

Agenda Item No:	12	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	8 December 2021	
Report Title:	Constitutional Amendment - Planning Committee	

1 Purpose / Summary

For Council to agree a constitutional amendment to increase the number of Cabinet Members permitted to sit on the Planning Committee.

2 Key issues

- The Council has a Planning Committee made up of 13 Members observing political proportionality.
- The Planning Committee is a regulatory Committee and therefore a non-executive function of the Council.
- To uphold the non-executive function of the Planning Committee, there is a restriction in place to limit the number of Cabinet Members on the Committee. Currently that limit is 3 Cabinet Members.
- There is no statutory limit on the number of Cabinet Members allowed on a Planning Committee and therefore it is down to each individual local authority to decide how many Cabinet Members should be allowed albeit protecting its purpose as a non-executive Committee.
- The proposal is to increase the number of Cabinet Members allowed on Planning Committee from 3 to 4 Cabinet Members as per the amendment at Appendix 1.
- This proposal does not increase the overall number of Members on Planning Committee.
- Any new appointments to Committees are made by Group Leaders in line with proportionality which can be actioned between Council meetings through delegation to the Chief Executive.
- There are no financial implications in relation to this proposal.

3 Recommendations

For Council to agree the constitutional amendment as set out at Appendix 1 to increase the number of Cabinet Members allowed on Planning Committee from 3 to 4.

Wards Affected	All wards
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Chris Boden - Leader of the Council
Report Originator(s)	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director Paul Medd - Chief Executive Amy Brown - Head of Legal and Governance

Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd - Chief Executive Carol Pilson - Corporate Director Amy Brown - Head of Legal and Governance
Background Paper(s)	Constitution

Appendix 1

Responsibility for Functions

Definition of Memberships

Decision Making Body	Membership
Planning Committee	<p>Up to 13 members of the Council. No more than three<u>four</u> of which can be members of the Cabinet.</p> <p>The committee will have 1 Chairman and 1 Vice Chairman none of which can be members of the Cabinet.</p> <p><u>No planning decision will be taken at Committee if the number of Cabinet Members is more than 50% of the voting Members present.</u></p>