EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 13 JANUARY 2009

Subject:		Review of Cabinet M Safety	lember Functi	ons for Community
Date of Meeting:		15 January 2009		
Report of: Director of Strategy and Governance		nce		
Key Decision:	No			
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Wards Affected:	All			

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

4.00pm 13 JANUARY 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Ann Norman (Chairman); Councillor Simpson (Deputy Chairman), Councillors Mrs Brown, Elgood, Fallon-Khan, Kemble, Mitchell (OS), Oxley, Taylor and West.

*63. REVIEW OF CABINET MEMBER FUNCTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

63.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Strategy & Governance, concerning the Leader's proposals to transfer the Community Safety function from the Cabinet Member for Environment to the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion and Internal Relations (for copy see minute book). The report outlined the intention to reflect the changes for Community Safety resulting from the establishment of Crime & Disorder Committees and proposals contained in the Green Paper on Policing; and to achieve greater co-ordination with related functions around equalities, inclusion and community affairs.

- 63.2 The Head of Law introduced the report and stated that whilst the functions and responsibilities of Cabinet Members was determined by the Leader of the Council, the constitution required that any proposed changes to portfolios would be reported to the Governance Committee for consideration.
- 63.3 Councillor Duncan noted the proposed change and queried whether a similar change should be made in the Overview & Scrutiny functions. He suggested that the Environment portfolio was large enough on its own and that therefore a separate Overview & Scrutiny Committee should be established for Community Safety. He also queried whether the Cabinet Member for Environment would relinquish a number of roles he had been appointed to as part of the overall portfolio.
- 63.4 Members of the Committee welcome the proposed change and suggested that consideration be given to the need for a similar change the Overview & Scrutiny arrangements. However, it was also felt that any change would need to take account of the resources available for overview & scrutiny.
- 63.5 Councillor Mitchell queried the need for the change at the present time and suggested that it might have been beneficial to wait for the review of the constitution before implementing it.
- 63.6 The Head of Law stated that there were a number of issues which would be coming forward over the next few months and the Leader felt that the change was required, in order to ensure a co-ordinated response to these could be led by a Cabinet Member.

63.7 RESOLVED -

- That the proposed transfer of community safety functions delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environment as detailed in the report, to the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion and Internal Relations be agreed;
- (2) That the Head of Law be authorised to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.