

**CONSTITUTION – CABINET PROCEDURE RULES EXTRACT**

**Part 4, Section 4**

**Cabinet Liaison Groups**

- (a) Cabinet Liaison Groups are not an essential body but may be created to take forward business. However, they are purely consultative and not decision-making. They will be chaired by a member of Cabinet and there is no restriction on size although the group must be limited to what is manageable and effective for their purpose. They may be time limited or of longer standing, again depending on their purpose.
- (b) The participants in the Group will be by invitation of the Chairman and can be made up from any or all of the following:
  - Other members of Cabinet
  - Others from outside the Council
  - Other members of Council not on Cabinet
  - Council officers
- (c) *Terms of Reference:* Their Terms of Reference are to share information about a particular topic, e.g. e-government and develop effective consultation and communication links with community groups and other bodies with an interest in the subject area. In this way, individual Cabinet members will have a wider information and advisory platform to inform executive decision-making and policy effectiveness.
- (d) Specific outcomes from their meetings may generate requests for pieces of work to be undertaken by officers or partner bodies. Alternatively, it could be a request to Overview and Scrutiny to set up a Task Group to undertake a specific piece of work. There could also be specific reports to Cabinet, Committees of Cabinet, individual Cabinet members, or other Committees of Council recommending action for determination.
- (e) Each Liaison Group will have their terms of reference and expected outputs approved by Cabinet before they meet.