
Corporate Governance Panel

Report of the meeting held on 12th December 2007

Matter for Decision

11. THE USE OF ON-LINE MEDIA: PROCEDURAL IMPLICATIONS

By reference to a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is reproduced as Appendix B to the Report of the Cabinet) the Panel has been acquainted with the procedural implications of recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) on the use of on-line media. The Panel has noted the range of matters considered by the Overview and Scrutiny E-Forums Working Group in the course of a study on this subject and, in particular, their conclusion relating to the introduction of on-line petitions using the Modern.Gov software system, when this becomes available.

Having considered the changes required to the Constitution to enable on-line petitions to be processed, the Panel

RECOMMEND

that in Part 4 of the Constitution the second and third paragraphs of 10A.4 be deleted to be replaced by:

“A written petition shall contain the name, address and signature of each person who signed it. The name and address shall be in a legible format. An on-line petition shall contain the name and address of each person who is party to it. A petition shall indicate which one of the signatories is to present the petition.

The petition shall be sent to office of the Chief Executive who shall decide whether the petition concerns a matter on the Agenda for a full Council meeting and if it is not, it will be scheduled for inclusion on the Agenda for the next ordinary full Council meeting. A maximum of three petitions will be presented at any meeting.

If an on-line petition does not have the requisite number of signatories or the organiser is not prepared to present it to the Council, the petition shall be submitted for consideration to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel, subject to the petition containing the names and addresses of at least 10 persons who live or work or own property in the District.”

Matters for Information

12. CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE 2008/2009

In accordance with Section 34 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended), the Panel has approved the amount calculated by the District Council as the tax base for the whole District for the year 2008/09 as 57,785. The amounts for the parts of the District listed below for the same year shall be for the Parish of -

Abbotsley	188
Abbots Ripton	134
Alconbury	563
Alconbury Weston	283
Alwalton	125
Barham & Woolley	26
Bluntisham	727
Brampton	1,795
Brington & Molesworth	112
Broughton	87
Buckden	1,145
Buckworth	50
Bury	590
Bythorn & Keyston	145
Catworth	137
Chesterton	60
Colne	335
Conington	74
Covington	42
Denton & Caldecote	24
Diddington	30
Earith	580
Easton	75
Ellington	234
Elton	290
Eynesbury Hardwicke	780
Farcet	580
Fenstanton	1,200
Folksworth & Washingley	350
Glatton	132
Godmanchester	2,258
Grafham	238
Great & Little Gidding	127
Great Gransden	457
Great Paxton	375
Great Staughton	310
Haddon	21
Hail Weston	238
Hamerton	42
Hemingford Abbots	325
Hemingford Grey	1,154

Hilton	445
Holme	243
Holywell-cum-Needingworth	980
Houghton & Wyton	1,215
Huntingdon	6,774
Kings Ripton	73
Kimbolton & Stonely	590
Leighton Bromswold	80
Little Paxton	1,145
Morborne	11
Offord Cluny	200
Offord d'Arcy	295
Old Hurst	95
Old Weston	88
Perry	265
Pidley-cum-Fenton	155
Ramsey	2,880
St Ives	5,650
St Neots	9,120
St Neots Rural	40
Sawtry	1,737
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	205
Somersham	1,365
Southoe & Midloe	155
Spaldwick	225
Steeple Gidding	12
Stilton	785
Stow Longa	60
Tetworth	20
The Stukeleys	760
Tilbrook	105
Toseland	38
Upton & Coppingford	85
Upwood & The Raveleys	412
Warboys	1,358
Waresley	128
Water Newton	42
Winwick	41
Wistow	220
Woodhurst	155
Woodwalton	85
Yaxley	2,872
Yelling	138
	<u>57,785</u>

13. INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE - CHANGING REPORTING PERIODS

The Panel has approved a proposal to change the Internal Audit Service reporting period. The change will align the timing of the Internal Audit Report and Opinion with that of the Corporate Governance Statement. The Panel also has agreed that the audit plan year should run from August to July inclusive and has requested

that a plan for the four months ending July 2008 be presented at their next meeting. The Internal Audit strategy will be amended to reflect these changes.

14. REVIEW OF THE ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STRATEGY

The Panel has been acquainted with the outcome of a review of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, which identified a number of recommended changes arising from fraud legislation. Subject to some minor alterations, the Panel has adopted the revised strategy.

15. REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION

The Panel has been acquainted with the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Delivery) on a suggestion raised during the last review of the Constitution with regard to the introduction of a District Youth Forum.

The Service Delivery Panel concluded that while the suggestion had merit, work already was being undertaken in a number of areas with young people and that there was insufficient participation locally in youth councils at town and parish level to justify a District Youth Forum as originally envisaged. The Corporate Governance Panel has therefore decided not to pursue this matter further at the present time.

C J Stephens
Chairman