

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Sue Lyons – Head of Democratic & Legal Services Monitoring Officer	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> C13/011	
Wards Affected	All	23rd April 2014	
Title	CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION – VOTING ON THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- (i) to advise Council of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendments) Regulations; and
- (ii) to seek approval of the amendments required to the Council's Constitution to implement the Regulations.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1. The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendments) Regulations 2014 (The Regulations) came into force on 25th February 2014. The Regulations make it mandatory for Councils to amend their Procedure Rules, as soon as reasonably practicable after the coming into force of the Regulations, to incorporate a provision for the votes at budget meetings to be recorded.
- 2.2. A budget decision meeting is defined in the Regulations and will include those matters considered as part of the budget process including the Council Tax Base, the Council Tax resolution, the General Fund and any calculation or making of a precept.
- 2.3. It is proposed that the Paragraph 19.4 of the Council Procedure Rules (Recorded Vote) be amended to include the following provision:

“A recorded vote shall be taken at any budget decision making meeting of the Council, as defined by The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, including any amendments to the motion, and there shall be recorded in the minutes the names of the persons who cast a vote for the decision or against the decision or who abstained from voting.”
- 2.4. The rule will apply to Full Council, the Executive and any other committees where a decision on the budget is made, and will include any amendments proposed to the motion.
- 2.5. At the Council meeting on 26th February 2014, the provisions were applied voluntarily when the budget was set. To assist members it is proposed that any reports which require a recorded vote will be identified on the agenda.

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2.6. On 16th April 2014 the Executive will consider a report on this matter. Any comments and recommendations from the Executive Committee will be reported verbally to Council at the meeting.

3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

Not applicable

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5. FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

6. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The amendment is a statutory requirement as set out in the report.

8. RECOMMENDATION

That paragraph 19.4 of the Council Procedure Rules be amended to include the following provision:

“A recorded vote shall be taken at any budget decision making meeting of the Council, as defined by The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, including any amendments to the motion, and there shall be recorded in the minutes the names of the persons who cast a vote for the decision or against the decision or who abstained from voting.”

Background Papers: Local Authority (Standing Orders)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2014

Title

Date

Contact Officer Sue Lyons

Previous Minutes/Reports: None

Ref:

Date: