

## General Purposes Committee

**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN</b>
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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>Directorate:</b>	Borough Solicitor
<b>Ward(s)</b>	N/A

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This Report sets out a draft Work Plan for the General Purposes Committee. This follows the agreement at the General Purposes Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011 that Officers would be consulted in order to produce a draft Work Plan for the Committee to approve.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee considers and approves the draft Work Plan relating to the current civic year set out at paragraph 3.4 of this Report, suggesting any appropriate amendments.

### 3. Report Background

- 3.1 At the last Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011, the Chair noted that a number of Committee meetings in the previous civic year had been cancelled and generally queried whether the Committee could be undertaking more work particularly in view of the many issues currently facing local government. Therefore, at that meeting the Terms of Reference of the Committee were discussed.
- 3.2 The Terms of Reference of the General Purposes Committee were considered by the Constitution Review Working Party as part of the most recent review of the entire Constitution. This review resulted in Full Council adopting broader Terms of Reference for the General Purposes Committee in May 2010, which went beyond a more Human Resources based remit. The current Terms of Reference are contained in Article 11 of the Constitution, which is reproduced at Appendix 1 of this Report.
- 3.3 Following the discussions at the last Committee, the Borough Solicitor has consulted relevant Officers in order to devise a Work Plan for the remainder of the current civic year to reflect the new breadth of the Committee's remit.

3.4 The draft Committee Work Plan is as follows:

Date of Committee Meeting	Matters to be considered
6 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Council's response to the Individual Electoral Registration White Paper</li><li>• Confidential Report to be submitted by the Head of Human Resources</li></ul>
24 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health and Safety Monitoring Report</li></ul>
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review of the People Plan 2009 - 2013</li></ul>

3.5 The Committee are asked to approve the Work Plan in paragraph 3.4 above, suggesting any appropriate amendments.

#### **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

##### **4.1 Resources and Risk**

There are no resource or financial implications arising from this Report.

##### **4.2 Legal**

There are no specific legal issues arising from this Report.

##### **4.3 Other Implications**

N/A

#### **5. Background Papers**

N/A

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## **Article 11 - The General Purposes Committee**

### **11.1 General Purposes Committee:**

The Council will establish a General Purposes Committee.

### **11.2 Membership:** The General Purposes Committee will be composed of nine Councillors.

### **11.3 Role and Terms of Reference:**

- 11.3.1 To consider proposals, to make, amend, revoke or re-enact byelaws, to promote or oppose hybrid or personal legislation and to make recommendations to Council and to advise the Council in relation to the making of byelaws in so far as these are not appropriate for consideration by another Committee or body.
- 11.3.2 To approve personnel, employment and training policies and strategies.
- 11.3.3 To monitor Health and Safety matters in the context of the Council as an employer.
- 11.3.4 To consider electoral matters not including those subject to Boundary Commission review.
- 11.3.5 To consider any matter referred to the Committee by Council or by the Cabinet.
- 11.3.6 To make recommendations to the Council for the adoption or revision of a scheme of allowances for Members.
- 11.3.7 To exercise the powers relating to the protection of important hedgerows and the preservation of trees set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and associated regulations and any relevant legislation and to exercise the function of considering objections to tree preservation orders and deciding whether or not to confirm such orders (with or without modification) where any such objections have been made and not withdrawn.
- 11.3.8 To exercise those functions which under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (the "Functions Regulations") or other relevant legislative provision, are not to be the responsibility of a local authority's executive; and which have not been made the responsibility of any other Committee of the Council and are not functions that only the full Council can exercise (whether by law or under any provision of the Constitution or because of a specific direction or election by Council to that effect).
- 11.3.9 To exercise all other functions referred to in Schedule 2 of the Functions Regulations (ie. "local choice" functions) not specifically allocated.