

FC40. Review of Standing Orders

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting the outcome of a review of Standing Orders.

The report invited Council to consider the:-

- position of the Council of the Future Board and the 5 year Business Plan within the Standing Orders
- size of committees
- political balance of committees in light of the increase in the number of Independents
- position of Portfolio Holders in relation to the Scrutiny Committees
- relationship between the Council and the Integration Joint Board
- efficiency of the planning process
- arrangements for Twinning and Friendship Pacts
- correction of a drafting issue concerning Notices of Motion.

Council adjourned at 3.20pm and reconvened at 3.40pm with all members present as per the sederunt with the exception of Provost Buchanan and Councillors Flynn, Grant, Kerr and Reid.

Council then adjourned at 3.45pm and reconvened at 3.50pm with all members present as per the sederunt with the exception of Provost Buchanan and Councillors Flynn, Grant, Kerr and Reid.

Decision

Council:-

- (1) agreed that the following changes are made of Standing Orders with detailed drafting to be reflected in revised Standing Orders for consideration by Council in December**
 - (i) the list of Corporate Plans in SO 47.1 (3) should be revised and updated as outlined in para 4.3;**
 - (ii) where a Board or working group is established by the Council the membership should be decided by Council or the relevant Executive and there should always be Terms of Reference publicly accessible;**
 - (iii) portfolio holders will be entitled to attend and speak (but not vote) at a Scrutiny Committee where the item relates to their portfolio;**
 - (iv) twinning arrangements, friendship pacts and other like arrangements should be a decision reserved to Council;**
 - (v) motions submitted by notice should be considered at the next ordinary meeting, and**

- (2) agreed to consider further a proposal that a member who submits a motion which is referred to an Executive must be present at that meeting in order for it to be considered;**
- (3) agreed to continue to the next meeting consideration of the size of its committees and their political balance in light of the increase in the number of independents;**
- (4) agreed to seek an increase in representation on the Integration Joint Board from three to four in the forthcoming review of the Integration Scheme, and**
- (5) noted that further recommendations on the review of the planning process may give rise to further recommendations in December.**