

This report may be of interest to: All Members of the Council

PROTOCOLS

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present a series of draft protocols for consideration to assist the smooth operation of the new political management structures.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The new political management structures provide for a range of bodies and responsibilities. The purpose of protocols is to ensure that the linkages between these various bodies are understood.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the draft protocols be noted, and referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee to be held on 27 April.

4. Background

- 4.1 The new political management structures are being put in place through a series of decisions and revised standing orders. Most Councils operating new political management structures have found that a series of protocols are necessary to ensure that the operation of the various bodies, and the relationship between Cabinet and Scrutiny members, and Members and officers, can be more clearly understood.

5. Issues and Choices

- 5.1 The attached appendices set out the following draft protocols:
 - 1. Recognition of roles
 - 2. Rights of individual Members
 - 3. Rights of the Public

4. Relationship between the Assembly, Cabinet and Scrutiny bodies.
5. Relationship between Cabinet Members and officers.
6. Relationship between Scrutiny Members and officers.

6. Implications

6.1 Environmental

None.

6.2 Equalities

The draft protocols when approved will help to clarify the access arrangements for the public and individual Members in relation to the new political management structures.

6.3 Financial

None.

6.4 Legal

The Council is embarking upon new political management structures in advance of the passing of the Local Government Bill 2000. As a result of this, it will be necessary to put certain temporary arrangements in place to ensure that the current legislative framework is observed.

6.5 Staff and Accommodation

The protocols address the relationship between officers and Members in the new political management structures.

Background Papers: None