

## **Article 10 – Area Committees and Area Consultative Forums**

### **10.01 Area Committees and Area Consultative Forums**

The Council may appoint Area Committees and/or Area Consultative Forums as it sees fit, if it is satisfied that to do so will ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making.

The Council will consult with relevant parish and town councils and the Chairmen of relevant parish meetings when considering whether and how to establish Area Committees or Area Consultative Forums.

### **10.02 Form, composition and function**

- (a) The Council has not appointed any Area Committees or Area Consultative Forums at this time .
- (b) **Delegations.** The Council and the Cabinet will include details of any delegations that may be given to any Area Committees in Part 3 of this Constitution.

### **10.03 Conflicts of interest – membership of Area Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

- (a) **Conflict of interest.** If an Overview and Scrutiny Committee is scrutinising specific decisions by or proposals from an Area Committee of which the councillor concerned is a member, then the councillor may not speak or vote at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting unless a dispensation to do so is given by the Standards Committee.
- (b) **General policy reviews.** Where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is reviewing policy generally the member must declare his/her interest before the relevant agenda item is reached, but need not withdraw.

### **10.04 Area Committees and Area Consultative Forums – access to information**

Area Committees and Area Consultative Forums will comply with the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constituion.

### **10.05 Cabinet members on Area Committees or Area Consultative Forums**

A member of the Cabinet may serve on an Area Committee or an Area Consultative Forum if otherwise eligible to do so as a councillor.