RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2015 FROM CABINET ON 28 JULY 2015

CAB35: **UPDATE TO CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS**

The Principal Accountant presented a report which explained that since the current version of Contract Standing Orders was approved by Council on 29 November 2012 there had been several changes in procurement policy. These changes included the publication of the new Local Government National Procurement Strategy in July 2014, the EU Procurement Directive in 2014 and the transposition of this into the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. These regulations also included UK Government measures to support SMEs that had been referred to as the "Lord Young reforms". Contract Standing Orders had been reviewed and amendments were proposed that included
measures to take account of the changes mentioned above.

With regard to the removal of the ability for the authority to use PQQs, Councillor Daubney asked if this applied to all tenders, to which it was explained that the requirement for tenders up to EU thresholds had been removed, but they were still in place for the higher level tenders.

Councillor Daubney drew attention to the debated held at the Audit Committee on the subject, and the fact that they supported the changes.

RECOMMENDED: That the new version of Contract Standing Orders be approved.

CAB36: **CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS - UPDATE TO MEMBER / OFFICER PROTOCOL**

The Chief Executive presented a report which recommended amendments to the Member/Officer Protocol in order to update it and to reflect current best practice, and some minor changes to the Constitution in Standing Order 11.2 (b) to permit the questioning of Chairmen of all bodies at Council.

Councillor Daubney drew attention to the need to ensure the Protocol was kept up to date for Members best interests.

Councillor Beales commented favourably on the changes to ensure that Chairmen of all bodies could be questioned at Council.

RECOMMENDED: That the changes in the Member Officer Protocol and Standing Order 11.2 (b) be adopted.