

Recommendation to Council	From:	On:
24 June 2010	Constitution Advisory Group	1 June 2010
CONSULTATION STRATEGY WITHIN THE COUNCIL'S POLICY FRAMEWORK		
1.	Council is asked to approve the following recommendation:- <i>that Part B2 section 1.1.3.8 of the Constitution be amended by the removal of the words "Consultation Strategy".</i>	
Background		
2.	The Constitution Advisory Group at its meeting on 1 April 2010 noted that the Council's Policy Framework included a requirement for a Consultation Strategy. Members were aware that although consultation guidance was provided in other documents there was no separate Consultation Strategy. The Group requested that a report be brought on the matter to its next meeting.	
3.	At its meeting on 1 June 2010 the Constitution received a report detailing the strategic documents which provided guidance on internal and external consultation. Members were reassured that the Community Engagement Strategy, which was listed in the Council's Policy Framework, provided clear guidance on consultation. Comments were made that addressing consultation in one document only, rather than having an additional separate consultation strategy, would avoid any duplication and possible confusion. It was considered that the current arrangements provided through the Community Engagement Strategy were sufficient.	
Reason for Recommendation		
4.	The Constitution Advisory Group considered that the Community Engagement Strategy provided full guidance on consultation requirements and that there was no need for a separate consultation strategy.	
5	In view of this, the Advisory Group was of the view that listing a consultation strategy as a separate strategy in the Council's Policy Framework was misleading and it should be removed.	
6.	The proposed change to the Constitution is shown in Appendix A attached.	

Please note that a copy of the original report can be found on the Central Bedfordshire Council web site at the following link:
[http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/modgov/Published/C0000651/M0003430/AI00019586/\\$100601item9ConsultationStrategy.docA.ps.pdf](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/modgov/Published/C0000651/M0003430/AI00019586/$100601item9ConsultationStrategy.docA.ps.pdf)