

## APPENDIX 15

### OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL STEERING PANEL - MAY 1 2007

The constitutional steering panel considered the following issues but no recommendations were made:

1. Guillotine to be calculated from the start of the meeting and to end the meeting – all other business, except statutory business to be disposed of by voting without debate or being deferred to another meeting.
2. Time limits for presentations by deputations and questions from members not to be capable of being extended.
3. Combine the Mayor-making meeting with constitutional assembly.
4. Permit the appointments of school governors made by the voluntary bodies appointments panel or community councils to be made by agreement of members via conference calls or e-mail, instead of waiting until having to wait until the next meeting is convened.
5. An amendment to allow members to ask further additional supplementary questions to executive members during members question time. These would be related to the point at issue only and would allow councillors with specific ward interests to join the questioning and better hold executive members to account.
6. No change to the current OSC call-in requirements.
7. An amendment devolving powers on local parks (such as enhancing children's areas or designating dog-only zones) to the relevant community council.

Some additional background information:

*"The detail of where dogs are/are not allowed, on/off leads, etc, has been the focus of controversy in N&PR Community Council. "The first bit would cover dog control orders and so forth, which have been very controversial in N&PR. The second bit would cover the "Goose Green" type of issue where officers have implemented an unpopular fencing scheme. It would also cover installation of children's play equipment etc. But it would not cover day to day management, which I think we are happy keeping with chief officers answering to exec. Some regulation of behaviour in parks -- cycling etc -- will probably still be covered by byelaws. Making byelaws as such is not an executive function but a Council Assembly function...But CCs should have an expressly reserved function of making proposals for byelaws and being consulted on any proposed amendment or repeal of existing byelaws."*

8. Re-insert the October council assembly.

9. Move date of the budget setting council assembly (currently falls on half term week).
10. Amend the Major Projects Board proposals to insert ward councillors onto the project delivery teams.
11. Change the deadline for members' questions so that the written responses are available to members before the date of council assembly.
12. The proposal to abolish the school organisation committee and replace it with executive member IDM has been queried. Is there not guidance which states that decisions which were within the purview of the SOC could be taken by the executive as a whole, as opposed to IDM? Non-executive councillors could also be involved in the discharge of functions (as in Brighton & Hove) - there is no requirement to go for IDM. Have any other alternatives been considered?
13. Livesey ward voting rights - Currently members of Livesey Ward can vote on planning applications in Peckham community council and in Rotherhithe. However, Livesey Ward members feel that there are many other issues that they would like to vote on aside from planning applications.