



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

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Date	12th February 2020
SUBJECT	Committee Structures and frequency of meetings

PURPOSE:

1. To inform Members of the current resourcing issues involved with servicing the existing Committee Structure and present for consideration a background paper on this issue – Appendix 1, noting that in this current Mayoral year, 51 formal Council /Committee meetings will have been supported by Officers, plus occasional working groups.
2. To submit for consideration a revised Committee structure and timetable (Appendix 2) aimed at improving the effectiveness of delivery of outcomes for Members and reducing the number of meetings Members are currently required down to an estimated 31 (a 40% reduction).
3. To provide a structured timetable of meetings focussed on delivering key aspects of the council's work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. That Members consider the rationale behind the proposed changes.
5. That Members agree whether they wish to submit to Full Council for agreement, subject to any amendment(s) they may wish to make.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

6. To provide the opportunity for Members to consider a substantive change to the current Committee structure and associated timetable of meetings.
8. To seek agreement to recommend such changes to Full Council.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

9. In considering a way forward there are synergies with the nature of items considered that indicate options to merge committees would lead to more effective delivery and on occasions avoid repetition.
10. General Purposes and Amenities have a strong emphasis on money and resources whilst Development and Climate have similar roles in terms of influencing change - for example reduce flooding risk in new development, influencing traffic congestion, public transport, infrastructure.
11. Full Council with planning and thought, could incorporate the Planning consultee role, when Development is not meeting, in order to still be able to comment in time.
12. Meetings can be scheduled within the year on a heavy / light basis to ensure that key aspects are covered in terms of operational need, and then at other meetings, a lighter Agenda focussing on specific areas.
13. Officers in working with Members understand that there may still be a need for additional meetings to be called, should something not in practice be working out as anticipated, and will respond accordingly.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There will be some gains made in respect of Town Hall booking room costs, staff overtime, stationery and postage costs

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

16. This represents a significant change in emphasis of availability for the frequency of opportunity for members of the public to express their views.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

17. None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1. Background Paper

Appendix 2. Proposed Committee Structure and Timetable

FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill