



The purpose of this paper is to invite Members to consider and comment on the changes that are proposed to be made to the Constitution of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils at its Annual General Meeting on 20 July.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Ventnor Town Council is one of the 29 of the Island's 33 Town & Parish Councils to be in membership of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC).
 - b) The Town Council's membership fee for 2017/18 is £995.03.
 - c) For its 10 February meeting, IWALC proposed changes to its Constitution a copy of which is attached to this Report showing the recommended amendments.
 - d) Its March meeting added a further amendment, this time to amend Clause 3b by substituting *comprised of a Councillor from each Member Council* for the current:
Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the conduct and management of the affairs of the Association shall be by an Executive Committee comprised of representatives of each Member Council, hereinafter referred to as 'Member Representatives'.
 - e) The changes have to be agreed by a General Meeting of the Members and are therefore being included on the Agenda of its Annual General Meeting on 20 July.
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2) THE CHANGES

- a) Most of the amendments appear uncontroversial; one however has been resisted by the Town Council when it arose in previous discussions and the one referred to in 1(e) above is worth more careful consideration.
 - b) The one already contested is the addition to Clause 9 highlighted on the attached copy. Its purpose is to limit the appointment of representatives to *voting members of the Executive Committee*.
 - c) In the previous discussions of this proposal, the Town Council has argued that this is an unnecessary limitation since the existing membership may not always include someone with the range of experience and expertise relevant to representing Town & Parish Councils.
 - d) The proposed new amendment – to Clause 3(b) – is open to the similar objection that it is also unnecessarily restrictive by limiting the right of Town & Parish Councils to appoint whoever they decide is best placed to represent them at any particular time, perhaps including their Clerks.
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3) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to consider the proposed amendments to IWALC's constitution and determine its response to them.
