

<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>General Purposes Committee</p> <p>13 June 2023</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Constitution Update</p>	

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 17 May 2023, day-to-day oversight of the document returns to the General Purposes Committee.

This report provides an update on amendments to the constitution made to allow for decisions taken at that Annual Meeting of Council.

Recommendations:

The General Purposes Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the updates set out.

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 are asked to note the following factual changes required following decisions at the Annual Meeting of Council on 17 May 2023:
- Amendment to the Executive Scheme of Delegation (Cabinet Member changes).
 - Amendments throughout the Constitution to allow for the introduction of the Human Resources Committee.
 - Amendment to the Council procedure rules on urgent motions.
- 3.3 In addition, changes to the Organisation Structure Chart are included to allow for incoming and exiting officers.
- 3.4 As all the changes are factual they can be approved by the Monitoring Officer. However, all changes are presented to the Committee for noting in line with its role managing the Council's Constitution.
- 3.5 The changes are set out as track changes in the attached Appendices (there are no changes to Part D of the Constitution). Note that the Appendices only include those parts of the Constitution that have been changed.

Constitution Working Group

- 3.6 The Committee are asked to note that the Constitution Working Group has been set up and membership agreed. However, it has not yet been possible to arrange a satisfactory first meeting date. A further update will be provided to the next Committee meeting. The Procedure Note of the Constitution Working Group are attached as Appendix 4 to this report for information.

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

- Appendices 1-3 – Changes made to Parts A – C of the Constitution
- Appendix 4 – Procedure Note for the Constitution Working Group

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