



Report to Council

Report of: Chief Executive

Date: 4 December 2013

Subject: Date of the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2014

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Summary:

This report asks the City Council to approve a new date for its Annual General Meeting in 2014 as a result of the date of the Municipal Elections in 2014 being moved from 1st May to 22nd May 2014.

Recommendations:

That the Council (a) approves that the date of its Annual General Meeting in 2014 be moved from 21st May to 4th June, in view of the date of the Municipal Elections in 2014 being moved from 1st May to 22nd May; and

(b) notes the implications of the later date for the Municipal Elections on the terms of office of councillors due to retire in 2014, and of extending the 2013/14 Municipal Year by moving the Annual General Meeting to a later date, as outlined in section 4 of the report.

Background Papers:

The Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Elections in 2014) Order 2013

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial implications
NO
Legal implications
NO
Equality of Opportunity implications
NO
Tackling Health Inequalities implications
N/A
Human rights implications
N/A
Environmental and Sustainability implications
N/A
Economic impact
N/A
Community safety implications
N/A
Human resources implications
N/A
Property implications
N/A
Area(s) affected
None
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader
Councillor Julie Dore
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Not applicable
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
Yes
Press release
NO

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report asks the City Council to approve a new date for its Annual General Meeting in 2014 as a result of the date of the Municipal Elections in 2014 being moved from 1st May to 22nd May 2014.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council Procedure Rules, which form part of the Council's Constitution, specifies that the annual meeting of the Council shall be held on the third Wednesday in May. Accordingly, at its Annual General Meeting on 15th May 2013, the Council approved a programme of meetings for the Municipal Year 2013/14 which included the date of 21st May 2014 for the Annual General Meeting. However, on this occasion, the date was made subject to the date of the Municipal Elections in 2014 going ahead on 1st May 2014 and not being combined with the 2014 European Parliamentary elections. The Council also agreed not to hold an ordinary meeting in May.
- 2.2 By virtue of The Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Elections in 2014) Order 2013, the date of the ordinary day of election of councillors in England in 2014 was changed so as to be the same as the date of the poll at the European Parliamentary general election. Thus, the date of the Municipal Elections was moved from 1st May to 22nd May to be combined with the European Parliamentary elections.
- 2.3 This has a knock-on effect for the provisional date of the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2014, and a new date needs to be approved.

3. Proposal

- 3.1 Municipal Elections are normally held on the first Thursday in May. The Council holds its Annual General Meeting on the third Wednesday in May, and this is usually 13 days after the date of the election (there is a 20 day gap in those years where the election falls on Thursday 1st May – which was to have been the case in 2014).
- 3.2 Now that the date of the Municipal Election has moved to 22nd May, holding the Annual General Meeting 13 days afterwards means that it will be held on Wednesday, 4th June 2014. This date would have been the date identified for holding the first ordinary meeting of the Council in the 2014/15 Municipal Year, as these meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of every month except March, May and August. The first ordinary meeting of the Council in the 2014/15 Municipal Year would therefore be held on Wednesday, 2nd July 2014.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The need to put back the date for the Council's Annual General Meeting is as a consequence of The Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Elections in 2014) Order 2013 which puts back the date for the ordinary day of election of councillors in England in 2014 – to 22nd May 2014.
- 4.2 The Order also provides that the retirement date of any councillors due to retire in 2014 shall be the fourth day after the new date for the election. Thus, the term of office of a councillor due to retire in 2014 will consequently be longer, and that of a councillor coming into office in 2014 will be shorter, than would otherwise be the case.
- 4.3 The move of the 2014 Annual General Meeting to a later date means extending the Council's 2013/14 Municipal Year and shortening the 2014/15 Municipal Year correspondingly. The present Lord Mayor will have a slightly longer "year" of office and the incoming Lord Mayor will have a slightly shorter "year" of office, than would otherwise be the case. The present Executive, Council Committee and other Member appointments will also be extended too, to the date agreed for the Annual General Meeting.

5. **Financial Implications**

- 5.1 There are no additional or reduced costs associated with moving the date for the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2014. Extending the present Members' allowances payments due to the longer 2013/14 Municipal Year will have no effect if the numbers of Special Responsibility Allowance appointments made in the 2014/15 Municipal Year are the same as in 2013/14.

6. **Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the Council (a) approves that the date of its Annual General Meeting in 2014 be moved from 21st May to 4th June, in view of the date of the Municipal Elections in 2014 being moved from 1st May to 22nd May; and
- (b) notes the implications of the later date for the Municipal Elections on the terms of office of councillors due to retire in 2014, and of extending the 2013/14 Municipal Year by moving the Annual General Meeting to a later date, as outlined in section 4 of the report.

Chief Executive