

# LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

**Report to:** Full Council

**Date:** 17/10/2024

**Subject:** Review of the Constitution

**Report of:** Councillor Stephen Cowan – The Leader of the Council

**Report author:** David Abbott, Head of Governance

**Responsible Director:** Grant Deg, Director for Legal Services

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## SUMMARY

This report asks Council to approve the creation of a new Lead Member and make an appointment to that role.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Full Council approves the creation of a new Lead Member for Energy and Decarbonisation role as detailed in the report and appoints Councillor Ross Melton to the role.
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**Wards Affected:** All

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Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the <a href="#">H&amp;F Corporate Plan</a> and the H&F Values
Doing things with local residents, not to them	Regular reviews of the constitution help to ensure 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024*

## 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 appropriate decision maker is Full Council.

## **Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report**

The Council's Constitution: [www.lbhf.gov.uk/constitution](http://www.lbhf.gov.uk/constitution)

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## **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. 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.
3. 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.

### **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 14 of the Constitution.

### **Lead Member for Energy and Decarbonisation**

5. The Administration has proposed a new Lead Member role for Energy and Decarbonisation. Working with the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology, Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness, the postholder will:
  - Promote local renewable energy generation, working to identify capital investments for renewable energy, including solar generation on council-owned buildings.
  - Reduce energy bills for council tenants, working to support the installation of enhanced insulation and energy efficiency technologies and the promotion of smart energy tariffs within council homes.
6. It is proposed that Councillor Ross Melton be appointed to this new role. In line with the Members' Allowances Scheme, as Chair of the Pension Fund Committee, he will not receive an additional Special Responsibility Allowance for the Lead Member role.

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

None.