in the City including:
  - education and self-development
  - play programmes
  - artistic, cultural, sporting and leisure activities and entertainments
  - the provision, maintenance and management of places of public entertainment, sport and recreation (including the Guildhall Halls)

- council owned or operated community facilities
- museums and art galleries.
- The Council's responsibilities for public health, working with the county council and health services.
- Health Promotion

Progressing the objectives set out in this section by:

- direct provision
- grant aid and other financial assistance to voluntary sector and other agencies
- partnership, joint work and liaison with public, private or voluntary sector organisations, including community and joint use agreements, community primary school agreements and support for national lottery projects
- regenerating and encouraging the development of community life and enabling local communities to take action on their own behalf
- giving advice and guidance to other Executive Councillors and committees of the Council on community engagement addressing, in particular, the needs of those suffering some form of disadvantage
- advocacy.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

## Appendix 2: Changes to Scrutiny Committees

### 6.2 Community Services (Scrutiny) Committee

Terms of Reference
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1. Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Executive Councillors for <del>Communities Community, Arts and Recreation</del> and the Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places are responsible
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### 6.3 Environment (Scrutiny) Committee

Terms of Reference
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Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Executive Councillor for Environment <del>and</del> , Waste <del>and Public Health</del> and the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport are responsible
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