

Non-Executive Report of the: General Purposes Committee Thursday 23 February, 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Constitution Updates	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All Wards

Executive Summary

Following the Annual Meeting of Council signing off the current Constitution on 25 May 2022, day-to-day oversight of the document returns to the General Purposes Committee.

This report provides an update on a couple of minor amendments to the Constitution for noting.

These are on:

- A correction to the General Purposes Committee Terms of Reference
- An addition to the Health, Adults and Community Directorate Scheme of Delegation.

Recommendations:

The General Purposes Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the updates to the constitution as set out in the report.

1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The General Purposes Committee has day-to-day oversight of the Council's Constitution and is responsible for ensuring it is up to date and effective.

2. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 The report offers the Committee the opportunity to consider a review of any parts of the Constitution it wishes.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 The General Purposes Committee receives regular reports on agreed and proposed updates to the Constitution as part of its role overseeing the effectiveness of the Constitution.

3.2 The Committee is asked to note two minor updates as part of this report.

Health, Adults and Community Directorate Scheme of Delegation

3.3 Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health, deputising for Denise Radley, Corporate Director, Health, Adults and Community has agreed an addition to the Directorate Scheme of Delegation in relation to dog fouling. It reads as follows and is added to the end of the relevant section of the Scheme of Delegation:

Decision Relating to:	Corporate Director	Director	Head of Service	Other
Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996	Health Adults and Community	Director of Community Safety	Head of Safer Neighbourhoods Operations	Neighbourhood ASB and Enforcement Manager THEOs

3.4 The Corporate Director has the authority to agree the above change and so the General Purposes Committee are asked to note the change.

General Purposes Committee Terms of Reference

3.5 A typographical error has been identified in the General Purposes Committee Terms of Reference. Rule 10 references the Employment Procedure Rules 'as set out in Part 4 of this Constitution'.

3.6 This should read 'as set out in Part C, Section 38 of this Constitution'.

3.7 As this is a factual error the Monitoring Officer has authority to agree the change and the Committee are asked to note this amendment.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 An up to date Constitution is important in supporting proper decision-making which includes consideration of equalities implications.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

5.2 Failure to maintain an up-to-date Constitution could impact on any/all of the above implications.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendation of this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The Council's Constitution delegates amendments to the Constitution to the General Purposes Committee. The matters set out in this report are therefore within the powers of the General Purposes Committee to decide.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None specifically but the General Purposes Committee receives regular reports in relation to Constitution Updates.

Appendices

- None

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A