

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Special Council
DATE	4 April 2012
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 amended Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils and associated documents prior to it being advertised in the local press.

The consultation exercise will inform the public that the Scheme has been amended and will be formally adopted following the eight week consultation period. It will also highlight the additional boundary changes that have been requested by two Community Councils. Representations from the public are sought on the Scheme and the boundary changes.

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 the boundary changes.

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 8 March 2012 (minute extract is appended to this report) agreed recommendations (a), (c) and (d) contained in the report with the addition of the following:

At (b) that a term restraint should not be imposed for Community Council office bearers (the scheme has been amended to reflect this decision).

At (c) to request that the proposed boundary change for the Bucksburn and Newhills Community Council to include the Stonewood area, as set out in section 5.2 of the report also be included in the further eight week consultation period.

- 5.2 Attached to the report is the amended Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, which incorporates the Area descriptions, Model Constitution and Code of Conduct.

- 5.3 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.

- 5.4 In accordance with the terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the amended Scheme requires to be advertised in the local press and sent out for a further period of consultation to inform the public that the Scheme has been amended and will be formally adopted following the eight week consultation period and to seek comments from the public on the boundary changes that have been requested.

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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