Minutes of the Meeting of the STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE held at the Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall on 29 June 2023

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chair); Councillor Hannah Dalton (Vice-Chair); Councillors Chris Ames, James Lawrence, Robert Leach and Chris Watson

<u>Officers present:</u> Andrew Bircher (Interim Director of Corporate Services), Brendan Bradley (Head of Finance), Piero Ionta (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager)

1 QUESTION AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions or statements were received from members of the public.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in relation to items of business to be discussed at the meeting.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Standards and Constitution Committee held on 25 January 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4 FINANCIAL POLICY PANEL REVIEW

The Committee received a report providing an appraisal of the implementation of changes to financial decision-making procedures and committee responsibilities as agreed by Full Council in February 2022. The report recommended further changes to the Council's constitution for the Committee's consideration.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

- (1) Consider the proposed changes to Financial Policy Panel's responsibilities, as set-out in sections 3 & 4 of the report;
- (2) Recommend that Full Council approve the proposed changes set-out in the report, including the re-naming of Financial Policy Panel to Financial Strategy Advisory Group.

5 ESTABLISH A STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTION WORKING GROUP

The Committee received a report proposing the establishment of a working group to take forward the work of the Standards and Constitution Committee.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously was resolved to:

(1) Establish a working group as set out in the report to take forward the work of the Standards and Constitution Committee.

6 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report setting out its future work programme.

The following matter was considered:

a) **Special meetings.** The Committee noted that additional Special meetings of the Committee might be necessary in order to consider proposals from the Constitution Working Group and for their onward recommendation to the Full Council.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

(1) Agree the future work programme for the committee.

The meeting began at 7.49 pm and ended at 8.00 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIR)