

Report to: Council

Date of Meeting: 18th October 2017

Report Title: Amendments to the Council's Constitution

Report By: Christine Barkshire-Jones
Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer

Purpose of Report

Council is asked to consider and approve the constitutional amendments

Recommendation(s)

- 1. To recommend that the amendments to the Council's Constitution be adopted by Council**

Reasons for Recommendations

The Council's Constitution is the basis for the Council's Corporate Governance.

Introduction

1. The Council's Constitution is the basis for the Council's Corporate Governance. It needs amending on a regular basis either as a result of discussions at Working Arrangement Group and/or changes in legislative provisions or working practices. Working Arrangements Group considered these changes at their meeting on 18th September 2017.
2. Changes have been made to Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 of the Constitution. All additions are in red text and all removed words are striked through in red text for ease of reference.
3. Part 1 - Tidying up. Reference to the Standards Committee has been changed to the Monitoring Officer where appropriate. This has also been changed in other parts of the Constitution.
4. Part 2 - Articles of the Constitution - Removal of Appointments Committee in respect of the mechanism for appointments to outside bodies. Council must establish the vehicle to appoint members on outside bodies. This can now be carried out by Cabinet.
5. Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions - Removal of Appointments Committee as above.
6. Part 4 - Rules of Procedure - Para 10.9. The petition organiser will be advised in writing of the outcome of the petition if they were not present at the meeting where the petition was discussed.
7. Part 4 - Para 29 Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Work programme is agreed in consultation with the Directors and Chief Legal Officer.
8. Part 5 - Code of Conduct for Members. The Seven Principles of Public Life. The definition of Integrity has changed.
9. Part 5 Planning Protocol. Training of Members in Planning Law and Procedure. Clarification has been given as to the requirements for training for members sitting on the Planning Committee and acting as a substitute. This is to ensure that all members who sit on Planning Committee have received up to date and relevant training in Planning Law and Procedure.
10. Part 8 - Standing Instructions to Authorised Officers - Part 3b: Assistant Director Housing and Built Environment. Updating of legislation at para 45.
11. There has been some general tidying up for consistency and some additional legislative provisions added required by law.

Wards Affected

None

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

Additional Information

Appendix 1 - Amendments to Part 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8

Officer to Contact

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