

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2015**

REPORT BY: **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To enable the committee to receive and comment on the recommended terms of reference for the new Overview & Scrutiny committee structure and make recommendations to the Annual Meeting of the Council which is to be held on Tuesday 12th May 2015.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

2.01 At the previous meeting of the committee which was held 28th January, a working group was established to consider the various models which had been put forward for a new Overview & Scrutiny structure.

2.02 The working group comprised Councillors Aaron Shotton, Attridge, Marion Bateman, Carver, Guest, Hampson, Newhouse and Peers. It met on 4th March and identified a preferred model and asked that the officers draft terms of reference for the committees within the new structure.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 The model which the working group identified as the preferred option is Model 3, which is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. This model was preferred because it reflects the Council's current operating model and includes an Organisational Change Committee.

3.02 At the conclusion of the meeting, the officers were asked to draft terms of reference for each of the Overview & Scrutiny committees within the proposed new structure. This was carried out, and was the subject of further consultation with Members of the Working Group and members of the Chief Officer Team between 25th and 30th March. The terms of reference, which are attached as Appendix 2, incorporate the feedback received during that consultation.

3.03 To enable the Overview & Scrutiny committees within the new structure to operate as effectively as possible, it is considered that would be beneficial for each to hold forward work planning meetings as soon after the Annual Meeting as possible. This will enable the committees to consider the legacy items from their predecessors and to identify new areas of work.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 (1) That the committee consider the recommended model for a new Overview & Scrutiny committee structure, as shown in Appendix 1 ;
- (2) That the committee consider the terms of reference for Overview & Scrutiny committees within that new structure, as shown in Appendix 2;
- (3) That subject to the above, the committee recommend the new Overview & Scrutiny structure and its terms of reference to the County Council at its Annual Meeting on Tuesday 12th May.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As the proposals are to replace the current six committee Overview & Scrutiny structure with another six committee structure, this exercise is cost neutral.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None arising directly from this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 There will still be a committee dedicated to 'environmental issues' within the new structure.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None arising directly from this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 The new structure will require the same number of staff as that which it is to replace.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 No further consultation is required.

