

## **Article 11 - Joint Arrangements**

### **11.01 Arrangements to Promote Well-being**

In order to promote the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area, the Council or the Cabinet may:

- (a) enter into arrangements or agreements with any person or body;
- (b) co-operate with, or facilitate or co-ordinate the activities of, any person or body; and
- (c) exercise on behalf of that person or body any functions of that person or body.

### **11.02 Joint Arrangements**

- (a) The Council may establish joint arrangements with one or more local authorities and/or their Cabinets to exercise functions which are not executive functions, in any of the participating authorities, or advise the Council. Such arrangements may involve the appointment of a joint committee with these other local authorities.
- (b) The Cabinet may establish joint arrangements with one or more local authorities to exercise functions which are executive functions. Such arrangements may involve the appointment of joint committees with these other local authorities.
- (c) Except as set out below, the Cabinet may only appoint Cabinet members to a joint committee and those members need not reflect the political composition of the local authority as a whole.
- (d) The Cabinet may appoint members to a joint committee from outside the Cabinet in the following circumstances:
  - the joint committee has functions for only part of the area of the authority, and that area is smaller than two-fifths of the authority by area or population. In such cases, the Cabinet may appoint to the joint committee any Councillor who is a

member for a ward which is wholly or partly contained within the area.

In this case the political balance requirements do not apply to such appointments.

- (e) Details of any joint arrangements, including any delegations to joint committees, will be found in the Council's scheme of delegations in Part 3 of this Constitution.

#### **11.03 Delegation to and from other Local Authorities**

- (a) The Council may delegate non-executive functions to another local authority or, in certain circumstances, the Cabinet of another local authority.
- (b) The Cabinet may delegate executive functions to another local authority or the Cabinet of another local authority in certain circumstances.
- (c) The decision whether or not to accept such a delegation from another local authority shall be reserved to the Council meeting.

#### **11.04 Contracting Out**

The Council, for functions which are not executive functions, and the Cabinet may contract out to another body or organisation functions which may be exercised by an officer and which are subject to an order under Section 70 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994, or under contracting arrangements where the contractor acts as the Council's agent under usual contracting principles, provided there is no delegation of the Council's discretionary decision-making.

#### **11.05 Arrangements for Appointment of External Auditors**

At its meeting on 26th October 2016 Cabinet considered a report regarding the arrangements for the appointment of external auditors following the closure of the Audit Commission and the end of the transitional arrangements at the conclusion of the 2017/18 audits. Approval was provided for the Council to opt-in to a Sector Led

Body appointment and the Council have subsequently been notified by the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) body of the appointment of Grant Thornton (UK) LLP to audit the accounts of St. Helens Council for five years, for the for accounts from 2018/19 to 2022/23.

The appointment was made under regulation 13 of the Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015, and was approved by the PSAA Board following earlier consultation with the Council.