

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Democratic Services Committee  
15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013

REPORT AUTHOR: Interim Head of Democratic Services

SUBJECT: New Model Constitution

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REPORT FOR: Decision

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- 1.1 The Council has received a copy of the proposed new Model Welsh Constitution for County Councils prepared by Dickinson Dees Solicitors on behalf of the Lawyers in Local Government Group (formerly ACSeS).
- 1.2 A copy of the Contents pages are attached to this document as an Appendix. As Members will see it is significantly different in its format from the model constitutions currently operated by County Councils in Wales.
- 1.3 The Committee will also be aware that a Member and Officer Working Group has been established by this committee to undertake revisions to the Constitution. The last revision to the Constitution was approved by the Council at its Annual Meeting in May, 2013. It was the intention to continue with further revisions of the current Constitution.
- 1.4 However in light of the receipt of the new model constitution, Members are asked whether further work on the current version should cease and the Council should be advised that the new model be adopted. Work will then need to be undertaken to populate the new model with provisions relating to Powys including the transfer of any current rules and protocols from the current constitution to the new model. This work will probably take up to April 2014 to complete, with the intention to undertake the work in sections for consideration by the Working Group, political groups, the Committee and approval by Council. The completed new constitution would be effective from May 2014.
- 1.4 It is unclear as yet as to the position of other Councils in Wales in relation to adopting the new model constitution. However a meeting of the Lawyers in Local Government group will have been held prior to the meeting of the Committee, and an update can be provided at the meeting.

Recommendation to the County Council:	Reason for Recommendation:
(i) That the Council adopt the new model constitution for Councils in Wales. (ii) That any further updates to the current constitution cease and that officers prepare the new constitution for consideration by	To move the Council to the new model constitution for Councils in Wales.

<b>the Working Group / political groups / Committee and approval by Council.</b>	
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<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>			
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y / N</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y / N</b>

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	
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<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>Clive Pinney</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>July 2013</b>

<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
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**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

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