



**Extract from Joint Governance Committee - 25 September 2018**

**JGC/029/18-19      Governance of Partnership working between Adur District Council & Worthing Borough Council: The Joint Committee Agreement**

**Purpose**

- 1.1. The agreement between ADC & WBC has been reviewed and there are proposed amendments for the Joint Governance Committee to consider and make appropriate recommendations to each Council.
- 1.2. It is important that the agreement between the two authorities regarding their Joint working is kept up to date and fit for purpose to ensure good governance arrangements are in place thereby affording protection to each Council, and ensuring swift and agile decision making in relation to joint services

**Summary of Discussion**

Before the Committee was a report by the Monitoring Officer, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and copies are attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 13.

*The report advised the agreement between Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council had been reviewed and that there were proposed amendments for the Joint Governance Committee to consider and make appropriate recommendations to each Council.*

The Monitoring Officer introduced the report and explained that the Joint Committee Agreement governed the partnership working arrangement between Adur and Worthing; formed part of the Constitution and had been adopted and signed by both Councils. The Agreement was entered into in 2007, when the partnership started, and to reflect progress over the years was now due for review.

The Monitoring Officer highlighted some of the changes that had been made to the draft Agreement, and advised the formatting of the document had been changed significantly for clarity. When the Councils first entered into the agreement, Schedule 1 related to services that were in the joint arena, however all services were in the joint arena, therefore it has identified items that are reserved for each Council rather than listing those that are joint.

The Officer also advised of amendments to the report was published, paragraph 20, i.e. Audit Commission Act should now read Local Audit and Accountability Act and in respect of Schedule 2 minor amendments to the wording as it reads as though it is a new situation in respect of cost allocation, but has now been established for some time.

The Chairman requested that the document be a track change copy in order for Members to see easily where the changes have been made. It was also confirmed the Head of Finance had reviewed and agreed the draft Agreement.

A Member commented he felt the partnership working had gone extremely well and saved both Councils a considerable amount of money that not only provided savings to taxpayers but also resilience to services.

Following consideration of the report, the Committee Members agreed the use of track changes when amendments were to be agreed within the Constitution.

### **Resolution from Committee**

The Joint Governance Committee considered the proposed draft agreement as amended and **recommended** approval to both Councils. The Committee Members also agreed the use of track changes when amendments were to be agreed within the Constitution.

[link to committee report](#)