

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer	Governance Committee	Tuesday, 29 November 2022

## Constitution - Planning Committee - Supplemental

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	Not applicable
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### Purpose of the Report

- To update the report at Agenda Item 7.

### Recommendations

- That members constitute a Constitution Working Group to consider the Notice of Motion and other proposed constitutional changes.

### Reasons for recommendations

- Members of this Committee have been very clear that changes to the Constitution of the Council must be carefully considered prior to recommendations being made to Full Council. The practice has been to convene a cross party Constitution Working Group to ensure a detailed consideration of proposed changes and / or areas for consideration and suggested improvement.
- In this instance, as stated in the lead report, the suggested changes are relatively straight forward, however, in order for there to be an informed decision, members should be provided the opportunity to scope the information they require to progress.
- As the lead report confirms, the council are not in breach of any legislation and the issues raised have not previously given cause for concern since the changes to the constitution were adopted which does not suggest any urgency.

### Other options considered and rejected

- As stated in the lead report, the Governance Committee could choose to make a recommendation to Full Council without convening the Working Group, but for the reasons given this is not felt appropriate.

### Corporate priorities

- The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

<b>An exemplary council</b>	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

### **Background to the report**

8. It is not intended to repeat the background in the lead report.
9. The purpose of this report is to make it clear that the recommendation in the lead report was intended to provide options to the members of the committee in how to receive and consider the notice of motion. This report makes it clear that the convention and practice as the Council is for constitutional changes to be reviewed in detail by the Constitution Working Group and this is the recommendation here.
10. The lead report does provide background and context information but members should be given the opportunity to scope out the information and or evidence they require to make an informed decision. For example, no information has been provided concerning custom and practice at other authorities, which while not determinative for members to make a decision could provide comfort to them. Neither are any wider issues such as the implications for holding other related posts considered should the proposed changes be adopted.
11. It is intended to convene a Working Group in any event as there are a number of areas of the constitution that require review and it would seem sensible to consider the notice of motion at the same time.

### **Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer**

12. There are no financial implications in this report.

### **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

13. Contained in the body of the report.

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