

Report to: Full Council

Date of Meeting: July 2020

Report Title: Amendments to the Council's Constitution

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

Purpose of Report

Full Council is asked to consider the constitutional amendments.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. To recommend that the amendments to the Council's Constitution be adopted by Full Council or under the delegated authority given to the Managing Director in consultation with a minimum of four members of the Cabinet, one of whom to be the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council and in consultation with the Leader or deputy Leader of the opposition.**

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.
2. Amendments that the Chief Legal Officer is bringing to this meeting are as a result of updating the Constitution to reflect the change from two Directors to one Managing Director. Changes are also being proposed to allow Electronic Petitions for current Planning and Licensing applications in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and to acknowledge that they can be a faster, more convenient alternative to a more traditional paper petition. Paper petitions will still be accepted for those who prefer this method. Changes are being proposed to Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 of the Constitution.
3. Working Arrangements Group considered these Constitutional changes at their meeting on 1st July 2020.
4. Part 1 - Executive Summary – updating.
5. Part 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9 - Articles of the Constitution – updating to reflect the change from two Directors to one Managing Director. Part 5 Media Relations - Change from Marketing and Major Projects Manager to Communications Manager.
6. Part 4 - Rules of Procedure – updating to reflect the change from two Directors to one Managing Director. Changes to Paragraph 10 Petitions Scheme to allow for E-Petitions for current planning and licensing applications. Paragraph 10 explains the requirements for E-Petitions and how the Council will respond to them. Amendment to Para 26.22 to reflect opposition no longer on Cabinet.
7. Part 5 – Planning Protocol - Change to paragraphs 56 and insertion of new paragraph 57 to allow for E-Petitions for current planning applications. Paragraph 57 explains the requirements for E-Petitions and how the Council will respond to them.

Timetable of Next Steps

1. Please include a list of key actions and the scheduled dates for these:

Action	Key milestone	Due date (provisional)	Responsible
Report to Full Council			Chief Legal Officer

Wards Affected

Report Template v29.0



All Wards

Implications

Relevant project tools applied? Yes

Have you checked this report for plain English and readability? Yes

Climate change implications considered? Yes

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

Organisational Consequences

Additional Information

Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 of the Constitution shown as tracked changes

Officer to Contact

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