

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**PUBLIC REPORT**

Report to:	CABINET	
Report of:	THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL	
Date of Decision:	28 JUNE 2016	
SUBJECT:	ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE LOCAL LEADERSHIP	
Key Decision: No	Relevant Forward Plan Ref: N/A	
If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)	Chief Executive approved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	O&S Chairman approved	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Cabinet Member(s) or Relevant District Committee Chair:	ALL	
	ALL	
Relevant O&S Chairman:	Cllr Aikhlaq, Chair of the Corporate Resources and Governance O&S Committee	
Wards affected:	ALL	

1. Purpose of report:
<p>1.1. This report presents detailed proposals for the establishment of a new Cabinet Committee for Local Leadership, as set out in Article 6 of the City Council Constitution, amended at the Annual General Meeting on 24 May 2016.</p> <p>1.2. The report sets out the Terms of Reference and membership of the Cabinet Committee and describes its work programme in more detail.</p>

2. Decisions recommended:
<p>2.1. Approve the establishment of the Cabinet Committee Local Leadership with the Terms of Reference and membership set out in Appendix 1 to this report.</p> <p>2.2. Approve the appointment of four councillors as Assistant Leaders, with the remuneration set out in the Scheme of Councillors Allowances for 2016/17, approved by City Council on 24 May 2016.</p> <p>2.3. Approve the work programme for the Committee and the Assistant Leaders set out in Appendix 2.</p>

Lead Contact Officer(s):	<p>Tony Smith Policy Executive, Strategic Policy Team</p> <p>Stuart Evans Joint Interim City Solicitor</p>
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3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

The plans set out in this report have been presented to the former Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The terms of reference for the Cabinet Committee and the role description and remuneration of the Assistant Leaders were approved by the City Council at its Annual General Meeting of 24 May 2016.

3.2 External

The plans for the Committee have not been subject to external consultation. However, a wide range of external stakeholders have been engaged on the issues covered in the work programme and this will continue throughout the review to be undertaken by the Committee. The Assistant Leaders will have a clear role in engaging external stakeholders across their area of the city.

4. Compliance Issues:

4.1 Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?

The recommendations are fully consistent with the Council's policies. The Business Plan and Budget adopted by Full Council in March 2016 committed the Council to "to develop a new approach to devolution within the city, with a focus on empowering people and giving them influence over local services". The work of the Cabinet Committee will take forward the next stage of an evolutionary process which began in 2015/16 with initial changes to the role of districts and the creation of Sutton Coldfield Town Council. This stage will conclude in 2018 with the switch to all out elections and new ward boundaries.

4.2 Financial Implications

The Special Responsibility Allowance for the Assistant Leaders (£10,000 pa) was approved by the City Council on 24 May 2016. There will be resource implications in terms of administrative and policy support to this work and the initial support arrangements are summarised in Appendix 2. All proposals with significant financial implications will be reported to Cabinet for approval.

4.3 Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications of this report. The Cabinet Committee will operate within the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, which gives the Executive the power to appoint committees for the exercise of defined responsibilities and functions and in accordance with Article 5(d) of the City Council's Constitution. The role of the Committee and of the Assistant Leaders is also outlined in Part B of the City Council's Constitution. The constitutional changes referred to in Part B of the Constitution have been approved by Full Council.

4.4 Public Sector Equality Duty

Policies developed by the Committee will be subject to the public sector Equality Duty and impact assessments will be carried out as appropriate.

5. Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 5.1. The need for the work programme set out in Appendix 2 stems from the Community Governance Review carried out between September 2014 and September 2015, the Kerslake Review of Corporate Governance (December 2014) and the subsequent review of ward boundaries and the size of the Council by the Boundary Commission. An initial series of changes was implemented in 2015/16 and plans were made for a further stage in the evolution of local governance arrangements between 2016 and 2018 (when the boundary changes will come into effect). The proposal to take this work forward through a Cabinet Committee was approved at the City Council AGM on 24 May 2016 and incorporated into the City Council's Constitution. That meeting also received the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the Assistant Leader posts, which included an outline of the work programme set out in more detail in Appendix 2.

6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):

- 6.1. Other options for taking forward this work have been considered, such as incorporation in Cabinet portfolios and establishing an informal working group. The Cabinet Committee model provides a basis for both cross-party working and the role of the Assistant Leaders, which is seen as a vital addition to leadership capacity at this time.

7. Reasons for Decision(s):

- 7.1 To put into effect the City Council decision to have a Cabinet Committee Local Leadership and four Assistant Leaders to take forward the council's aspirations for local leadership and governance. The decision will enable sufficient political leadership to be put in place to take this work forward.

Signatures

Date

Council Leader

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List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:

City Council Constitution as amended 24 May 2016.