

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE:

15 JANUARY 2015

REPORT OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND MONITORING OFFICER

AGENDA ITEM: 10

PROGRAMME OF FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS 2015 -2018

Reason for the Report

1. The Constitution Committee at its meeting on 19 March 2014 (Min no 36) reviewed the frequency of Council and Committee meetings following consultation with the Leader and Chairs of the various Council Committees and agreed to reduce the number of Full Council meetings by 2, recommending that there were no meetings in April (depending on Easter period) and December. There is no Council meeting in August.

Background

2. The 2014/15 Calendar was revised to take into account the agreed reduction in Full Council meetings.
3. The reduction in meetings aimed to meet concerns raised in a survey of all Elected Members of increasing time pressures and challenges and the increasing diversity of the role of Elected Members in supporting communities; commitments to the work of the Council, its Committees and Task and Finish groups; and to allow time for participation in training and development sessions as well as ensuring a manageable work life balance.
4. The Council's Constitution and Governance structure is in line with good practice and designed to enable decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively within a framework that holds decision makers to public account.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. To consider an indicative programme of future Full Council meetings from June 2015 – April 2018 to enable a report to be submitted to Council in January 2015.

Legal Implications

6. The statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government under Section 6(1) of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires the Council to survey its Members at the beginning of the administration in respect of times and interval in which meetings of the local authority are held. This exercise was completed in May 2012.
7. The Council Procedure Rules provide that the Council's programme of Council and Committee meetings shall be set by the Council.

Financial Implications

8. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however any proposal to change the frequency of meetings would require a review of resources to the Council. These costs can be quantified if a proposal was to be put forward.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to approve the indicative calendar of Full Council meetings from June 2015 – April 2018 as set out in Appendix A to recommend to Council in January 2015.

MARIE ROSENTHAL

County Clerk and Monitoring Officer
09 January 2015

Appendix A – Programme of Full Council Meetings 2015 – 2018