

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

4.00pm 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

DECISION LIST

Part One

25. PATCHAM WARD AND STANFORD WARD - CHANGE OF NAME

Contact Officer: Paul Holloway *Tel:* 29-2005
Ward Affected: Patcham; Stanford

RESOLVED -That the Committee agrees the consultation exercise regarding the proposed electoral area name changes to the current Patcham and Stanford Wards.

26. RESPONSE TO CLG 'STRENGTHENING LOCAL DEMOCRACY' CONSULTATION PAPER

Contact Officer: Emma McDermott *Tel:* 29-3944
Ward Affected: All Wards

RESOLVED - That Members agree the draft response to the consultation questions attached to the report at Appendix 2 as amended (for copy see minute book), including the comments from Overview and Scrutiny Commission as detailed in Appendix 3.

27. 'GET INVOLVED' CAMPAIGN

Contact Officer: Emma McDermott *Tel:* 29-3944
Mark Wall *Tel:* 29-1006
Ward Affected: All Wards

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the need for a 'Get Involved' campaign and the approach outlined in the report be endorsed;
- (2) That Members consider any additional activities that could be explored that are either existing planned events or new activities.

28. E-PETITIONS

Contact Officer: *Caroline Banfield* *Tel: 29-1126*
 Elizabeth Culbert *Tel: 29-1515*
Ward Affected: *All Wards*

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the Committee recommends that Full Council:

Approves the launch of an e-petitions facility with effect from 21st November 2009 for Brighton & Hove City Council for a trial period and requests a further report on the outcome of the pilot is brought to Governance Committee on 9th March 2010;

Notes that the pilot period will be shorter if the provisions relating to e-petitions in the Local Democracy Economic Development and Construction Bill come into force prior to the review date;

Agrees the e-petitions guidance attached at Appendix One;

Authorises the Head of Law to take all steps necessary to implement the e-petitions facility, including making any necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution;

- (2) That the Committee notes the provisions of the Local Democracy Economic Development and Construction Bill in relation to e-petitions and requests officers to bring a further report back to Committee when the commencement date is known.

29. MEMBERS' WEB PAGES - REVIEW OF GUIDANCE

Contact Officer: *Caroline Banfield* *Tel: 29-1126*
 Elizabeth Culbert *Tel: 29-1515*
Ward Affected: *All Wards*

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Governance Committee.
- (2) That the Members' Web Page Policy be circulated to all Members and an opportunity to comment be provided.
- (3) That the Members' Web Page Policy be considered by the Leaders' Group before coming back to the Governance Committee.

30. MEMBERS' SECRETARIAL & IT SUPPORT

Contact Officer: Mark Wall
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 29-1006

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the Committee notes the information in the report;
- (2) That the Committee approves the establishment of a working group of Members to take forward the development of a casework software program to enable Members to manage their own casework more effectively; and
- (3) That a report is brought back to the next meeting on the outcome of the development of the casework programme, whether it should be purchased the funding provision.

31. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2008/2009

Contact Officer: Ian Withers
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 29-1323

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Committee notes the draft extract from the proceedings of the Audit Committee.
- (2) That the Committee endorses the Annual Governance Statement 2008/09 as approved by the Audit Committee.
- (3) That a report on whistle blowing be brought back to the Governance Committee.

NB The above decisions will be implemented after close of business on 29 September 2009 unless they are called in.