

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Special Council
DATE	14 th December 2011
DIRECTOR	Stewart Carruth
TITLE OF REPORT	Review of Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils
REPORT NUMBER:	CG/11/136

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks approval in principle for the revised Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils prior to it being advertised in the local press seeking representations from members of the public on the Scheme and associated documents.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Council approve the issue of a public notice inviting members of the public to comment on the Scheme and associated documents.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of advertising the proposed revised Scheme in the local Press can be met from within the existing approved Community Council Advertising budget therefore there would be no additional financial implications for the Council.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other direct implications arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The Corporate Policy and Performance Committee on 1st December 2011 agreed:-

(a) to recommend that Council approve the proposed revised Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils subject to:- (1) the majority method of voting detailed at section 5.5 being replaced with the STV voting system; and (2) the addition of "and further

acknowledge that Community Councillors are volunteers who give up their own time” at section 9 of the Scheme; and

(b) that the proposed Scheme, on the basis of the above changes, be referred to a Special meeting of Council for consideration.

5.2 In accordance with the decision outlined at 5.1 (1) above, the Scheme will be amended to reflect the method of voting being by Single Transferable Vote and to include the wording set out 5.1 (2) above.

5.3 Attached to the report is the revised Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, a copy of the Model Constitution and Code of Conduct for Community Councils which were presented to the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee on 1st December 2011.

5.4 In terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, a decision of a local authority to review their Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils shall be a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the numbers voting thereon at a local authority meeting specifically convened for the purpose with notice of the object.

6. IMPACT

This report takes into consideration aspects of the Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement specifically in relation to Community Engagement. The Council are actively working to develop the working relationship between the Council and Community Councils through meetings with the Community Councils, their involvement in the Civic Forum and regular reviews of Community Council support.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (a) Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Chapter 65, Part IV.
- (b) Aberdeen City Council’s current Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, dated November 2008.
- (c) Model Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils issued by the Scottish Government in 2009.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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