



REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF HR, LEGAL & GOVERNANCE
TO:	ANNUAL COUNCIL
ON:	17th MAY 2018

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Council that the Constitution has been updated to reflect the new Council following the `all out` elections on 3rd May 2018 which followed the Boundary review Commission report and the establishment of a 17 ward, 51 Councillor Council from May 2018.
- 1.2 To note that the Constitution updates reflect the recommendations made by the Council at its meetings post the Boundary Commission report in 2017/18.
- 1.3 To note that the Constitution has also been updated generally by the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer (as appropriate) under their delegated responsibilities to ensure continued compliance with legislation and to also where appropriate improve clarity.
- 1.3 To advise that the proposed updated Constitution remains publicly available on the Council's website with the Agenda for this meeting and is available in full printed form in the Group rooms.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

To approve:

The revised Council Constitution from May 2018.

3. CONSTITUTION UPDATE

The Constitution is a key document setting out the governance framework of the Council. From time to time the constitution needs to be updated to reflect changes in legislation, resolutions passed by Council, portfolio changes made by the Leader, and changes made to the Council management structure and delegations. The Constitution was last updated in May 2017.

Members are aware that following the Boundary Commission recommendations and approval from Government the Council now consists of 17 wards with 3 Councillors in each Ward.

During 2017/18 following confirmation that the new council of 51 councillors would commence in May 2018, the Council Forum considered reports relating to how the revised Council should be constituted and related operational arrangements. These covered the Executive arrangements of the Council, the Leader and Executive Board arrangements, the number, role and functions of the Scrutiny Committees, the Mayoralty (which is subject of a further report on this Agenda),

the Membership of Statutory Committees & other Committees of the Council, the cessation of Advisory & Consultative Groups (with alternative arrangements being put in place), the appointment to Outside bodies (which is subject of a further report on this Agenda), membership of the Health & Wellbeing Board, and the arrangements for Members Allowances (the Report of the Independent Remuneration Committee is subject of a separate report on this Agenda)

Members will also note that since the last update of the Constitution there have been changes to the Chief Officer structure of the Council approved through the Chief Officers Employment Committee and as appropriate via the partnership agreement with Capita which required amendments to Part 3, Section 16 Officer Scheme of Delegation. Those changes are now reflected in the revised Constitution.

The Monitoring Officer has also reviewed the Constitution to ensure continued compliance with legislation and the opportunity has also been taken to generally update presentation and provide clarity as appropriate. The Section 151 Officer has also updated Section 6 - Code of Corporate Governance, Section 7- the Financial Procedure rules and Section 8 - Contract and Procurement Procedure rules to provide improved clarity and explanation as appropriate.

5. CONSTITUTION POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Constitutions set out the governance framework for local authorities, which provide the foundations for any local authority that aspires to be effective, progressive and successful.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Local Government Act 2000 requires local authorities to prepare, keep up-to-date and publicise their constitution.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The constitution update reflects changes in legislation. It also reflects various resolutions passed at Council, which would have been subject to an equality assessment, if any.

10. CONSULTATIONS

Council Chief Officers and Members

Contact Officer: David Fairclough, Director for HR Legal & Corporate Services
(01254 585642)

Date: 2 May 2018

Background Papers: Boundary Commission Review
Council Forum October 2017
Policy Council 2017
Council Forum March 2018