

East Midlands Shared Services Joint Committee

Terms of Reference

Subject to the terms of the East Midlands Shared Services (EMSS) Partnership Agreement to:

- (a) oversee and provide strategic direction for the development, implementation and on-going operation of EMSS;
- (b) ensure the effective delivery of the shared service functions in accordance with the terms of the agreement;
- (c) monitor the effectiveness of those arrangements and make recommendations to the Member Authorities e.g. in the event of any changes to legislation, developments in best practice or the requirements imposed on Member Authorities;
- (d) on an annual basis, agree a three year business plan for EMSS including:
 - service delivery, service development and financial objectives;
 - performance improvement & efficiency targets;
 - staffing;
 - business continuity planning;
 - risk management.
- (e) set annual capital, revenue and staffing budgets for EMSS and no later than 1st December in each year submit these to the Member Authorities for approval as part of the business plan;
- (f) monitor the operational performance of EMSS on a quarterly basis;
- (g) ensure service delivery is in accordance with the key performance indicators and agreed national, regional and local priorities;
- (h) ensure effective action is taken to remedy any under-performance in the delivery of services;
- (i) monitor the financial performance of EMSS – quarterly report and monthly updates;
- (j) determine the arrangements for support services in agreement with the Host Authority and in consultation with the Head of Shared Service;
- (k) produce an annual report to the member Authorities by no later than 30th June in each year covering the performance of EMSS in the 12 month period ending on the preceding 31st March;
- (l) co-operate with and participate in overview and scrutiny exercises of the Member Authorities into the activities of EMSS;

- (m) review the operation and effectiveness of the shared service arrangements at least every two years, consider ways in which the Shared Services partnership can be expanded and make recommendations to the Member Authorities as appropriate.

Rules for Conduct of Meetings and Proceedings of the Joint Committee

Preamble: the Joint Committee shall follow the normal arrangements which apply to the proceedings of local government committees with the following additional provisions applying:

1. Annual Meeting

- 1.1 The Joint Committee shall in every year hold an Annual Meeting.
- 1.2 The first meeting held after the Annual Meeting of all the Member Authorities in any year shall be the Annual Meeting.
- 1.3 The Joint Committee may in every year hold in addition to the Annual Meeting such other meetings as they may determine.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The membership of the Joint Committee to comprise four elected members, two being drawn from each Council's Executive.
- 2.2 Each Authority will have the right to appoint a substitute elected member drawn from their Executive to attend any meeting of the Joint Committee in place of an appointed elected member provided that the Secretary shall be given at least 24 hours' notice of any such appointment.

3. Appointment of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer

- 3.1 The Joint Committee shall appoint one of its Members to be Chair of the Joint Committee who shall, subject to paragraph 3.2 and, unless they resign their office or cease to be a member of the Joint Committee, continue in office for a period of 24 months or until their successor becomes entitled to act.
- 3.2 The first Chair of the Joint Committee shall be a person nominated by Nottingham City and shall hold office for the period up to 31st May 2013.
- 3.3 The Chairship of the Joint Committee, following the initial appointment by Nottingham City, shall rotate between Leicestershire and Nottingham City on a two year cycle.
- 3.4 The Joint Committee shall appoint one of its Members to be Vice Chair of the Joint Committee who shall, subject to paragraph 3.5 and, unless they resign their office or cease to be a member of the Joint Committee, continue in office for a period of 24 months or until his successor becomes entitled to act.

- 3.5 The first Vice Chair of the Joint Committee shall be a person nominated by Leicestershire and shall hold office for the period up to 31st May 2013.
- 3.6 The Vice Chairship of the Joint Committee following the initial appointment by Leicestershire, shall rotate between Nottingham City and Leicestershire on a two year cycle.
- 3.7 The role of Secretary and Treasurer to the Joint Committee will be provided by Nottingham City Council.

4. Casual Vacancies

- 4.1 On a casual vacancy occurring in the office of Chair or Vice Chair of the Joint Committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the appointment by the Joint Committee of one of their members at the next meeting and the person so appointed shall hold office until the date upon which the person in whose place they are appointed would regularly have retired.

5. Calling of Meetings

- 5.1 The Secretary of the Joint Committee shall summon the members to such meetings as may:
 - 5.1.1 have been agreed in accordance with paragraph 1.3;
 - 5.1.2 be called by the Chair of the Joint Committee or, if the office of Chair is vacant, the Vice Chair of the Joint Committee at any time;
 - 5.1.3 be requisitioned by any two members of the Joint Committee giving notice in writing signed by them to the Secretary of the Joint Committee specifying the nature of the business to be transacted; or
 - 5.1.4 be requisitioned by any Member Authority giving notice in writing to the Secretary of the Joint Committee specifying the nature of the business to be transacted and signed by the Chief Executive or proper officer of the Member Authority.
- 5.2 Unless the persons giving notice requisitioning a meeting in accordance with paragraph 5.1.3 or paragraph 5.1.4 agree otherwise any meeting consequent upon such a requisition shall so far as practicable be held within 10 working days of the date of the receipt of the requisition by the Secretary to the Joint Committee.
- 5.3 At least five clear working days before a meeting of the Joint Committee:
 - 5.3.1 notice of the time and place of the intended meeting shall be published at the offices of both Leicestershire and Nottingham City: and
 - 5.3.2 a summons to attend the meeting, specifying the agenda for that meeting and signed by the Secretary to the Joint Committee shall be sent to:
 - 5.3.2.1 every member of the Joint Committee; and
 - 5.3.2.2 the proper officer of every Member Authority by sending by first class mail to the principal office address of the Member Authority or by sending an electronic copy by e- mail to any e-

mail address notified to the Secretary of the Joint Committee for that purpose.

5.4 The Secretary will draw up the agenda in consultation with both the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

5.5 No business shall be transacted at a meeting requisitioned by the members of the Joint Committee other than that specified in the agenda.

6. Nominated Officers to Attend

6.1 The Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the s151 Officer of each Member Authority or their respective nominees shall be entitled to attend every meeting of the Joint Committee in the capacity of observer.

7. Quorum

7.1 The number of Members constituting a quorum shall be one quarter of the membership of the Joint Committee provided that in no case shall a quorum be less than three members and further provided that no item of business shall be transacted at a meeting of the Joint Committee unless at least one member from each Founding Member Authority ** is present and entitled to vote thereon.

8. Standing Orders

8.1 Subject to anything expressly provided herein the Standing Orders (Meeting Procedure Rules) of the Authority providing the Secretariat will apply to the Joint Committee.

9. Voting

9.1 Given the composition of the Joint Committee, decisions shall normally be taken on the basis of consensus.

10. Sub-Committees

10.1 The provisions of these Terms of Reference shall apply mutatis mutandis to meetings of subcommittees as they do to meetings of the Joint Committee.

** Nottingham City Council and Leicestershire County Council