

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Full Council

Date: 23/02/2023

Subject: Review of the Constitution

Report of: The Leader of the Council

Report author: David Abbott, Head of Governance

Responsible Director: David Tatlow, Director of Corporate Services and Monitoring Officer

SUMMARY

This report asks Council to approve changes to the Council's Constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Full Council approve the revisions to the Constitution listed in the report.
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Wards Affected: None

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Taking pride in H&F	Ensuring a high standard of governance across the Council.

Financial Impact

The recommendations in this report have no direct financial implications.

Alex Pygram, Head of Finance, Corporate Services - signed on 9 February 2023

Legal Implications

The Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to have and maintain a constitution. The Monitoring Officer must be satisfied that the Council's Constitution continues to fulfil its stated purposes, as set out in Article 1 of the Constitution.

The legal considerations related to the Local Government (Disqualification) Act 2022 are incorporated within the body of the report.

Grant Deg, Assistant Director – Legal Services - signed on 9 February 2023

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

The Council's Constitution: www.lbhf.gov.uk/constitution

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

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.
2. In-year amendments were approved by Council to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers to reflect recent changes in organisational structure, legislation updates and changes to the responsibilities of Chief Officers.
3. 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.

Reasons for Decision

4. 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.

General Updates and Review

5. The Monitoring Officer has updated the constitution to remove some duplicate information, rearranged job responsibilities and tweaked the document for general administrative convenience.

Change of Name – Corporate Resources to Corporate Services

6. The Council has renamed its Corporate Resources department to Corporate Services. This report asks Full Council to formally approve this change and that the change be reflected throughout the Constitution.

Change to the Membership of the Chief Executive Appointments Panel

7. It is recommended that the membership of the Chief Executive Appointments Panel reduces from 12 to 5 members to bring it in line with the other panels.

Membership (5 – 4:1)

Quorum: 3

- Leader of the Council
- 3 members of the Executive (Cabinet)
- Leader of the Opposition