

The Cabinet

Members will note that the Task and Finish Group's proposals suggest that Cabinet will comprise of the Leader, Deputy Leader, six portfolio holders and two non-portfolio holders with full voting rights. The Leader will make appointments to the Cabinet in line with legislation, and the portfolio holders' responsibilities are included in appendix two.

Decision Making

The Task and Finish Group suggested that Cabinet should be a collective decision making body with no delegation to portfolio holders.

Key Decisions

A key decision is qualified as where expenditure is over £250,000 or where two or more wards are affected. These decisions must be published on a Forward Plan for a minimum of 28 days prior to a decision being taken.

Policy and Advisory Committee

This will be a non-decision making committee of the executive and will be appointed to by the Leader. It is envisaged that the committee's work programme will be set by Cabinet and will engage in pre-decision consideration of important topics prior to their submission to Cabinet.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

There will be a number of standing items on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's (OSC) work programme, such as budget and performance related issues, however, the OSC will also have the ability to set up task and finish groups to undertake specific reviews or policy development work.

The OSC will also operate the call-in procedure, which provides a mechanism for councillors to intervene when it is considered that a decision taken by the Cabinet needs to be reconsidered.

Notice of Cabinet decisions is given within three working days of the meeting. Prior to a further five working days elapsing, notice must be given to the Monitoring Officer that an item is to be called-in. The OSC will then hold a special meeting and, if required, the Cabinet will hold an extraordinary meeting to consider the recommendations of the OSC and take action to either amend their decision or take no further action.