London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

FULL COUNCIL



17 July 2019

REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Report of the Leader of the Council - Councillor Stephen Cowan

Open Report

Classification: For Decision

Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: None

Accountable Officer: Rhian Davies, Monitoring Officer

Report Author:

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and Scrutiny

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report asks Council to approve Committee Membership changes and appointment of new Lead Members.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the full Committee Memberships for 2019-20 (Appendix 1).
- 2.2 To note the appointment of Councillor David Morton as the Lead Member Representative for the Armed Forces to replace Councillor Alan De'Ath.
- 2.3 To note the appointment of Councillor Rebecca Harvey as the Lead Member for Child Refugees.
- 2.4 That the Chief Executive make in year appointments to Committees upon receipt of nominations by the Party Whips, be approved.
- 2.5 That subject to the approval of recommendations above, the Council's Constitution be adopted for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

3.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer is required to review the Council's Constitution each year to ensure that its aims and principles are given full effect in accordance with Article 15 of the Constitution.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Constitution sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures that are followed to ensure business is conducted in an efficient, transparent, and accountable manner.
- 4.2 The Monitoring Officer has a duty to keep the Constitution under review and has delegated authority to amend the Constitution where there has been a change in law, job title, structure, rearrangement of job responsibilities or for general administrative convenience. All extensive changes to the Constitution, however, must be approved by Full Council.

5. PROPOSALS AND ISSUES

- 5.1 This report requests the following appointments:
 - Councillor David Morton as the Lead Member Representative for the Armed Forces to replace Councillor Alan De'Ath
 - Councillor Rebecca Harvey as the Lead Member for Child Refugees
- 5.2 The following Committee membership changes are requested:
 - Health, Inclusion and Social Care PAC Councillor Mercy Umeh to replace Councillor Fiona Smith
 - Councillor Asif Siddique to the Licensing Committee
- 5.3 Approval is requested for the Chief Executive to make in year appointments to Committees upon receipt of nomination by the Party Whips. This is to enable the smooth running of the Council's Committee business.

6. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The equalities implications of this decision have been considered to be neutral.
- 6.2 Implications verified by: Fawad Bhatti, Social Inclusion Policy Manager

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to have and maintain a Constitution. The Monitoring Officer is satisfied that the Council's Constitution continues to fulfil its stated purposes, as set out in Article 1 of the Constitution.
- 7.2 Implications verified by: Rhian Davies, Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications.
- 8.2 Implications verified by: Emily Hill, Assistant Director, Corporate Finance

9. BUSINESS IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no direct business implications.
- 9.2 Implications completed by: Kayode Adewumi, Head of Governance and Scrutiny

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT None.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Chairs and Committee Memberships for 2019-20