

CIVIC AFFAIRS19 March 2014
6.00pm - 7.27 pm

Present: Councillors Rosenstiel (Chair), Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert and Pitt

FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL**14/15/CIV Constitution Amendment - Recording Votes on Budget Decisions**

The committee received a report from the Head of Legal Services proposing an amendment to the Constitution to ensure compliance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014. The Regulations required that the minutes of Council budget meetings must record the names of those voting for or against decisions or who abstain from voting.

The Head of Legal Services circulated a further version of the recommended changes, which excluded references to precepts.

In response to members' questions the Head of Legal Services said the following:

- i. The need to record votes only applied to decisions of Full Council when setting the budget and Council tax. It did not apply to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).
- ii. Acknowledged Councillor Herbert's request for more information for Councillors about the nature of votes to which the new procedure applied prior to Full Council making a decision on 3 April 2014.

The committee requested the removal of references relating to 'members standing up' (32.1) and 'members rising in their places' (32.2). This was noted by the Head of Legal Services.

Resolved (unanimously) to

Recommend that Council agrees to the changes to Part 4A of the Constitution set out in the Council agenda.