Local Government Reform Sub-Committee – Terms of reference

1 Purpose of report

To approve the terms of reference in appendix 1 for the Local Government Reform (LGR) centre sub-committee.

2 Executive summary

The creation of the LGR sub-committee was agreed at council on 17 October 2018. This report seeks approval for the terms of reference for this sub-committee in Appendix 1.

3 Appendices

Appendix 1 – LGR Sub-Committee draft terms of reference.

4 Proposed action:

4.1 The committee is invited to RECOMMEND to Resources Committee to approve the terms of reference in appendix 1.

5 Background

5.1 At council on 17 October 2018 it was agreed that a Local Government Reform sub-committee be established.

5.2 It was agreed that this sub-committee will consider any matters relating to the formulation and monitoring of the implementation of the council’s plans for the transformation and transition into a new North Northamptonshire unitary council and the establishment of a town council for Wellingborough.

5.3 The sub-committee will report to the resources committee and will be time limited up to the end of March 2020. The membership of the sub-committee will consist of seven members, five members from the administration and two from the opposition.

5.4 As with committees, formal reports and notes will be produced and the meetings will be open to the public giving them an opportunity to speak.
6 Discussion

6.1 Approval is sought for the terms of reference in Appendix 1 to be agreed and recommended to Resources Committee in line with the council decision.

6.2 The committee has elsewhere on its agenda reports to note only, until such time as the terms of reference are agreed at Resources Committee.

6.3 The frequency and dates for this sub-committee are to be agreed at the meeting.

7 Legal powers

This sub committee has been created in line with the council’s constitution.

8 Financial and value for money implications

Any decisions made by the sub-committee would be covered by existing budgets. If additional funding is needed this will be reported to resources committee.

9 Risk analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of risk</th>
<th>Consequences if realised</th>
<th>Likelihood of occurrence</th>
<th>Control measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms of reference not agreed.</td>
<td>Sub-committee meetings delayed.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Agree the terms of reference.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 Implications for resources

Any decisions made by the sub-committee would be covered by existing staff resources. If additional resources are needed this will be reported to the relevant committee.

11 Implications for stronger and safer communities and equalities

None arising from this report.

12 Author and contact officer

Liz Elliott Managing Director

13 Consultees

Julie Thomas, Director
Karen Denton Assistant Director
Local Government Reform Sub-Committee

Terms of Reference

1. **Membership**
   
The sub-committee will comprise seven members reflecting the political balance of the council.

2. **Accountability**
   
   This is a sub-committee of the resources committee, which can make decisions within the remit of the responsibilities identified below.
   
The reporting mechanisms will be the same as resources committee with reports being circulated seven days before the meeting and minutes being taken. These meetings will be open to the public who will also be able to register to speak in the same way as resources committee.

3. **Objective**
   
   The sub-committee will receive reports on current topics regarding Local Government reform for their consideration, approval or making recommendation to the appropriate committee. Minutes of the sub-committee will be reported to resources committee to confirm.

4. **Responsibilities**
   
   **Overall Purpose**
   
   To consider any matters relating to the formulation and monitoring of the implementation of the council’s plans for the transformation and transition into a new North Northamptonshire unitary council and the establishment of a town council for Wellingborough.
   
The sub-committee will consider the following:

   - Matters on which to influence the Shadow Authority, Secretary of State, and Project Groups / Boards, as required
   - To lead on the council’s approach to Community Governance reviews, issues relating to parish and town councils within the LGR, and Charter Trustee status
   - Advising the council on issues to discuss relating to the provision of services, transition of staff, contracts, assets and other legal responsibilities transferring to the new North Northamptonshire unitary council
   - How to further develop working arrangements with partner authorities in preparation for the anticipated North Northamptonshire unitary council, including interim staffing changes and use of resources.
   - To consider any other matter related to local government reform that is broadly consistent with these general principles.

5. **Confidentiality**
   
   Parts of the meeting may need to be exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule