

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Report from the meeting held on 14 January 2019

1 Independent Remuneration Panel

- 1.1. Richard Blamey, Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) presented the IRP's report to the Constitution Committee.
- 1.2. It was explained that the IRP had met several times throughout 2018 to interview newly appointed Cabinet members and Group Leaders about their roles and view of members' allowance. The Panel also reviewed allowances data from other county councils.
- 1.3. The report was noted and it was agreed by the three main political parties, a free vote be taken on whether to adopt the recommendations in the IRP's report for Member allowances in 2019/20.
- 1.4. Subsequent to the meeting, Richard Blamey discussed the matter with the Chairman of Council, Cllr Andrew Gravells, and asked him that the Panel's report be deferred until the Council meeting on 15 May 2019. Mr Blamey is aware that a scrutiny review is being undertaken that could potentially impact on the level of allowances and he is intending to call a meeting of the IRP in April 2019 to consider the outcome of the review (which will be presented to Council on 28 March).
- 1.5. Cllr Gravells has agreed that the report will be presented to the Council meeting on 15 May 2019.

2 Friendly Amendments

- 2.1. Democratic Services had carried out research to produce this report and it was interesting to note that the phrase 'friendly amendment' whilst widely used, was not written in other council's constitutions.
- 2.2. Cllr Hawthorne highlighted that he had met with the group leaders of the Liberal Democrat and Labour groups to discuss the best way forward:
 - They agreed that, in principle, the motion is owned by the proposer and seconder and therefore for an amendment to be friendly it needs agreement from both.
 - Therefore the Constitution should include an advisory note to the effect that only the proposer and seconder have to agree on the

proposed amendment for it to become part of the substantive motion.

2.3. **RESOLVED** that the Monitoring Officer be requested to amend the Constitution to include reference to 'friendly amendments' where the proposer and seconder agree that a proposal from another member be incorporated within their motion.

2.4. Please refer to the attached document showing the Monitoring Officer's change to the Constitution which will need to be formally ratified by full Council.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE
Chair of the Constitution Committee

Changes to Gloucestershire County Council Constitution by the Monitoring Officer

In the exercise of my powers set out in Article 14.02 of the Council's Constitution, I make the **deletions and amendments** to the Rules of Procedure set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution as set out in the Appendix below.

J Burns

Jane Burns
Monitoring Officer
Gloucestershire County Council

4 February 2019

The Appendix

12.7 Alteration of motion by the proposer

~~With the consent of the full Council agreed without discussion, a~~ A Member may:

12.7.1 Alter a motion of which they have given notice; or

12.7.2 With the consent of the seconder alter a motion that has been moved without notice.

In either case, the alteration to the motion must be worded as an acceptable amendment in accordance with Procedural Standing Order 12.5.

12. ~~898~~ Withdrawal of motion or amendment

A Member may withdraw a motion or amendment to a motion which they have moved, with the consent of both the full Council and the seconder. The full Council's and seconder's consent will be given or not given, without discussion. No Member may speak on the motion or amendment to motion after the mover has asked permission to withdraw unless permission to withdraw is refused.

12. ~~9109~~ Right of reply

The mover of a motion has the right to reply at the end of the debate on the motion, immediately before the motion is put to the vote.

If an amendment to the motion is moved, the mover of the original motion will also have the right to reply at the end of the debate on the amendment. Otherwise, the mover of the original motion is not allowed to speak in the debate on the amendment.

The Member who has proposed an amendment shall have a right to reply to the debate on that amendment. The right to reply will take place immediately before the final speech by the mover of the original motion.

Advisory Note: 'Friendly amendments':

Where the proposer and seconder of the original motion accept proposed changes made by another member, this will be known as a "friendly amendment" and will not require the consent of full Council.

It should be noted that any proposed amendments falling within a 'Friendly amendment' will be subject to procedural order 12.5