

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



*Municipal Building,
Kingsway,
Widnes.
WA8 7QF*

11 May 2016

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

You are hereby summoned to attend an Annual Meeting of the Halton Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall on Friday, 20 May 2016 commencing at 6.30 p.m. for the purpose of considering and passing such resolution(s) as may be deemed necessary or desirable in respect of the matters mentioned in the Agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W. R.', is positioned above the title 'Chief Executive'.

Chief Executive

-AGENDA-

Item No.		Page No.
1.	ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR To be moved by Councillor Tom McInerney and seconded by Councillor Jones “That Councillor Ged Philbin be elected Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2016/17” To be moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor John Stockton “That Councillor Alan Lowe be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2016/17”	
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
3.	COUNCIL MINUTES	1 - 10
4.	THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
5.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
6.	BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS 2016/17 To submit for information the election results (see attached)	11 - 14
7.	EXECUTIVE BOARD (SELECTION COMMITTEE) 17 MAY 2016 To formally approve the following recommendations of the Executive Board (Selection Committee). (N.B. The Executive Board will be meeting on 17 May 2016 to consider these recommendations. Any amendments will be reported to Council). a) Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council	

To be moved by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor –

“That

- 1) Councillor Rob Polhill be appointed Leader of the Council in accordance with the Council’s Constitution; and
- 2) Councillor Mike Wharton be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2016/2017.”

b) Boards, Committees and Appeals Panel and Working Party

To be moved by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor:-

That the following Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Working Party be constituted with the membership as shown for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

(N.B. Information regarding membership will be circulated as soon as possible.)

Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board (11)

Corporate Policy and Performance Board (11)

Employment, Learning and Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board (11)

Health Policy and Performance Board (11)

Safer Policy and Performance Board (11)

Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board (11)

Business Efficiency Board (11)

Regulatory Committee (11)

Development Control Committee (11)

Appeals Panel (20)

Appointments Committee (6)

Mayoral Committee (5)

Standards Committee (9)

Local Development Framework Working Party (15)

c) Appointment of Scrutiny Co-ordinator

To appoint a Scrutiny Co-ordinator for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

d) Appointment of Co-optees

To confirm the re-appointment of Mr Tom Baker as the Healthwatch Halton representative and non-voting Co-optee to the Health Policy and Performance Board for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

To confirm the re-appointment of Mr Tony Luxton and Mrs Anita Morris as non-voting Independent Co-optees to the Standards Committee for four years.

To confirm the re- appointment of Reverend David Felix and Mr Stephen Cluff as non-voting Parish Council Co-optees to the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

To confirm the appointment of Independent Persons for the purposes of the Localism Act 2011.

e) Appointment to Outside Bodies

15 - 16

To consider the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council appoint representatives to the Outside Bodies.

f) Executive Board Portfolios

The Leader will report on the Portfolio holders for Executive Board for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

8. CONSTITUTION UPDATE 2016/17 (MINUTE EXB 139 REFERS)

17 - 20

Executive Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which sought approval of a number of changes to the Council's Constitution.

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve

- 1) the revised Constitution, including the matters set out in Appendix 1, attached to the report;
- 2) all references to the term "Chairman" be replaced with the term "Chair"; and
- 3) all references to the term "Vice Chairman" be replaced by the term "Vice Chair".

9. CIVIC SUNDAY

To note the arrangements for Civic Sunday as being Sunday 26 June 2016 at St Bede's Church, Leigh Avenue, Appleton Village, Widnes starting at 11.15 a.m.

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COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 2 March 2016 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors E. Cargill, S. Baker, D. Cargill, Cassidy, Cole, Dennett, Edge, Fry, Gilligan, Harris, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Horabin, Howard, Jones, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, MacManus, McDermott, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, Polhill, N. Plumpton Walsh, Joe Roberts, June Roberts, Sinnott, G. Stockton, J. Stockton, Thompson, Wainwright, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall, Wright and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors M. Bradshaw, J. Bradshaw, C. Gerrard, J Gerrard, P. Hignett, Lea, Logan, Morley, C. Plumpton Walsh and Rowe

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: D. Parr, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, M. Reaney, A. Scott, E. Dawson and M. Allen

Also in attendance: None

Action

COU70 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 3 February 2016, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

COU71 BUDGET 2016/17 KEY DECISION (MINUTE EXB 109 REFERS)

The Executive Board had considered a report setting out a recommendation to Council in respect of the Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax for 2016/17. Since then the Cheshire Fire Authority and the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner had set their budgets and council tax precepts and these had been included in the report to full Council.

The report included detail on the following:-

- Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- Budget Consultation;
- Review of the 2015/16 Budget;
- 2016/17 Budget;
- the Local Government Finance Settlement;
- Budget Outlook;
- Halton's Council Tax;
- Parish Precepts;
- Average Council Tax;

- Police Precept;
- Fire Precept;
- Total Council Tax;
- Capital Programme;
- Prudential Code; and
- School Budgets.

The Executive Board had recommended that Council adopt the resolution set out in Appendix A of the report, which included setting the budget at £98.460m, the Council Tax requirement of £41.217m (before Parish, Police and Fire precepts) and the Band D Council Tax for Halton of £1,250.97.

Councillor Wharton, Resources Portfolio Holder, thanked all the Officers involved for their support in producing this budget and wished to record his thanks to the Members of the Executive Board, the Budget Working Group and the Chairs of the Policy and Performance Boards for their contribution. In addition he thanked the Leader for his help and support in delivering this budget.

In accordance with Standing Order 16 (3), a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted FOR the motion:

Councillors S. Baker, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Cassidy, Cole, Dennett, Edge, Fry, Gilligan, P. Harris, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Horabin, Howard, Jones, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, MacManus, McDermott, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, N. Plumpton Walsh, Polhill, Joe Roberts, June Roberts, Sinnott, G. Stockton, J. Stockton, Thompson, Wainwright, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall, Wright and Zygadllo.

There were no votes against the motion.

There were no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That Council adopt the following resolution -

- 1) The policies outlined in this paper be adopted, including the Budget for 2016/17, the savings set out in Appendix B and the Capital Programme set out in Appendix F.
- 2) That it be noted that at the meeting on 09 December 2015 the Council agreed the following:
 - (a) The Council Tax Base 2016/17 for the whole Council area is 32,948 (item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the Act) and

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- (b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates, be set out as follows:

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	659
Daresbury	159
Moore	326
Preston Brook	336
Halebank	499
Sandymoor	966

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

- 3) Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2016/17 (excluding Parish precepts) is £41,216,960.
- 4) In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Sections 31 to 36), the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2016/17 and agreed as follows:
- (a) £305,055,242 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the said Act, taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) £263,754,397– being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £41,300,845 – being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (item R in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act).
- (d) £1,253.52– being the amount at 3(c) above (item R), all divided by item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- (e) £83,885– being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, each individual Parish precept being:

	£
Hale	26,131
Daresbury	4,200
Moore	4,498
Preston Brook	9,150
Halebank	15,350
Sandymoor	24,556

- (f) £1,250.97 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.
- (g) Part of the Council's Area

	£
Hale	1,290.62
Daresbury	1,277.39
Moore	1,264.77
Preston Brook	1,278.20
Halebank	1,281.73
Sandymoor	1,276.39

being the amounts given by adding to the amounts at 3(e) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(h) Part of the Council's Area

Band	Hale	Dares bury	Moore	Preston Brook	Hale bank	Sandy moor	All other Parts of the Council's Area
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A	860.41	851.59	843.18	852.13	854.49	850.93	833.98
B	1,003.82	993.53	983.71	994.16	996.90	992.75	972.98
C	1,147.21	1,135.45	1,124.24	1,136.17	1,139.31	1,134.57	1,111.97
D	1,290.62	1,277.39	1,264.77	1,278.20	1,281.73	1,276.39	1,250.97
E	1,577.42	1,561.25	1,545.83	1,562.24	1,566.56	1,560.03	1,528.96
F	1,864.22	1,845.11	1,826.88	1,846.28	1,851.38	1,843.67	1,806.96
G	2,151.03	2,128.98	2,107.95	2,130.33	2,136.22	2,127.32	2,084.95
H	2,581.24	2,554.78	2,529.54	2,556.40	2,563.46	2,552.78	2,501.94

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in Valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- 5) It is further noted that for the year 2016/17 the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	£
A	107.49
B	125.40
C	143.32
D	161.23
E	197.06
F	232.89
G	268.72
H	322.46

- 6) It is further noted that for the year 2016/17 the Fire Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	£
A	47.91
B	55.89
C	63.88
D	71.86
E	87.83
F	103.80
G	119.77
H	143.72

- 7) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4h, 5 and 6 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Hale	Daresbury	Moore	Preston Brook	Hale bank	Sandy moor	All other Parts of the Council's Area
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A	1,015.81	1,006.99	998.58	1,007.53	1,009.89	1,006.33	989.38
B	1,185.11	1,174.82	1,165.00	1,175.45	1,178.19	1,174.04	1,154.27
C	1,354.41	1,342.65	1,331.44	1,343.37	1,346.51	1,341.77	1,319.17
D	1,523.71	1,510.48	1,497.86	1,511.29	1,514.82	1,509.48	1,484.06
E	1,862.31	1,846.14	1,830.72	1,847.13	1,851.45	1,844.92	1,813.85
F	2,200.91	2,181.80	2,163.57	2,182.97	2,188.07	2,180.36	2,143.64
G	2,539.52	2,517.47	2,496.44	2,518.82	2,524.71	2,515.81	2,473.44
H	3,047.42	3,020.96	2,995.72	3,022.58	3,029.64	3,018.96	2,968.12

being satisfied that:

- (a) the total amount yielded by its Council Taxes for the said financial year will be sufficient, so far as is practicable, to provide for items mentioned at 4(a) to (c) above; and, to the extent that they are not, to be provided for by any other means.
- (b) those amounts which relate to a part only of its area will secure, so far as is practicable, that the precept or portion of a precept relating to such part will be provided for only by the amount yielded by such of its Council Taxes as relate to that part.
- 8) The Operational Director Finance be authorised at any time during the financial year 2016/17 to borrow on behalf of the

Council by way of gross bank overdraft such sums as he shall deem necessary for the purposes of this paragraph, but not such that in any event the said overdraft at any time exceeds £10m (£0.5m net) as the Council may temporarily require.

COU72 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2016/17 (MINUTE EXB 110 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the operational Director, Finance, on the proposed Treasury Management Statement, incorporating the Annual Investment Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy for 2016/17.

RESOLVED: That Council adopt the policies, strategies, statements and prudential indicators outlined in the report.

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(N.B. The following Councillors made a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business for the reasons stated; Councillor Edge as a Governor of St Bede's Junior School; Councillor Joe Roberts as a Governor of Ditton Primary School)

COU73 2015/16 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME (MINUTE EXB 116 REFERS)

The Executive Board had considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which summarised the overall revenue and capital spending position as at 31 December 2015.

RESOLVED: That Council approve the revisions to the Council's 2015/16 Capital Programme, as set out in the report.

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COU74 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2016/17

Council considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which set out the Calendar of Meetings for the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Council

- 1) approve the Calendar of Meetings for the 2016/17 Municipal Year, attached to the report at Appendix 1; and
- 2) delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to set dates for the Health and Wellbeing Board and to advise all Members when these dates are agreed.

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COU75 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Council considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which contained details of the Council's recommended Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17.

The Localism Act 2011 required every local authority to prepare a pay policy statement each year, which detailed the Council's approach to a range of issues relating to the pay of its employees.

The report detailed the following information:

- Background to the Pay Structure;
- Senior Management Remuneration;
- Recruitment of Chief Officers;
- Additions to Salaries of Chief Officers;
- Pension Contributions;
- Payments on Termination;
- Publication;
- Lowest Paid Employees; and
- Accountability and Decision Making.

RESOLVED: That the Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17 be adopted.

COU76 PART II OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 (MINUTE REG 30 REFERS)

Regulatory Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, on the proposal to re-adopt legislation which related to the private hire and hackney carriage controls.

RESOLVED: That Council intends to pass a resolution at a future meeting (the Adoption Resolution)

- 1) to adopt the extent that they are not already in force in the Borough, the provisions of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (the 1976 Act), (other than Section 45), to apply to the whole area of the Council on and after the appointed day stated in that resolution;
- 2) the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be directed to publish and serve notice as required by Section 45 of the 1976 Act; and
- 3) following compliance with item 2) of this resolution, the matter be reported back to Council for the Adoption Resolution to be considered.

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COU77 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 SECTION 3 AND SCHEDULE 4 - STREET TRADING (MINUTE REG 31 REFERS)

Regulatory Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which related to the designation of streets for street trading purposes.

RESOLVED: That Council

- 1) pass the Designation Resolution set out in Appendix 1 attached to the report; and
- 2) that the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be authorised to prepare and to publish notice as required by Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

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COU78 RECOMMENDATION FROM MAYORAL COMMITTEE (MINUTE MYR2 REFERS)

The Mayoral Committee had considered a Part II item which made recommendations for the appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2016/17 Municipal Year. Formal confirmation would be sought at the Annual Meeting of Council.

RESOLVED: That Council note that

- 1) Councillor Ged Philbin be appointed Mayor; and
- 2) Councillor Alan Lowe be appointed Deputy Mayor.

Meeting ended at 7.03 p.m.

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ELECTION RESULTS – THURSDAY 5th MAY 2016

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

WARD	CANDIDATES	PARTY	NO. OF VOTES CAST	TURNOUT
Appleton	Eddie Jones Colin Rowan Victor Turton	Labour Conservative Independent	947 96 152	24.4%
Beechwood	Adam Burnett Philip Busow Geoffrey Logan Linda Redhead	Conservative UKIP Labour Liberal Democrats	163 181 483 214	35.3%
Birchfield	Callum Hough Bill Woolfall	Conservative Labour	559 821	27%
Broadheath	Tony McDermott	Labour		
Daresbury	Marjorie Bradshaw Miriam Hodge Colin Hughes	Conservative Liberal Democrats Labour	636 96 445	34.1%
Ditton	Paul Griffiths Kieran Reed Marie Wright	Conservative Independent Labour	171 202 1105	26.9%
Farnworth	Colleen Harper Val Hill	Conservative Labour	698 1111	28%

Grange	John Abbott Peter Hallwood Joanne Rowe	Labour UK Independence Party Liberal Democrats	798 222 133	24%
Halton Brook	Stef Nelson Tracey Spencer	Labour UK Independence Party	1050 222	26.6%
Halton Castle	Rochelle Carney Harry Howard Darrin Whyte	UK Independence Party Labour Independent	211 1035 115	29.4%
Halton Lea	Ruth Rowan Dave Thompson	Conservative Labour	148 1053	26.7%
Halton View	Jayne Busow Duncan Harper Rob Polhill	UK Independence Party Conservative Labour	188 113 1205	29%
Heath	Ian Adams Rosie Leck Gareth Stockton Michelle Watson	Conservative Labour Liberal Democrats UK Independence Party	146 542 821 221	37.4%
Hough Green	Joanne McLean Paul Nolan	Conservative Labour	226 1118	26.3%
Kingsway	Brad Bradshaw Margaret Horabin John Powell	UK Independence Party Labour Conservative	152 840 76	22.2%
Mersey	Danny Clarke Glyn Redican Pauline Sinnott Granville Spencer	Conservative UK Independence Party Labour Liberal Democrats	135 300 732 130	25%

Norton North	Lauren Cassidy Diane Inch Matthew Lambert	Labour Liberal Democrats Conservative	903 303 235	28.8%
Norton South	Ronald Hignett William Ring	Labour Conservative	1021 152	25.4%
Riverside	Thomas Glynn Stan Hill	UK Independence Party Labour	185 532	19.8%
Windmill Hill	Philip Harper Pauline Hignett	Conservative Labour	31 365	24.2%
		Overall Turnout		27.3%

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REPORT: Council

DATE: 20 May 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Appointments to Outside Bodies

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To review the Council's representation on outside bodies.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Council appoint representatives to the outside bodies as detailed in the list circulated at the meeting.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Each year the Council undertakes a review of its membership on outside bodies. In accordance with this practice, a review has been undertaken and recommendations to serve on the various bodies have been put forward.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** – none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** – none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** –none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 24 March 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Annual Review of Constitution 2016

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Council to a number of changes to the Constitution.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Council be recommended to approve the changes to the Constitution including the matters set out in Appendix 1.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The revised version picks up the changes to the Council's working arrangements that have taken place during the year, as well as other changes which are intended to assist the Council to operate more effectively.

3.2 The proposals for change have been considered by the Chief Executive and the Executive Board Member for Resources in accordance with Article 16.02. Apart from the purely technical changes, the proposed amendments that are considered to be of particular significance are listed in Appendix 1 to this report.

4.0 POLICY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 All legislative changes have been considered. However, no further amendments, over and above those already outlined, are required at the present time. Any other required changes during the period 2016/17 will be the subject of further reports when dates and details are available.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 **Children and Young People in Halton.**

5.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton.**

5.3 **A Healthy Halton.**

5.4 A Safer Halton.

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal.

The changes proposed are designed to support the continued delivery of the Council's priorities.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 The Council needs to ensure that its Constitution is regularly updated so that it continues to support efficient, transparent and accountable decision-making by the authority.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

Proposed Significant Changes to the Constitution

Procurement Standing Orders

These have been amended to keep up with changes in procedures. A full set of the Procurement Standing Orders, showing track changes, together with a summary of those changes, is available for inspection.

Finance Standing Orders

The delegated limits for Certifying Officers provides for Divisional Managers and Group Solicitors to authorise expenditure up to £100k. As the number of Divisional Managers has reduced in some areas, some other specifically named managers have been given authority for the same value of expenditure.

Standing Orders Relating to Duties of Proper Officers and Delegation to Officers

These have been updated to reflect the changes to Directorate structures and responsibilities.

Local Code of Corporate Governance

This has been updated in line with findings from the internal audit of the Local Code of Corporate Governance which was undertaken in accordance with the 2015/16 Internal Audit Plan (July 2015).

Staff and Officer Employment Rules

Changes to the Standing Orders relating to Staff and Officer Employment Rules were agreed by full Council in July 2015. This review has been the first opportunity to incorporate the changes into the printed version of the document, although the new rules have been adopted in the interim period.

Whistleblowing Policy

The update is needed as a result of legislative changes which are not specific to Halton. The update also makes reference to the new Whistleblowing Advice Line ran by the NSPCC Helpline which has officially launched. This has been developed to provide support to employees wishing to raise concerns over how child protection issues are being handled in their own or other organisations. The advice line is not intended to replace any current practices or responsibilities of organisations working with children and helpline advisors would encourage professionals to raise any concerns about a child to their

own employer in the first instance. However, the advice line offers an alternative route if whistleblowing internally is difficult or professionals have concerns around how matters are being handled.