

CHANGES TO OFFICER DELEGATIONS

1. Drafting assumptions

The drafting of the scheme of delegations assumes, where possible, no change to the level of delegations to Officers. Any changes to the Senior Officer arrangements will need to be reflected in the scheme of delegations when agreed. For the purpose of this exercise, it is assumed that the officer arrangements, with the exceptions set out under 2 below, remain essentially the same.

2. Substantive Changes

There are only two significant changes to the scheme of delegations to officers:

(a) **Property:** the power to acquire and disposal of land within officer delegation limits will be transferred from Service Managers to the Strategic Director: Resources to implement the corporate landlord initiative and to mirror the arrangements at committee level whereby the acquisition and disposal of land is reserved to the Policy & Resources Committee. The management functions will remain with the service manager. There will be some exceptions to this relating to right to buy and short leases and other housing related acquisitions and disposals which are all exempt from this. It is proposed that the Chief Executive is give authority to make transitional arrangements where necessary

(b) **Hackney Carriage fares:** under the executive system the setting of hackney carriage fares was an executive function. Because the Council wanted this, as far as possible, to remain with the Licensing Committee, the Strategic Director: Place, was granted delegated powers exercisable after consulting the Licensing Committee and in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee. If the Officer disagreed with the recommendation, the matter was referred to the Cabinet Member for Environment. This meant the Licensing Committee was, de facto, the decision-making committee. As there is no need for this circuitous route in a committee system, the power will be given to the Licensing Committee and removed from Officers.

3. No other changes

With the exception of those mentioned above, there are no other substantive changes. All the other changes are simply to make Officer Delegations reflect the

committee system (i.e. make them committee-fit.) For example, references to the need to consult a cabinet Member are replaced by the need to consult the relevant Committee Chair. Everything currently requiring member approval will continue to require member approval and everything that can be decided at Officer level will continue to be so.