

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

8TH SEPTEMBER 2017

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE - FUNCTION

PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011

RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

That the provisions of the Measure and the Statutory Guidance relating to the role of the Democratic Services Committee function are noted.

REASONS:

To provide members of the Committee with the Committee's functions and the background to its establishment.

Scrutiny Committee consulted	Not applicable
Exec Board Decision Required	NO
Council Decision Required	YES

Councillor Rob James – Chair of the Committee

<p>Directorate</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Gaynor Morgan</p>	<p>Chief Executive's</p> <p>Designations: Head of Administration & Law</p> <p>Head of Democratic Services</p>	<p>Tel Nos.</p> <p>01267 224012 LRJ 01267 224026 GM</p> <p>E Mail Addresses: gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE
8TH SEPTEMBER 2017

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE - FUNCTION

PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011

This report sets out the statutory framework within which the Democratic Services Committee functions, and the remit and powers available to the Committee.

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires each Principal Council to establish a Democratic Services Committee.

Sections 8 to 21 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure specifically relate to the provision of Democratic Services. Specifically further to section 11 the Committee is to :

- review the adequacy of provision by the authority of staff, accommodation and other resources to discharge democratic services functions, and
- make reports and recommendations to the authority in relation to such
- provision.

The Council at its meeting held on the 17TH April 2013 agreed to a recommendation of the Democratic Services Committee to include the following additional responsibilities within Committee's functions/terms of reference:-

- To secure the provision of reasonable training and development opportunities for Councillors and prepare reports and recommendations to Council in relation to such provision;
- To appoint the Council's Member Development Champion;
- To be consulted on the implementation of reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in respect of members allowances etc.
- To promote and support good governance by the Council

It is for a Democratic Services Committee to determine how to exercise these democratic functions.

The Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2013 added section 11A which provides that the Democratic Services Committee may, at the request of the authority, review any matter relevant to :

- (a) the support and advice available to members of that authority, and
- (b) the terms and conditions of office of those members.

The committee must make reports and recommendations to the authority following a review; and again, it is for a democratic services committee to determine how to exercise its functions under this section.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO
LINKS TO THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION ARE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS.

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening process took place prior to the consultation period. The outcome indicated that it was low priority and a **full report was not required.**

Finance

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Legal

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

1.Scrutiny Committee Not applicable

2.Local Member(s) Not applicable

3.Community / Town Council Not applicable

4.Relevant Partners Not applicable

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Local Government Wales Measure 2011		http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/4/content_s
Statutory Guidance on the Local Government Wales Measure		http://gov.wales/docs/dsilg/publications/localgov/120625statguideen.pdf
Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2013		http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2013/4/contents/enacted