

**COUNCIL**  
**14 SEPTEMBER 2017****CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS**

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**Vice Chairmanship of HOSC****Recommendation**

- 1. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services recommends that the nominee of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), Mrs Frances Smith, be appointed as Vice Chairman of the HOSC.**
2. The Council from time to time appoints Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of member bodies to fill certain positions within its constitutional structures.
3. The Council is asked on an annual basis to agree the appointment of a Vice Chairman of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee when the nomination of the District Councils has been made.
4. The Council's Constitution states that the Vice Chairman of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to be selected by and from the District representatives on that Committee. The nomination from the District representatives made at the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 July 2017 was Mrs Frances Smith, representing Wychavon District Council.

**Council Working Group****Recommendation**

- 5. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services recommends that the Council considers:**
  - a) whether or not it wishes to re-convene the Council Working Group and if so;**
  - b) it agrees its membership and how it wishes to proceed.**
7. In January 2016, following a notice of motion in the names of Mrs E B Tucker, Prof J W Raine, Mrs S Askin and Mrs F M Oborski, Council resolved to form a cross-party working group to consider how better use might be made of the opportunities that full Council meetings represent, and how every Councillor could make a strong personal contribution for the benefit of residents and the county.
8. The cross-party Council Working Group was chaired by the Chairman of the Council for 2016-17, Mr A P Miller. It considered a number of issues which might improve Council meetings and the role of Members. Engaging with Members was an

important part of that process, and the Working Group circulated a questionnaire to all Members seeking their views. The group had been formulating proposals arising from feedback but had not been able to bring these to Council for consideration before the elections in May.

9. One specific issue was put forward to Council by the Working Group, about improving the budget-setting process. Its proposals about this were agreed at Council on 12 January 2017 and implemented for the budget meeting in February.

10. At the last Council meeting in July a motion was submitted calling for the Working Group to be reconvened – albeit with some new appointments to replace those councillors no longer with the Council – and to continue and complete the project. It was suggested that the same challenges remained, of still having to make significant annual budgetary reductions at a time of growing demand, need and expectation for County Council public services, and that councillors represented an increasingly important potential resource.

11. At the Council meeting the previous chairman of the Working Group (Mr A P Miller) requested that the proposer and seconder of the motion withdraw it. He suggested that the results of the survey conducted by the Group would be made available to all councillors and a report be brought back to this meeting of Council to consider whether to continue the work of the Group. The motion was withdrawn on this basis.

12. The results of the survey have since been circulated to all members as requested and the Council is asked to consider whether to reconvene the Working Group. If it does, it is also asked to how it wishes to progress this.

## **Contact Points**

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### Specific Contact Points for this report

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In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda papers and Minutes of HOSC on 19 July 2017  
Agenda papers and Minutes of Council on 14 January 2016, 12 January 2017 and 13 July 2017