

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Full Council

Date: 28/01/2026

Subject: Review of the Constitution

Report of: The Leader of the Council - Councillor Stephen Cowan

Report author: David Abbott, Head of Governance

Responsible Director: Grant Deg, Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

SUMMARY

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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Full Council notes the committee membership changes detailed in paragraph 5 and approves the committee appointment in paragraph 6.

Wards Affected: All

| 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, 14 January 2026

Legal Implications

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.

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

1. Each local authority is required to publish the arrangements it has made to discharge its functions in a 'constitution' prepared in accordance with Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2000. 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. Some of the content of the Constitution is required by law, the remainder is for the Council itself to determine.
2. The Constitution is reviewed at least annually to ensure it continues to promote timely, effective, transparent, and lawful decision making reflecting the arrangements Members have put in place for the running of the Council.
3. In-year amendments were approved by Council to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers to reflect recent changes in organisational structure and changes to the responsibilities of Chief Officers.
4. 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.

Committee Appointments

5. The Chief Executive is authorised to make in-year appointments to committees upon receipt of nominations by the Party Whips. Full Council is asked to note the following changes to committee memberships, authorised by the Chief Executive on 29 October 2025:
 - a. Councillor Alex Karmel replaced Councillor Jackie Borland on Planning and Development Control Committee.
 - b. Councillor Jackie Borland replaced Councillor Jose Afonso on Health and Adult Social Care Policy and Accountability Committee.
6. Full Council is asked to approve the following committee appointment:
 - a. To appoint Councillor Daryl Brown to the Licensing Committee to fill a vacancy.

Reasons for Decision

7. 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.

LIST OF APPENDICES

None.